

[Today's Date]¹

Subject: [Proposal title]

To: Wikimedia Foundation Research Fund chairs

I am writing to express my intent to submit a [Type 1 OR Type 2] research proposal entitled “[Proposal Title]” to the Wikimedia Foundation Research Fund.

[Provide 1 paragraph (200 words maximum) to identify (a) the research question or topic, (b) the key objectives, and (b) the significance or rationale for the project (both in general and in regards to Wikimedia 2030 [Strategic Direction](#), [Movement Recommendations](#), or the [Multigenerational strategy](#).)]

[Provide 1 paragraph (200 words maximum) that identifies (a) the research approach and methodology, and (b) the research plan, (c) the expected outcomes or impact from the work, (d) any other personnel or collaborators who will assist with the work.]

Thank you for considering this letter of intent; I look forward to submitting the full proposal for your review.

Sincerely,

[Primary Investigator's Name]

[Primary Investigator's Title and/or Department]

[Institution]

Additional material: The Principal Investigator should submit a short biographical appendix that includes: (a) education and degrees, (b) up to five research products (e.g., publications, grants, awards, collaborations), (c) up to five synergistic activities (e.g., work in Wikimedia communities, leadership or experience in other fields), and (d) external links to institutional homepages, Google Scholar profiles, ORCID IDs, or similar pages. An example version of the document is provided by one of the Research Fund chairs in the next page. Please closely model your submission based on this template. While we do not have a strict page limit for the biographical appendix, we do not expect the appendix to go beyond two pages.

¹ At the time of submission, please: 1) remove this footnote; 2) remove sections highlighted in grey; 3) make sure sections inside brackets are replaced with the information requested and the cyan color and brackets are removed; 4) remove the example biographical appendix. Thank you.

Biographical Appendix

Benjamin Mako Hill

Educational Degrees

Hampshire College	Amherst, MA	Interdisciplinary	BA 2003
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Cambridge, MA	Media Arts and Sciences	MS 2007
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Cambridge, MA	Management and MAS	PhD 2013

Appointments

- 2022–. Associate Professor, Department of Communication, University of Washington.
- 2022–. Adjunct Faculty, Department of Human-Centered Design & Engineering, University of Washington.
- 2022–. Adjunct Faculty, Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering, University of Washington.
- 2022–. Adjunct Faculty, Information School, University of Washington.
- 2014–. Faculty Associate, Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University.
- 2023–2024. Fellow, Center for Information Technology Policy, Princeton University.
- 2014–2022. Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, University of Washington.
- 2018–2019. Lenore Annenberg and Wallis Annenberg Fellow in Communication, Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University.
- 2011–2014. Fellow, Berkman Center for Internet and Society, Harvard University.

Research Products (max. 5)

- Champion, Kaylea, and Benjamin Mako Hill. 2024. “Life Histories of Taboo Knowledge Artifacts.” *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 8 (CSCW2): 505:1-505:32. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3687044>.
- Tran, Chau, Kaylea Champion, Benjamin Mako Hill, and Rachel Greenstadt. 2022. “The Risks, Benefits, and Consequences of Prepublication Moderation: Evidence from 17 Wikipedia Language Editions.” *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 6 (CSCW2): 333:1-333:25. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3555225>.
- Kharazian, Zarine, Kate Starbird, and Benjamin Mako Hill. 2024. “Governance Capture in a Self-Governing Community: A Qualitative Comparison of the Croatian, Serbian, Bosnian, and Serbo-Croatian Wikipedias.” *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction* 8 (CSCW1): 61:1-61:26. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3637338>.

Khatri, Sejal, Aaron Shaw, Sayamindu Dasgupta, and Benjamin Mako Hill. 2022. “The Social Embeddedness of Peer Production: A Comparative Qualitative Analysis of Three Indian Language Wikipedia Editions.” In *CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '22)*. New York, New York: ACM. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3491102.3501832>.

Shaw, Aaron, and Benjamin Mako Hill. 2014. “Laboratories of Oligarchy? How the Iron Law Extends to Peer Production.” *Journal of Communication* 64 (2): 215–38. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcom.12082>.

Synergistic Activities (max. 5)

Associate Chair (2019–), *ACM Conference on Computer-supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)*

Member, Steering Committee (2017–); Program Co-Chair (2007), *International Symposium on Open Collaboration (OpenSym)*.

Member of Wikimedia Foundation Advisory Board (2007–2018)

Founding team member of Ubuntu Linux Distribution project

Author of several best-selling technical books on Linux operating systems including the Official Ubuntu Book, the Official Ubuntu Server Book, and the Debian GNU/Linux Bible

External Links

Google Scholar <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=FT2sH3gAAAAJ>

ORCID <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8588-7429>

Homepage <https://mako.cc/academic/>