



Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

LUMACSS Launch Conference

Computational Social Sciences and Digital Skills at the
University of Lucerne



11. NOVEMBER 2019, 09:00–17:00H, HS 10

LUMACSS – Computational Social Sciences and Digital Skills at the University of Lucerne

Digitalization has changed the world and will change it again in the near future. Higher education institutions must therefore train students to seize the new opportunities and to avoid the pitfalls of a hyper-dynamic job market. Inspired by this vision, the University of Lucerne is taking up this challenge by strongly expanding its training offer in digital skills.

Also, we initiated LUMACSS – the Lucerne Master in Computational Social Sciences –, an interdisciplinary master's programme designed to equip its graduates with the knowledge and skills needed to tackle the main social challenges of the digital age.

It is our pleasure to announce this LUMACSS launch conference – an event open to all students, researchers, faculty and the interested public. The conference will encompass five panels, two input reflections and three main sections: 1) debates in the scientific community on Computational Social Sciences and digitalization, 2) challenges faced by – and opportunities offered to - practitioners in the digital age, and 3) the perspective of the state.

We are proud to welcome a wide range of international experts from academia, the private sector and the public sector at the University of Lucerne for this launch conference and we are looking forward to their contributions.

Prof. Dr. Alexander H. Trechsel
Prof. Dr. Sophie Mützel
PD Dr. Mira Burri
Dr. Andrea De Angelis

For more information on the study programme LUMACSS visit www.unilu.ch/lumacss

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Programme

- 9:00–9:30 Welcome
- Prof. Dr. Bruno Staffelbach (Rector of the University of Lucerne)
 - Prof. Dr. Christoph Hoffmann (Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Lucerne)
 - Prof. Dr. Alexander H. Trechsel (Vice Rector for Research, University of Lucerne)

Part 1: Debates in the Scientific Community

- 9:30–10:15 **Panel 1: Computational Social Sciences**
- Prof. Dr. R. Michael Alvarez (Professor of Political Science, California Institute of Technology) [via video link]
 - Prof. Dr. Sophie Mützel (Professor of Sociology, University of Lucerne)
 - Chair: Prof. Dr. Guido Schwerdt (Professor of Public Economics, University of Konstanz)
- 10:15–11:00 **Panel 2: Law, Social Sciences and Digitalization**
- Prof. Dr. Urs Gasser (Professor and Executive Director, Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University)
 - PD Dr. Mira Burri (Senior researcher in law at the University of Lucerne)
 - Chair: Prof. Dr. Giovanni Sartor (Professor of Legal Informatics, University of Bologna/European University Institute Florence)
- 11:00–11:30 Coffee break (all participants)
- 11:30–12:15 **Panel 3: National and Transnational Research in Europe**
- Prof. Dr. Bernard Hoekman (Dean of External Relations, RSCAS European University Institute)
 - Prof. Dr. Charles Gottlieb (Assistant Professor of Economics, University of St. Gallen)
 - Chair: Dr. Joëlle Pianzola (Executive Director of the Public Policy Group, ETH Zurich)
- 12:15–13:45 Lunch for speakers, chairs and invited guests

Part 2: Challenges Faced by Practitioners

- 13:45–14:30 **Panel 4: The International Level**
- Dr. Tiago Peixoto (Senior Public Sector Specialist, World Bank Group)
 - Prof. Dr. Jürg Kesselring (Member of the ICRC assembly)
 - Chair: Dr. Andrea De Angelis (Senior Researcher, University of Lucerne)
- 14:30–15:15 **Panel 5: The Private Sector**
- Philomena Colatrella (CEO, CSS Group)
 - Patrizia Pesenti (Vice-Chairwoman, Board of Directors at Credit Suisse Switzerland, member of the Steering Committee of digitalswitzerland.com, member of the University Council, University of Lucerne)
 - Chair: Dr. Felix Howald (Director, Industrie- und Handelskammer Zentralschweiz IHZ)
- 15:15–15:45 Coffee break (all participants)
- Part 3: The State**
- 15:45–16:15 The Governmental Perspective
- Input reflections by Marcel Schwerzmann (Director, Department of Education, Canton of Lucerne)
 - Chair: Prof. Dr. Alexander H. Trechsel (Vice Rector for Research, University of Lucerne)
- 16:15–16:45 The Future of Government in a World of Big Data
- Input reflections by Marten Kaevats (National Digital Advisor to the Prime Minister of Estonia)
 - Chair: Prof. Dr. Lukas Schmid (Professor of Economics, University of Lucerne)
- 16:45–17:00 Closure
- Prof. Dr. Alexander H. Trechsel (Vice Rector for Research, University of Lucerne)
- 17:00–18:00 Reception (all participants)
- 18:30– Dinner for speakers, chairs and invited guests