



“WORKSHOP SESSION” (Thinking-through draft material from our *book manuscript*) **2 May 2025**

13:45:40 From Donica Bettanin (she/her) to Everyone:

Labs: Study || Sanctuary || Organizing
ten in June, July, August

Sidewalk Studies: May theme : photography

Seminars
Summer - 10 seminars! - announcing next week

New communications coordinator
<https://www.schoolofattention.org/open-positions>

Poster Art project
<https://www.schoolofattention.org/eyes-up-poster-open-call>

New fellowship cohort callout May

Benefit 15 May

14:02:13 From Ana Cristina (Tininha) to Everyone:

WOW! This is such an honor to be in the same room as Yves Citton

14:15:12 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:

^ ^ ^ ^

14:15:33 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:

<https://www.schoolofattention.org/eyes-up-poster-open-call>

14:16:20 From Ana Cristina (Tininha) to Everyone:

This is so cool!

14:16:38 From Donica Bettanin (she/her) to Everyone:

<https://www.schoolofattention.org/open-positions>

14:16:58 From Vitória Oliveira to Everyone:
our substack: <https://schoolofattention.substack.com>

14:17:32 From David Landes to Everyone:
SoRA All-Nighter: Jazz Studies!??<https://www.schoolofattention.org/events/all-nighter-jazz-studies>

14:18:42 From christiegeorge to Everyone:
Replying to "<https://www.schoolofattention.org/eyes-up-poster-o...>":
I love this poster idea. I've been fantasizing about hosting a hackathon-style thing-y where people could make posters. The point being less about what's created and more about making things alongside and/or with each other.

14:19:32 From christiegeorge to Everyone:
Replying to "SoRA All-Nighter: Jazz Studies!??<https://www.schoo...>":
This sounds epic

14:21:55 From Donica Bettanin (she/her) to Everyone:
For May 15: <https://www.schoolofattention.org/gala-invite> 🧡

14:30:50 From eve to Everyone:
I had to type on an invisible keyboard to get the letter layout

14:31:01 From Ana Cristina (Tininha) to Everyone:
Thank YOU, Alyssa!

14:31:01 From kristinlawler to Everyone:
I could only remember the letters by trying to type "friends of attention" in my mind, only through unconscious movement

14:31:09 From David Landes to Everyone:
brain: empty. fingers: know

14:31:16 From christiegeorge to Everyone:
I was making up weird sentences to get the letter layout.

14:31:22 From Peter Schmidt to Everyone:
The quick brown fox...

14:31:42 From Donica Bettanin (she/her) to Everyone:
I went through the alphabet and tried to place the letters ... didn't work

14:31:53 From Jeff Dolven to Everyone:
Almost no ability to visualize it, but I followed a quick brown fox to a pretty good map.

14:32:04 From Connor Griffin to Everyone:
the caps lock key disappeared from my memory...

14:32:14 From Melissa Galvez (she/her/hers) to Everyone:
SO weird to realize I could only very barely picture or draw it but like David said, clearly my fingers know where every letter is. Truly fascinating window into what it means to "know" something.

14:32:20 From Kyle Winston to Everyone:
Focused on my escape key (red) and Num lock light (blue) and the accumulated grime on most of the letter and numbers (beige).

14:32:38 From Donica Bettanin (she/her) to Everyone:
Replying to "the caps lock key disappeared from my memory...":
same!

14:33:28 From Ana Cristina (Tininha) to Everyone:
Hey Gwen! So nice to see you here again!

14:34:04 From Gwen Olton (they / she) to Everyone:
Replying to "Hey Gwen! So nice to see you here again!":
Good to see you too, friend!

14:35:25 From Yves Citton to Everyone:
Fantastic article! Thanks for it! We will translate it and spread it in France...

14:39:04 From christiegeorge to Everyone:
I love this story so much.

