![Universität Zürich UZH logo]

Digital Society Initiative (DSI)

Digital Society Initiative – February 2023

Dear interested parties, dear researchers

The year is not yet old. Nevertheless, there is already a lot to report from the DSI and its environment.

As part of the DSI, the University of Zurich is creating seven new assistant professorships, thus strengthening research and teaching on digital transformation. In addition to this news, the PREMIA prediction market is also attracting attention - a new project from the «DSI Infrastructures & Labs» series, which we present to you here.

In the first DSI News 2023, we also introduce one of three new DSI Communities as well as a new DSI Fellow. And as usual, we have some event recommendations for you.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue and have a great start to the spring semester.

The Digital Society Initiative Team

News

SEVEN NEW PROFESSORSHIPS

University of Zurich expands digital competence

The University of Zurich is expanding research and education on digital transformation by creating **seven new assistant professorships** with tenure track. These are to be converted into permanent professorships after six years. In this way, the DSI aims to offer long-term perspectives to young researchers and **retain the expertise** built up with the professorships at the University of Zurich.

The range of topics covered by the professorships reflects the **enormous diversity of digitalization** in academic research and education:

- «Ancient Christianity and Digital Humanities»
- «Cybersecurity»
- «Digital Orthopedics and Biomechanics»
- «Urban Analytics»
- «Mathematics for High-Dimensional Problems»
- «Econometrics in the Digital Age»
- «Sociology of Social Digitalization»

Since the start of the DSI in 2016, more than 30 professorships have now been created on topics related to digital transformation.

<div style="border:1px solid orange; display:inline-block; padding:10px;">**Learn more about the new professorships**</div>

Infrastructures & Labs

RESEARCH AT THE DSI

Three questions on PREMIA

Prof. Dr. Oliver Strijbis presents the PREMIA project in a short interview:

How do you explain PREMIA in three sentences?
PREMIA is an open environment for the research community in Zurich to predict socially relevant phenomena. The project involves a prediction market with integrated trading algorithms that combines human expertise with artificial intelligence. Prediction markets can be applied to almost any significant event that occurs in the short to medium term.

Which prediction markets are currently in focus?
Currently, there is a prediction market on the flight-related CO_2 emissions of the University of Zurich. Members of the university trade shares on the scenario of whether or not the university will achieve its 40% reduction target. The resulting forecast can be viewed on our project website.

In which prediction market do you see the greatest potential?
In addition to the prediction market on CO_2 emissions, we have a market on geopolitical

events, which has already attracted some interest. Soon we will also launch a market on the 2023 federal elections. Here, especially our predictions on the elections to the Council of States in the individual cantons will be of importance for research and the public. By the way, all members of the University of Zurich are invited to participate by registering.

You can find out more about Prof. Dr. Oliver Strijbis and PREMIA here.

To the DSI Infrastructures & Labs

DIGITALIZATION AND SUSTAINABILITY

The DSI Community Sustainability introduces itself

Since the beginning of this year, the DSI has three new communities: **«Education», «Metaverse» and «Sustainability»**. We start our short round of introductions here with the DSI Community Sustainability. The group aims to drive both **sustainable digitalization and digital sustainability**.

In this video, co-leader Dr. Mario Angst gives a little insight into the work of the community. Members of the DSI network who would like to participate can contact the DSI Community Sustainability directly.

More about the DSI Community Sustainability
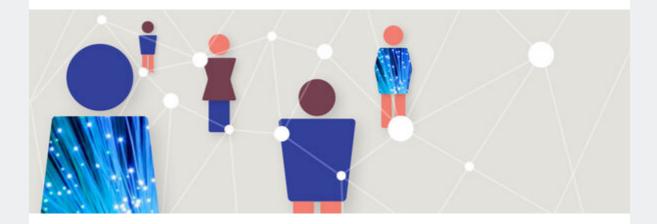
DIZH-PROFESSORSHIP

Digital Cultures and Arts

The University of Zurich invites applications for a DIZH-Professorship in digital cultures

and arts. The position should be filled by **February 1, 2024**. The professorship will be established as a joint assistant professorship between the University of Zurich and the Zurich University of the Arts. **After six years** and upon a successful evaluation, the professorship is to be made permanent.

The successful candidate's tasks include research and teaching in the field of digital cultures and arts in media cultural studies and practice. The **closing date for applications** is **March 1, 2023**.

To the call

NEW DSI FELLOW

A warm welcome

We are pleased to welcome a new DSI Fellow in the spring semester of 2023:

Dr. Julia Rone is a guest of our **DSI Community Democracy**. She will be focusing on «National Preference Formation for Digital Sovereignty in Europe».

Learn more about Julia

SPRING SEMESTER 2023

Inaugural Lectures

We are pleased to announce the **inaugural lectures** of two colleagues from the DSI network for the upcoming spring semester. The lectures will take place in the Aula of the University of Zurich, Center.

March 27: PD Dr. Stephanie Tanadini-Lang - «Artificial Intelligence: Applications in Radiation Oncology»

April 24: Prof. Dr. Dan Olteanu - «Relational AI Systems: In Pursuit of Simplicity»

Events

07.03. Einführung in die QGIS Cloud

A workshop conducted by the DSI GIS Hub.

More information

09.03. FULLY BOOKED: ChatGPT & Co. – eine Chance für Forschung und Lehre?

A panel discussion on interactive language models organized by the Departement of Computational Linguistics and the DSI.

More information

10.03. Data Donation Lab Meeting

Donating data for scientific research; an event by the Data Donation Lab.

More information

16.03. Games & Science

A panel discussion on the opportunities games offer to research – hosted by DIZH and the Museum of Design.

More information

16.03.

Digital Democracy: Still Loading

A dialogue event hosted by the DSI Community Democracy and the ETH Risk Center.

More information