2023 ICA Mobile Communication Pre-Conference

Mobile Networked Creativity

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Creativity as Artistic Practice

Used to define Shakespeare's work (1875)



…. Later on used to describe all forms of artistic creations.







(Weiner, 2000; Gahan, Minahan, & Glow, 2007)

Creativity as Individual Process







Genetically inherited.

Connected with the idea Greek idea of the genius.

(Isaacson, 2014; Bilton, 2006)

Creativity as Innovation

Individuals can be coaxed into being creative.



Development of ideas about products, practices, services or procedures that are novel and potentially useful to the organization.

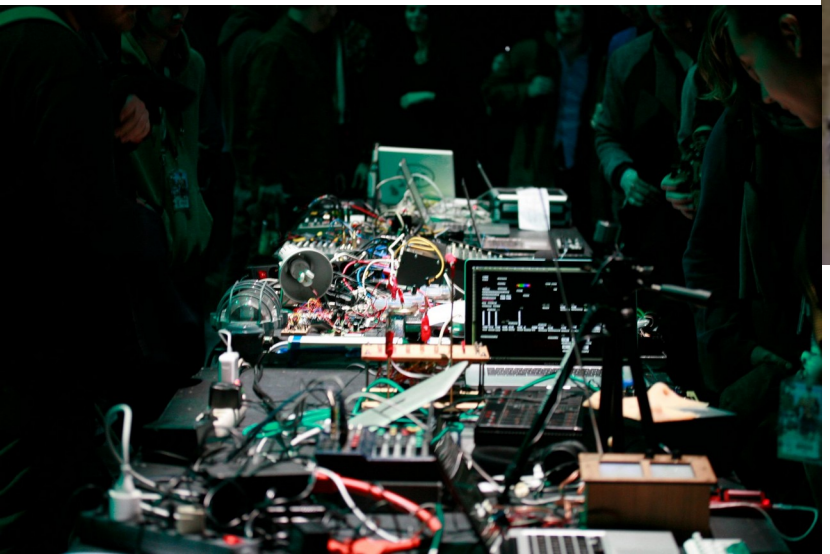
(Steiber & Alänge, 2013; Anderson, Potočnik, & Zhou, 2014; Amabile, 1996; Mumford & Gustafson, 1988; Shalley et al., 2004)

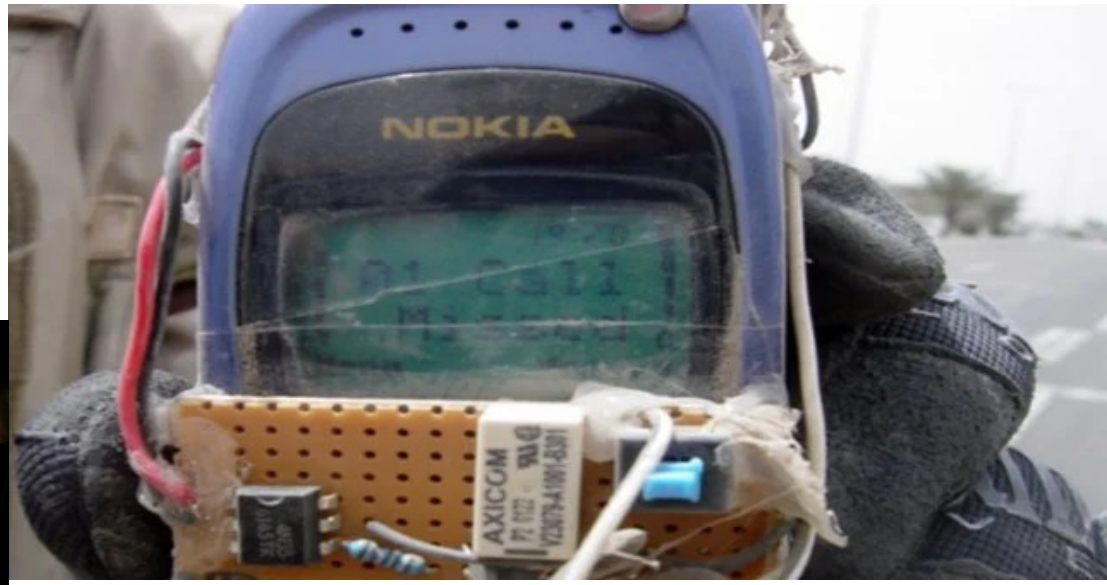
Creativity

What about non-artistic practices?

