

WORK2019

Real Work in Virtual World

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NEW CONCEPTIONS OF WORK IN A DIGITAL AGE

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Industrialization led to gender and social class lines that divided paid wage activities from activities such as maintaining a household and caring for others. New mobile technologies loosen or untether many activities from specific times and places, raising issues of boundaries between paid work and other kinds of work. Social, temporal, geographic, and identity boundaries seem to be more permeable. For example, physical presence dissociates from technology-mediated presence, and the working body becomes indistinguishable from the travelling or relaxing body. What do these transformations mean to conceptions of work?

We welcome research on any aspect of the changing concepts of, and organization of, work as result of digital technologies. Network maintenance and information sharing, care work, household activities, volunteer work, community activism, work for personal health, as well as paid work – whether for wages or not, or in emerging types of hybrid work such as crowd-work, blogging, or self-branding – we are interested in what you have to contribute.