

**The Faculty of Management
The Department of Knowledge and Information Management
Invites you to attend a seminar**

Controversy Analysis and Detection

Dr. Shiri Dori-Hacohen

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**Monday, March 5th at 12:00 pm
Jacobs Building, room no. 506**

Abstract

Seeking information on a controversial topic is often a complex task. Alerting users about controversial search results can encourage critical literacy, promote healthy civic discourse and counteract the "filter bubble" effect, and therefore would be a useful feature in a search engine or browser extension. Additionally, presenting information to the user about the different stances or sides of the debate can help her navigate the landscape of search results beyond a simple "list of 10 links". Our existing work has made strides in the emerging niche of controversy analysis and detection. In our work, we've made a few conceptual and technical contributions, including: (1) Offering a computational definition of controversy and its components; (2) Improving the current state-of-the-art controversy detection in Wikipedia by employing a stacked model using a combination of link structure and similarity; and (3) the first automated approach to detecting controversy on the web, using a KNN classifier that maps from the web to similar Wikipedia articles. I also recently founded a startup aiming to bring this research & technology to practical uses. This talk will largely focus on contribution (2) above, and touch on the other aspects briefly as time allows.

This talk is based on joint work with James Allan, John Foley, Myung-ha Jang, David Jensen and Elad Yom-Tov.

All Are Welcome

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