

UCLA Science Faculty Research Colloquium

2011-12



Wednesday, Jan. 25, 2012, 4pm
California NanoSystems Institute Auditorium

Mark Hansen

Professor of Statistics

Mark Hansen is a Professor of Statistics with joint appointments in the Department of Electrical Engineering and the Department of Design|Media Art. Prior to joining UCLA, he was a Member of the Technical Staff at Bell Laboratories. His artistic collaborations have been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York, the Reina Sophia in Madrid, the Cartier Foundation in Paris, and the London Science Museum. Together with Ben Rubin, he was awarded the 2004 Ars Electronica Golden Nica for Interactive Art.

“Repetition and Surprise, Rehearsal and Reinvention”



Far from virtual, inert quantities, data exert real forces in the physical world. They are incendiaries wielding the power of once-secret diplomatic cables; mores initiated with the invention of a privacy setting; and physical laws shaping the built environment with the quiet, persistent action of zoning regulations. Data rarely act in isolation, gaining power through combination, "join"ing forces and moving into new terrain. Their presence is thought to guarantee transparency, their absence is seen as suspicious, and restrictions on their movement appear to be temporary, at best.

In this talk, Prof. Hansen will take a broad view of data (and companion ideas like "algorithm," "model" and "visualization") and explore their use in creative practices. He will present a selection of work from his artistic collaborations over the last decade - from a permanent display in the lobby of the New York Times building and a new work for the

9/11 Memorial Museum in New York City; to a performance designed as part of the New York Public Library's centennial celebration last June.

He will tie these artworks to a larger movement in which data and data processing are seeping into almost every academic discipline on campus. His talk will end with a proposal to aggregate the data practices from science, the humanities, and even art and design under a single umbrella -- Data science.

**Free Admission - Open to the Public - Reception immediately following.
The Series is designed to be of interest to an informed general audience.**

Next Colloquium Talk - February 16, 2012, 4:00 pm, California NanoSystems Institute Auditorium

Dr. Timothy Deming

Prof. of Bioengineering & Biomedical Engineering and Prof. of Chemistry & Biochemistry
“Bridging the Gap Between Plastics and Proteins”

The UCLA Science Faculty Research Colloquium is made possible by a generous donation from the Africk Family.

For the full schedule of talks in the 2011-12 Colloquium Series, visit our website at: www.physicalsciences.ucla.edu/2011_colloquium.asp