What about power dynamics?

Is creativity always “good”?





(Glăveanu et al., 2019; Runco, 2007; Sternberg, 2018)

Creativity

It is easier to measure aesthetic creativity in an individual (IQ, memory, attention tests) than to understand when a group of slum dwellers or refugees are “creative.”





(Amabile, 1996; Shalley, Zhou, & Oldham, 2004; Runco & Richards, 1997; Abbate, 2000; Hafner & Lyon, 1998; Johnson, 2010)

Mobile Networked Creativity

A practice that arises from the networked and recursive relationships that involve mobile technologies and displaced / emplaced communities, in situations of hardship.



Mobile Networked Creativity

Mobile

dynamic

Networked

social networks / digital networks

Spatial

contextual

Mobile Networked Creativity

https://mobilenetworkedcreativity.pubpub.org/

Scenario 1: You and a committee have organized a 2-day academic symposium on your area of research. The symposium consists of a series of panel presentations, break-out workshops, and all-hands events. The symposium is scheduled to take place on-site; however COVID has mutated in a way that is once again hindering travel and in-person events. The event is one week away, and your committee is charged with shifting the event to accommodate a fully digital/online format. How would you approach this, and which tools would you use, and how, to address issues such as attendance, participation, intellectual enrichment, potential disparities, etc.?

Scenario 2: During a severe storm utility lines are downed throughout your community and the surrounding area. Everyone has lost electricity and it could be several days before getting it back. You and a few neighbors decide to come up with a plan for providing gas-generated community charging stations and communicating that plan to people in need. How would you go about this? How would you work with other people, and what types of resources might be involved in coming up with and carrying out the plan?

Scenario 3: The women living in a highly patriarchal society find it hard to use ridesharing apps because of the rampant issue of harassment. You plan to address this problem, but a major concern for you is that the leading ridesharing apps are way ahead of the competition. This means that you cannot launch a new app only for women and meet their needs. What can you do to use the existing infrastructures in a creative way in order to make ridesharing a safe practice for women? What are some other important concerns that might come up along the way?

Scenario 4: You normally commute to work by bus, but over the course of a month, the bus line you are used to taking becomes very unpredictable. You've waited for over an hour at the bus stop several times during the past week. You cannot use Moovit because it never displays the correct departure and arrival times of buses in your city due to severe traffic jams, making it impossible to know when the next bus will come. Talking to other passengers in the bus, you find out that everyone is experiencing the same problem. The bus driver overhears the conversations and explains that because of a funding issue, all other drivers were laid off and there is just one bus in that line circulating in town. Is there any way to address the situation from a mobile networked creative perspective?

Scenario 5: Mobile networked creativity (MNC) at the base level refers to the relationship among people, technologies, and spaces. On another level, MNC also refers to the practices that procure access to these elements. For instance, organizations such as World Relief will arrange mobile phones and plans for an initial period of time as newly resettled refugees try to acclimate to their new homes. These mobile phones serve as a connection among other resettled refugees that they might already know and the organization and its liaisons, which can help refugees to navigate the new cultural practices and new spaces. However, access to these mobile devices are secure only during the resettlement period. It will be up to resettled refugees to start securing their own access. In addition, based on where refugees are resettled, their access to mobile communication can be precarious, as in the case of "dead zones" due to the lack of infrastructure such as broadband or due to competing service provider coverage.

In this scenario, we ask you to work backwards to see what else might be an obstacle to having a balanced relationship among each other, technologies, and our spaces if we are 1) especially new to a location, 2) may not understand the language or customs, and 3) must rely on mobile communication to remain within our networks. Next, what could be done to address these obstacles?

Scenario 6: Your government has banned online access to a type of information or an information* channel that is critical to your community. Your community must work creatively to communicate and share critical information. How would you use "mobile networked creativity" to problem-solve around the information access ban? What resources are needed and what are the affordances of those resources? Does the "mobile" aspect of your solution offer any unique affordances? Who will be included/excluded by your solution? What protections, if any, will be in place for those who use your solution?

*PS: You can decide on the kind of information access ban that your government has put into place. It might include: information about a particular health service, information about political opposition groups, access to a particular information-sharing platform, or something else.

https://tinyurl.com/5n8npzxy