

Symposium Science Communication and Communicative AI

November 5–6, 2026, Augsburg, Germany
Location: Annahof, Im Annahof 4, 86150 Augsburg
Room: Hieronymus Wolf Raum

Organizers: Helena Bilandzic (University of Augsburg) & Monika Taddicken (Technische Universität Braunschweig)

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University of Augsburg
Technische Universität Braunschweig

Wednesday, November 4, 2026	
19:00	Get-together

Thursday, November 5, 2026	
08:30–09:00	Registration and coffee
09:00–10:00	<p>Welcome <i>Monika Taddicken (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Helena Bilandzic (University of Augsburg)</i></p> <p>Keynote I Trust in Science and AI: The Future of Science Communication <i>Dominique Brossard (University of Wisconsin–Madison)</i></p>
10:00–11:00	<p>Communicative Values in Human–AI Communication: An Analytical Framework and Its Application to Science Communication <i>Daniela Mahl (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Mike Schäfer (University of Zurich)</i></p> <p>‘In Principle, the AI Should Not Produce Nonsense’–Defining Quality Requirements for AI in Science Communication Using Framework Analysis <i>Irene Broer (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Kaija Biermann (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Monika Taddicken (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i></p>

Thursday, November 5, 2026 (continued)	
11:00–11:30	Coffee break
11:30–12:30	<p>Does Generative AI Add Value to Science Communication? Audience Responses to AI-Assisted Revision</p> <p><i>Yael Barel-Ben David (IPN Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics Education; Kiel University (CAU))</i> <i>Jane Momme (IPN Leibniz Institute for Science and Mathematics Education)</i></p> <p>The Uneven Adoption of AI Across the Swiss Science Communication Ecosystem: Comparing Scientists, Professional Communicators, Science Journalists, Content Creators, Wikipedians, and Citizens</p> <p><i>Gerta Lokaj (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Mike Schäfer (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Xiran Liu (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Damiano Lombardi (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Daniela Mahl (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Sophia Volk (LMU Munich)</i></p>
12:30–13:30	Lunch break
13:30–15:30	<p>Source-Grounded Conversational AI for Scalable Science Communication: Practical Experiences from the Development of MyQandA</p> <p><i>Paul Baumgarten (2B innovative)</i></p> <p>Conveying Science Through a Chatbot? Aligning LLM Prototypes with Scientific Evidence for Science Communication</p> <p><i>Martin Bürger (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Julia Spahn (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Matthias Kast (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Helena Bilandzic (University of Augsburg)</i></p> <p>Designing Trustworthy Communicative AI for Works Councils: Experiences from the Development of DIVA</p> <p><i>Paul Baumgarten (2B innovative)</i> <i>Alexander Silbersdorff (University of Göttingen)</i> <i>André Korbas (University of Göttingen)</i></p> <p>“Autonomie & Algorithmen”: Lessons Learned From a Researcher-Led AI Podcast Centering Human Autonomy</p> <p><i>Lena Ackermann (Bielefeld University)</i> <i>Benjamin Paaßen (Bielefeld University)</i></p>
15:30–16:00	Coffee break

Thursday, November 5, 2026 (continued)	
16:00–17:30	<p>The Seduction of Frictionlessness: The Impact of Communicative AI on the Use of and Trust in Conventional Information Sources <i>Katharina Kleinen-von Königslöw (University of Hamburg)</i></p> <p>How People Seek Information with ChatGPT: Exploring Strategies, Evaluation, and Outcomes <i>Evelyn Jonas (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Xenia Jürgens (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Monika Taddicken (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i></p> <p>Singing for AI Literacy: Lessons from the Project “Songs About AI” <i>Lara Bauer (Johannes Kepler University Linz)</i> <i>Kathrin Meyer (Johannes Kepler University Linz)</i> <i>Martina Mara (Johannes Kepler University Linz)</i></p>
18:30	Dinner

Friday, November 6, 2026	
08:30–9:00	Registration and coffee
09:00–10:30	<p>Keynote II AI as Epistemic Source of Communication <i>S. Shyam Sundar (The Pennsylvania State University)</i></p> <p>Keynote III How Might AI Change Communication in and About Science? <i>Benedikt Fecher (Wissenschaft im Dialog)</i></p>
10:30–11:00	Coffee break

Friday, November 6, 2026 (continued)	
11:00–12:30	<p>“Have You Tried an AI Tool Yet?” Exploring User Discussions of Communicative AI on Facebook and Instagram</p> <p><i>Kaija Biermann (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Martin Bürger (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Monika Taddicken (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Helena Bilandzic (University of Augsburg)</i></p> <p>Competence, Engagement, and Expectations in the German Population: Perspectives on CommAI Across Survey and Interaction Data</p> <p><i>Esther Greussing (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Monika Taddicken (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i></p> <p>Decoding AI: An XR Game Approach to AI Literacy for Children and Teens</p> <p><i>Lara Bauer (Johannes Kepler University Linz)</i> <i>Martina Mara (Johannes Kepler University Linz)</i></p>
12:30–13:30	Lunch break
13:30–15:30	<p>Who Speaks for AI? Visibility and Communicative Roles of AI Researchers in German News Coverage (2012–2026)</p> <p><i>Verena Albrecht (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich)</i> <i>Daniela Mahl (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Lars Guenther (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich)</i></p> <p>Framing Communicative AI: German News Coverage After ChatGPT’s Release</p> <p><i>Matthias Kast (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Moritz Schäfer (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Martin Bürger (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Helena Bilandzic (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Irene Broer (Technische Universität Braunschweig)</i> <i>Björn Schuller (Technical University of Munich)</i></p> <p>Linguistic Epistemic Bias in AI-Assisted Science Communication: Evidence From Environmental Knowledge in the Western Balkans</p> <p><i>Kiril Arsovski Przo (Ennoema Institute of Communication, Social Sciences, and Humanities Research, Ljubljana; Institute of Communication Studies, Skopje)</i> <i>Zenta Trajkoska (Institute of Communication Studies, Skopje)</i></p> <p>Reflections on LLM-Coding: Do We Need It, When and Why?</p> <p><i>Julia Spahn (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Matthias Kast (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Martin Bürger (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Helena Bilandzic (University of Augsburg)</i></p>

Friday, November 6, 2026 (continued)	
15:30–16:00	Coffee break
16:00–17:30	<p>Between Media Criticism and Positive Encounters: European AI Researchers' Experiences with AI-Related Science Communication and Journalism</p> <p><i>Verena Albrecht (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich)</i> <i>Xiran Liu (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Mike Schäfer (University of Zurich)</i> <i>Lars Guenther (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich)</i></p> <p>Artificial Brainiacs: Anthropomorphic Representations of Communicative AI in German News Media</p> <p><i>Matthias Kast (University of Augsburg)</i> <i>Helena Bilandzic (University of Augsburg)</i></p> <p>Science Communicators Navigating AI: Organizational Tensions in Research Organizations</p> <p><i>Lea Greminger (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich)</i> <i>Sophia Volk (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich)</i></p>
17:30–18:00	Closing remarks
19:30	Dinner

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