

NEURO-connect

The Campus Biotech Seminar on Brain Sciences & Neuroengineering

03.12.2024

AT

12H15

Amy Orben

Screen Savers: Protecting Adolescent Mental Health in a Digital World

In our rapidly evolving digital world, there is increasing concern about the impact of digital technologies and social media on the mental health of young people. Policymakers and the public are nervous. Psychologists are facing mounting pressures to deliver evidence that can inform policies and practices to safeguard both young people and society at large. However, research progress is slow while technological change is accelerating.

My talk will reflect on this, both as a question of psychological science and metascience. Digital companies have designed highly popular environments that differ in important ways from traditional offline spaces. By revisiting the foundations of psychology (e.g. development and cognition) and considering digital changes' impact on theories and findings, we gain deeper insights into questions such as the following. (1) How do digital environments exacerbate developmental vulnerabilities that predispose young people to mental health conditions? (2) How do digital designs interact with cognitive and learning processes, formalised through computational approaches such as reinforcement learning or Bayesian modelling?

However, we also need to face deeper questions about what it means to do science about new technologies and the challenge of keeping pace with technological advancements. Therefore, I discuss the concept of 'fast science', where, during crises, scientists might lower their standards of evidence to come to conclusions quicker. Might psychologists want to take this approach in the face of technological change and looming concerns? The talk concludes with a discussion of such strategies for 21st-century psychology research in the era of digitalization.

Campus Biotech:

room H8-01-D

Early career researcher?

Sign up to lunch with the speaker (15 spots available)

Zoom:

Meeting ID: 626 9444 4617

Passcode: 617330

Would like to discuss more?

Sign up to meet the speaker before/after the talk

Contact: anh.nguyen-danse@unige.ch



NEURO-connect

The Campus Biotech Seminar on Brain Sciences & Neuroengineering

01.10.2024 AT 12H15

Neil Burgess

15.10.2024 AT 12H15

post-poned
Pascal Belin

29.10.2024 AT 12H15

Stefano Palmintieri

12.11.2024 AT 12H15

Will Cunningham

03.12.2024 AT 12H15

Amy Orben

Early career researcher?

Sign up to lunch with the speaker (15 spots available)

Would like to discuss more?

Sign up to meet the speaker before/after the talk

For more info:

valentina.borghesani@unige.ch