

# Nick Obradovich

MIT Media Lab

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## Academic Positions

- 2016-present **Research Scientist.**  
Scalable Cooperation Group, Media Lab, Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Advisor: [Iyad Rahwan](#)
- 2016-2017 **Postdoctoral Fellow.**  
Science, Technology, & Public Policy, Belfer Center, Harvard Kennedy School of Government  
Advisor: [Daniel P. Schrag](#)

## Academic Affiliations

- 2017-present **Associate** [Harvard University Center for the Environment](#)
- 2017-present **Associate** [Belfer Center](#), Harvard University Kennedy School of Government
- 2016-present **Human-Environmental Systems Fellow** [CMBC](#), Scripps Institution of Oceanography

## Education

- 2010-2016 **University of California San Diego.**  
Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science  
Dissertation: "Essays on the Politics and Political Effects of Climate Change"  
Committee: [James H. Fowler](#) (co-chair), [Clark C. Gibson](#) (co-chair),  
[Jennifer A. Burney](#), [Scott W. Desposato](#), and [David G. Victor](#)
- 2005-2009 **Santa Clara University.**  
B.S. Economics and Environmental Studies, *summa cum laude*
- 2007-2008 **University of Oxford.**  
Visiting Student in Economics and Geography

## Publications

11. Baylis\*, P., **Obradovich\***, N., Kryvasheyev, Y., Chen, H., Coviello, L., Moro, E., Cebrian, M., and Fowler, J.H. (forthcoming). [Weather impacts expressed sentiment \(arXiv\)](#). *PLOS ONE*. (\* denotes equal contribution).  
[MIT Technology Review](#) | [Quartz](#) | [The Times](#) | [Miami Herald](#) | [Sacramento Bee](#)
10. Frank, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Sun, L., Woon, W.L., LeVeck, B., Rahwan, I. (2018). [Detecting reciprocity at a global scale](#). *Science Advances*, 4(eaao5348).
9. Telfer, S., **Obradovich, N.** (2017). [Local weather is associated with rates of online searches for musculoskeletal pain symptoms](#). *PLOS ONE*, 12(8), e0181266.  
[The Weather Channel](#) | [NBC News](#) | [Huffington Post](#)
8. **Obradovich, N.**, Migliorini, R., Mednick, S.C., and Fowler, J.H. (2017). [Nighttime temperature and human sleep loss in a changing climate](#). *Science Advances*, 3(e1601555).  
[NYT](#) | [WaPo](#) | [LA Times](#) | [USA Today](#) | [The Atlantic](#) | [Science](#) | [Bloomberg](#) | [AAAS](#)
7. **Obradovich, N.** and Fowler, J.H. (2017). [Climate change may alter human physical activity patterns](#). *Nature Human Behaviour*, 1(0097).  
[Associated Press](#) | [Science](#) | [Popular Science](#) | [Live Science](#)

6. **Obradovich, N.** (2017). Climate change may speed democratic turnover. *Climatic Change*, 140(2), 135-147.  
Reuters | ClimateWire | Springer
5. **Obradovich, N.** and Zimmerman, B. (2016). African voters indicate lack of support for climate change policies. *Environmental Science & Policy*, 66, 292-298.
4. Leas, E.C., Althouse, B.M., Dredze, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Fowler, J.H., Noar, S.M., Allem, J., and Ayers, J.W. (2016). Big data sensors of organic advocacy: The case of Leonardo DiCaprio and climate change. *PLOS ONE*, 11(8), e0159885.  
Washington Post | Bloomberg | Forbes | New York Magazine | Time | Slate
3. **Obradovich, N.** and Guenther, S.M. (2016). Collective responsibility amplifies mitigation behaviors. *Climatic Change*, 137(1), 307-319.  
Christian Science Monitor | Grist | Huff Post | Pacific Std. | Think Progress | VICE
2. Chacko, G., Evans, C.L., and **Obradovich, N.** (2016). Electoral systems and agricultural critical goods. *Journal of Business and Policy Research*, 11(1), 16-35.
1. Kryvasheyev, Y., Chen, H., **Obradovich, N.**, Moro, E., Van Hentenryck, P., Fowler, J.H., and Cebrian, M. (2016). Rapid assessment of disaster damage using social media activity. *Science Advances*, 2(3), e1500779.  
Wall Street Journal | Washington Post | Science | Smithsonian | Grist | The Verge

## Submitted Papers

**Obradovich, N.**, Migliorini, R., Paulus, M., and Rahwan, I. (under review). Empirical evidence of the mental health risks posed by climate change.

