Special Issue

Advances in Human–Computer Interaction (HCI): The Relational Turn

Message from the Guest Editor

Human–Computer Interaction (HCI) is everywhere, embedded in the ways we interact with each other and the world through countless apps, devices, services, and environments. It has transformed 21st-century living and significantly contributes to the normalization of interactions expressed simultaneously in physical and digital spheres, both in real-time and asynchronously.

At the same time, HCI has now transcended traditional interfaces and seamlessly blended with society itself, permeating through a deeper layer of autonomous infrastructure and intelligent algorithms, which carry on regardless of direct interaction with humans. In this sense, it could be argued that much of the current "interaction" between humans and computers unfolds indirectly via stealth backend data processing whose impact potentially surfaces at different times and places from the data collection point.

Simultaneously, growing concerns about the relational nature of digital technologies with the world at large have led to the call for greater attention to be paid to the role of HCI in sustainable development practices and innovation, through the lense of more-than-human and planetary design.

Guest Editor

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