Contributors

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Erik M. Conway is a historian of science and technology living in Altadena, California. He completed a PhD from the University of Minnesota in 1998, with a dissertation on the development of aircraft landing aids. He is currently the historian of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (www.jpl.nasa.gov), a unit of Caltech. Conway’s most recent book is Exploration and Engineering: The Jet Propulsion Laboratory and the Quest for Mars, published in 2015 (John Hopkins University Press). He shared a Guggenheim Fellowship with Naomi Oreskes in 2018, and received a 2019–2020 Huntington Fellowship. He has two books in progress, a history of Near-Earth Objects research and policy development, and, with Oreskes, a history of market fundamentalism. Prior to graduate school, Conway served as an officer in the US Navy for four years, serving as a damage control assistant and acting chief engineer, and then as an operations officer for COMPHIBRON ONE in San Diego, CA.

Ben Epstein is Associate Professor in Political Science at DePaul University. His research focuses on political communication, American political culture, and American political development, with particular emphasis on the intersection of the Internet and politics. His first book, The Only Constant Is Change: Technology, Political Communication, and Innovation Over Time, was published by Oxford University Press in 2018. This book explores how major changes in political communication occur over time. It identifies and tests the political communication cycle,
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Dave Karpf is Associate Professor in the School of Media and Public Affairs at George Washington University. He teaches and conducts research on strategic political communication in the digital age, with a particular focus on the use of technology within political organizations. He is the award-winning author of The MoveOn Effect: The Unexpected Transformation of American Political Advocacy (Oxford University Press, 2012) and Analytic Activism: Digital Listening and the New Political Strategy (Oxford University Press, 2016). His work has been published in a wide range of academic journals, and has also appeared in The Nation, Nonprofit Quarterly, the American Prospect, Esquire, and WIRED.

Steven Livingston is Professor of Media and Public Affairs and International Affairs and the Founding Director of the Institute for Data, Democracy, and Politics (IDDP) at the George Washington University. Between 2016 and 2019 he was a senior fellow at the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy at Harvard University. Livingston has held a number of other visiting appointments at the Brookings Institution, St Gallen University in Switzerland, the Free University in Berlin, and Cambridge University in the UK. He studies the role of technology in politics and policy processes, including human rights monitoring, disinformation campaigns, governance, and the provisioning of public goods. Among other publications, Livingston has written When the Press Fails: Political Power and the News Media from Iraq to Katrina (University of Chicago Press, 2007), with W. Lance Bennett and Regina Lawrence; Bits and Atoms: Information and Communication Technology in Areas of Limited Statehood (Oxford University Press, 2014), with Gregor Walter-Drop.

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