**Obradovich, N.**, Tingley, D., and Rahwan, I. (under review). Effects of environmental stressors on daily governance.

Moore, F.C., **Obradovich, N.**, and Lehner, F. (under review). Rapidly-adjusting perceptions of temperature in a changing climate.

Epstein, Z., Payne, B.H., Shen, J.H., Dubey, A., Felbo, B., Groh, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Cebrian, M., and Rahwan, I. (under review). Closing the AI knowledge gap (arXiv).

The Economist

Ash, K. and **Obradovich, N.** (under review). Climatic stress, internal migration, and Syrian civil war onset.

## Fellowships

2015-2016 *Frontiers of Innovation Fellowship*, University of California San Diego

2012-2013 *Global Change Fellowship*, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

2010-2015 *Graduate Research Fellowship*, National Science Foundation

2010-2015 *Gramercy Fellowship in Emerging Markets*, University of California San Diego

2008-2009 *Hackworth Fellowship*, Santa Clara University

2007-2008 *Honors Program Oxford Fellowship*, Santa Clara University

2005-2009 *Peace and Justice Fellowship*, Santa Clara University

## Honors and Awards

2017 *Outstanding Reviewer 2016* for *Environmental Research Letters*, IOP Publishing

2009 *Nobili Medal* for most outstanding overall male graduate, Santa Clara University

- 2009 *Hazel Award* for most outstanding in Economics, Santa Clara University
- 2009 *Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society* inductee
- 2007 *Visiting Student Prize*, top academic performance, Oxford University
- 2005-2009 *Honors Program Academic Scholarship*, Santa Clara University
- 2005-2009 *Dean's Academic Scholarship* Santa Clara University

## Grants

- 2014 *Rural and Latino Americans and Climate Change (\$70,000)*  
Skoll Global Threats Fund
- 2014 *Dissertation Improvement Grant: Climate Change and African Elections (\$17,600)*  
National Science Foundation
- 2014 *Levin Family Seed Grant: Climate Change and Corruption (\$1,700)*  
Center for Effective Global Action, University of California Berkeley
- 2014 *Sanford Lakoff Grant: Climate Change and Elections (\$1,000)*  
Department of Political Science, University of California San Diego
- 2013 *XSEDE Computational Research Grant (100,000 SU award)*  
National Science Foundation, TG-SES130013
- 2013 *UNFCCC COP Travel and Outreach Grant (\$29,000)*  
Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- 2013 *Climate Change Research Challenge Grant (\$5,000)*  
Center for Effective Global Action, University of California Berkeley
- 2013 *Dean's Travel Grant for Research Travel to Baja, Mexico (\$600)*  
Division of Social Sciences, University of California San Diego
- 2013 *Rural Mexican Voter Response to Environmental Shocks (\$4,000)*  
Center for Marine Biodiversity and Conservation, Scripps Institution of Oceanography
- 2012 *Rural Ghanaian Political Behavior (\$12,000)*  
Small-scale Artisanal Fisheries Research Network, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

## Instruction

- Fall 2017 *Instructor*, Graduate Quantitative Social Science Research Methods, MIT Media Lab
- Spring 2012 *Instructor*, Honors Undergraduate Research Methods, University of California San Diego

## Professional Experience

- 2009-2010 *Research assistant* for Edward P. Lazear, Stanford University
- 2008 *Intern* Eco-Technology Program Office, Intel Corporation
- 2007 *Environmental sustainability analyst*, Intel Corporation

## Outreach Activities

- 2014-present *Advisory Council Member*, Climate Lab, Skoll Global Threats Fund
- 2017 *How will human beings adapt to a changing climate? MIT ClimateX Podcast.*
- 2017 Victor, D., Obradovich, N., Amaya, D. *Why the wiring of our brains makes it hard to stop climate change. Los Angeles Times.*
- 2015 *Graduate Student Delegate* for UC San Diego, Graduate Research Day
- 2014 *International Electoral Observer*, Malawian Presidential and Parliamentary Elections

- 2013 University of California Delegate to the UNFCCC in Warsaw, Poland
- 2011 International Electoral Observer, Ugandan Presidential and Parliamentary Elections

