



**Centre for Publication Ethics  
Savitribai Phule Pune University**

In collaboration with

**The UNESCO Chair in Vulnerability Studies  
Department of English, University of Hyderabad**

Online lecture on

**Information precarity: The influence of living  
with uncertainty on everyday life**

by

**Dr. Rebekah Willson and Owen Stewart-Robertson  
McGill University (Montréal, Canada)**

**Date: September 4, 2024 | Time: 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm**

**About the talk**

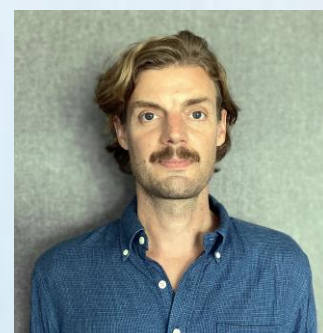
Modern life is filled with precarity. The pandemic demonstrated just how disruptive and differentially experienced precarity can be and highlighted the fact that many live with significant and often constant uncertainty and insecurity. While some precarity may be short-lived, such as during times of transition, precarity is also experienced on an ongoing basis. In some sectors, across many countries, precarious employment has become the norm.

While precarity has been discussed widely in other disciplines, recent work in information studies has suggested the value of exploring the concept for better understanding the everyday interactions with information of various groups and communities. Building from the findings of several research projects, this talk will discuss the conceptual basis for looking at precarity from an information-focused standpoint. Focusing on precarious employment and the pandemic, these studies have addressed lived experiences dealing with uncertainty and insecurity, including how information needs shift and are disrupted, how individuals look for information, and how information is used (or not). In addition to focusing on such experiences, this talk aims to provoke discussion about what can be done to mitigate precarity and the relevance of the information precarity concept for research in other contexts.



**Dr. Rebekah Willson**

Assistant professor at the School of Information Studies at McGill University (Montréal, Canada). Before coming to McGill, Dr. Willson spent three years as a Lecturer in Information Science in the Department of Computer and Information Sciences at the University of Strathclyde (Glasgow, UK). Dr. Willson's research is in the field of information behaviour and practices particularly focusing on individuals and groups who are undergoing transitions and living with uncertainty, including academics working on short-term contracts, early career researchers dealing with COVID-19, and knowledge workers working remotely. Dr. Willson is a member of the Editorial Board for the *Journal of the Association of Information Science and Technology*.



**Owen Stewart-Robertson**

PhD candidate at the School of Information Studies, McGill University (Montréal, Québec). He holds a M.S. in Information and Library Science from the University at Buffalo and a master in Music in Performance from McGill. His research interests include scientific knowledge production through sound, the information practices of artists/musicians and the intersections of precarity and information practices.

**Registration Link:** <https://forms.gle/zkU5cUXy4AhFchDo6>

**Zoom**

