

Data Politics, Data Markets and the Internet of Things: A public discussion on the challenges and opportunities of networked data

18.30pm, November 30th 2016

[Paccar Theatre, Science Gallery, Trinity College Dublin](#)

Tickets [here](#)



[Reversal of Fortune: The Garden of Virtual Kinship \(2016\) Stephanie Rothenberg](#)

Today many everyday objects are being redesigned to include sensors, actuators, computational intelligence and telecommunications. The OECD recently estimated that there will be as many as 50 billion devices connected to the Internet by 2020. This includes the personal devices we use to communicate, to make purchases, to navigate and to stay safe and healthy. It also includes many mundane objects in our homes, workplaces, cities and countryside. The development of a network of interconnected physical objects with the ability to sense, respond and act on their environment, coupled to new forms of cloud storage and data analytics, is producing an abundance of data. On the one hand, this data has applications for the public good, improving public services such as transport and healthcare, managing utilities and facilitating new forms of public participation. On the other, the rise of IoT also raises concerns about the kinds of governance and commercial business models currently being developed around this data in marketing; media and games; risk and insurance; and security.

While IoT is still an emergent field, we want to bring experts together to discuss what this space will look like and to ask what the broader political and economic implications are for citizens and users. Who are the key stakeholders in IoT? Who owns the data produced in the IoT ecosystem? What business models are emerging around the monetisation of data, advertising and credit and risk assessment? What are the potential implications for citizens in relation to dataveillance, data discrimination, privacy and new forms of algorithmic governance driven by IoT data?

With Linda Doyle, Anne Helmond, Aphra Kerr, Rob Kitchin, Liz McFall and Alison Powell. Organised by Aphra Kerr and Rachel O'Dwyer.

Data Politics, Data Markets and the Internet of Things is sponsored by [CONNECT](#), the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Future Networks and Communications, the ERC and SFI funded [Programmable City Project](#) and [Maynooth University Social Science Institute \(MUSSI\)](#), and is supported by [Science Gallery](#).

Linda Doyle is the Director of [CONNECT](#) and Professor of Engineering and The Arts in Trinity College Dublin. Prof. Doyle was also the Director of CTVR, the precursor to CONNECT. Her expertise is in the fields of wireless communications, cognitive radio, reconfigurable networks, spectrum management and creative arts practices.

Anne Helmond is Assistant Professor of New Media & Digital Culture and Program Director of the [MA New Media & Digital Culture at the University of Amsterdam](#). She is a member of the [Digital Methods Initiative](#) research collective where she focuses her research on the infrastructure of social media platforms and apps. Her research interests include digital methods, software studies, platform studies and app studies.

Aphra Kerr is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Sociology in Maynooth University and Director of the [MA in Sociology \(Internet and Society\)](#). Her research focuses on emerging market logics in the digital media industries, new forms of digital work, and diversity and feminism in digital games. Her forthcoming book '[Global Games: Production, Circulation and Policy in the Networked Age](#)' will be published by Routledge in January 2017.

Rob Kitchin is a Professor and ERC Advanced Investigator in [the National Institute of Regional and Spatial Analysis](#) at Maynooth University. He is currently a Principal Investigator on the [Programmable City](#) project, the [Digital Repository of Ireland](#), the [All-Island Research Observatory](#) and the Building City Dashboards project/[Dublin Dashboard](#).

Liz McFall is Head of the [Department of Sociology at the Open University](#). Her research is about how consumer markets are made, especially for dull, difficult or challenging products like life and health insurance and doorstep and payday loans. She is the author of '[Devising Consumption: cultural economies of insurance, credit and spending](#)'. McFall is currently working on a project on data markets and wearable technologies. She is Editor-in-Chief of the [Journal of Cultural Economy](#).

Rachel O'Dwyer is a postdoctoral research fellow in [CONNECT](#), TCD and the leader of the [Dublin Art and Technology Association](#). Her [current research](#) focuses on digital currencies, blockchain and the Internet of Things. In 2015/2016 she was Government of Ireland Research Fellow in Maynooth University completing a manuscript on the history and economics of radio spectrum.

Alison Powell is an Assistant Professor and Programme Director of the [MSc in Media and Communication \(Data & Society\)](#) in the London School of Economics. She is currently working on a book about technological citizenship and governance in data cities and Internet of Things-enabled 'sensing cities' as well as several projects related to citizenship, cities, data and ethics.