## Invited Talks

- 2018 "The human impacts of warming" Alumni Speaker, Knowlton-Jackson Lecture. Scripps Institution of Oceanography. San Diego, CA. May 2018.
- 2018 "Big data and the causal effects of weather on emotions" Information Science Institute, University of Southern California. Los Angeles, CA. May 2018.
- 2018 "Emotion and climate change" The Society for Affective Science Annual Conference. Los Angeles, CA. April 2018.
- 2018 "Using big data and causal inference to answer fundamental social questions" Center for Complex Network Research, Northeastern University. Boston, MA. April 2018.
- 2017 "Day-to-day governance in a warming world" International Relations Faculty Colloquium. Department of Politics, Princeton University. Princeton, NJ. December 2017.
- 2016 "Climate change and democratic turnover" Human Dynamics Group. MIT Media Lab. Cambridge, MA. November 2016.
- 2016 "Leveraging big data to estimate the human impacts of climate change" Real Colegio Complutense. Harvard University. Cambridge, MA. November 2016.
- 2016 "Climate change may impact human mood" Brainstorm: Dimensions of Human Interaction with Weather. Scripps Institution of Oceanography. San Diego, CA. April 2016.

## Conferences

- 2018 Sekara, V., Lee, J., Luengo, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Garcia-Herranz, M., and Moro, E. "Predicting socioeconomic indicators for multiple countries from social media data" International Conference on Computational Social Science. Evanston, IL. July 2018.
- 2018 Frank, M., **Obradovich, N.**, Sun, L., Leveck, B., and Rahwan, I. "Detecting reciprocity at a global scale" International Conference on Computational Social Science. Evanston, IL. July 2018.
- 2018 Ash, K. and **Obradovich, N.** "Climatic stress and dissent in competitive authoritarian regimes" International Studies Association. San Francisco, CA. April 2018.
- 2018 Rubenson, D., Dawes, C., and **Obradovich, N.** "Beating a four hour marathon is good for democracy" Midwest Political Science Association. Chicago, IL. April 2018.
- 2018 Enenkel, M., Saenz, S.M., Dookie, D.S., Braman, L., **Obradovich, N.**, and Kryvasheyev, Y. "Social Media Data Analysis and Feedback for Advanced Disaster Risk Management" ([arXiv](#)). International Workshop on Social Web for Disaster Management. Los Angeles, CA. February 2018.
- 2017 **Obradovich, N.**, Felbo, B., Yanardag, P., Borsa, A., Burney, J.A., Jones, J.J., and Rahwan, I. "The effects of climatic events on expressed climate change belief" American Political Science Association. San Francisco, CA. August 2017.
- 2017 Guenther, S. and **Obradovich, N.** "Experimental induction of interpersonal trust demobilizes political efforts" American Political Science Association. San Francisco, CA. August 2017.
- 2017 Ash, K. and **Obradovich, N.** "Climatic stress, internal migration, and Syrian civil war onset" American Political Science Association. San Francisco, CA. August 2017.

- 2017 Abeliuk, A., Fernández, A., **Obradovich, N.**, and Rahwan, I. "Modeling the evolution of political ideologies" International Conference on Computational Social Science. Cologne, Germany. July 2017.
- 2017 Kim, R., Felbo, B., **Obradovich, N.**, and Rahwan, I. "Quantifying structural factors affecting racial tensions during 2016 US presidential election" International Conference on Computational Social Science. Cologne, Germany. July 2017.
- 2017 Ash, K. and **Obradovich, N.** "Climatic stress, internal migration, and Syrian civil war onset" International Studies Association. Baltimore, MD. February 2017.
- 2016 "Empirical estimation of climate adaptation in human-environmental systems" American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting. San Francisco, CA. December 2016. Session chair.
- 2016 **Obradovich, N.** "Climate change may speed democratic turnover" Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting. San Diego, CA. March 2016.
- 2014 Chacko, G., Evans, C.L., and **Obradovich, N.** "Electoral systems and critical goods", Best Paper Award, Economics. Annual Tokyo Business Research Conference. Tokyo, Japan. August 2014.
- 2013 **Obradovich, N.** "Weather and how to vote: climatic variations and rural voter behavior" Conference for Sustainability IGERTs. Portland, OR. September 2013.

## Professional Memberships

American Political Science Association, American Geophysical Union

## Academic Service

Reviewer Climatic Change; Environmental Research Letters; Environmental Science & Policy; Risk Analysis; Weather, Climate, and Society

## Fieldwork

Ghana, Malawi, Mexico, South Africa, Uganda

## Languages

R, Python, Stata, Bash,  $\LaTeX$ , Markdown, HTML5, CSS3

*Updated April 2, 2018*