

Conspiracy, Misinformation, AND THE Infodemic

CAS 2022-23 INITIATIVE

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Americans are facing another challenge—an “infodemic” of “fake news,” disinformation, and conspiracy theories spreading at an unprecedented rate, exacerbating anxiety and widening political divides. Dishonest communication has plagued democratic societies across the millennia, but new technologies broaden its reach, accelerate its spread, and demand new approaches to governing public discourse. The Center for Advanced Study invites you to participate in a series of public conversations about the origins of conspiracy theories; the dissemination of misinformation; rumors and fake news; the uses of propaganda; and other forms of information manipulation that change behavior and public opinion.

CAS Director May Berenbaum and Deputy Director Masumi Iriye oversee this ongoing initiative featuring UI faculty as well as invited guests.

Co-hosted by the Center for Advanced Study and the Office of the Provost.

How Scientists Can Promote Public Trust in Science

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 | 7:00 pm CDT

Marcia McNutt

President, National Academy of Sciences

As National Academy of Sciences (NAS) member Susan Fiske has demonstrated in her research, public trust in any profession involves two distinct factors: competence and warmth. On the former scale, scientists are close to the top relative to other professions: citizens feel that scientists are experts at what they do. However, in terms of warmth (the degree to which the public views any professionals as sharing their values and working for their benefit), scientists are barely middle of the pack. NAS President Marcia McNutt will discuss what the scientific community can do to become more trustworthy and to translate that trustworthiness into public trust.

Registration is required for this Zoom event.
Scan the code or visit
<https://cas.illinois.edu/node/2720>

For more information please consult cas.illinois.edu.