14:39:35 From Jillian Impastato to Everyone:
Would love to hear about the process of creating the twelve theses of attention and how that is similar/different to this! Also trying to track down a copy irl ... if anyone has any up their sleeve

14:42:01 From Donica Bettanin (she/her) to Everyone:
Replying to "Would love to hear about the process of creating t...":
I'll drop you an email 😊

14:58:32 From eve to Everyone:
kim: well written and powerful

to a layperson, it may not be immediately understood
what is attention? everyone is carried with the concept of attention as productivity and focus

attention as freedom and autonomy

question on kim's comment: definition as second line?

poetic vs jargon and resistant to definition

more of definition to say what you mean: the tension between strict definition and keeping it open

christie: personal beef with the discourse on attention that it leaves out care: so central to
experience of attention — strong appreciation for care; study, sanctuary, and care language

christie did not understand the attentionauts and attentionistas not into cutesy language, trying to
be gender in inclusive

14:58:35 From Sonali Chakravarti to Everyone:
Language is more abstract and internal to our group. This is good because it doesn't feel like
what is out there, but it might take some time for people to get into it

14:58:52 From Sonali Chakravarti to Everyone:
The language of the catastrophe of the lie about being human stood out to us

14:59:20 From Sonali Chakravarti to Everyone:
Should there be something in there that describes the embodied feeling of attention?

14:59:36 From Sonali Chakravarti to Everyone:
More of a vision of the better future?

14:59:47 From açú (they/them) to Everyone:

Mostly had questions on the structure of the book (the hyperlink thing) and then discussed about intended audience and how people could reject the beginning (as in being presumptuous). On the other hand, it could really grasp something real in them from the beginning.

14:59:50 From Meghan D to Everyone:
Will there be a bibliography?

15:00:08 From David Landes to Everyone:
annotations to side-define new terms?
Meghan D: 👍

15:00:09 From eve to Everyone:

alas i have to head back to my training — great job everyone! what an exciting thing to be a part of and i am so grateful to & for everyone's hard work

15:00:12 From Sonali Chakravarti to Everyone:
Attensity was a hard term to start with because its not clear how to use it

15:01:28 From Etienne Turpin to Everyone:
please streamline 3 pillars!
STUDY / SOLIDARITY / SANCTUARY
Ana Cristina (Tininha), christiegeorge: ❤️

15:01:51 From D. Graham Burnett to Everyone:
^ ^ ^ ^

15:02:04 From Jeff Dolven to Everyone:

We spent some time weighing, and mostly ratifying, some complex words: liberation, exists. Our most basic query was at the end (via Kyle) re the order of STUDY, COALITION BUILDING, SANCTUARY. For those unaccustomed to study, to place or company come first?

Mihir Kshirsagar: 👍

15:02:27 From Melissa (she/her) to Everyone:

Replying to "We spent some time weighing, and mostly ratifying,...":
This really resonates, Jeff

15:02:53 From Etienne Turpin to Everyone:

as an editor, I'd really strongly push back against Attensity as a title

15:03:20 From Jac Mullen to Everyone:

originally they wanted to call the book "un-frack yourself: boo-by-doop: diddles and biddles: glorp glorp." and we pushed back mightly.

Peter Schmidt: ❤️

David Landes: 😊

Donica Bettanin (she/her): 😊

15:12:01 From Sonali Chakravarti to Everyone:

We looked at a passage on coalition building and we discussed what happens to our attention in collective moments of being together. Is it always satisfying? Under what conditions?

15:12:40 From Sonali Chakravarti to Everyone:

How does the meaning of attention change when it moves from the individual to the collective?
Meghan D: 🍷

15:12:57 From David Landes to Everyone:

Replying to "originally they wanted to call the book "un-frack ...":
effortless revolution

15:13:12 From christiegeorge to Everyone:

I really appreciate that point @Jac Mullen . It feels important not to take the position of "the smug post-fracked" (smug marrieds in Bridget Jones Diary terms)

15:13:24 From Elisabeth Q to Everyone:

Instead of "work" or "activism" perhaps promoting it as Self Care and energy gathering!? It might appeal (since it is such a popular activity)

15:13:25 From Akua Banful to Everyone:

We discussed the section on human fracking and discussed fleshing out the terms with story and exemplarity. Etienne emphasized that fracking is not a metaphor, nor is it limited to the human. Clinics to treat internet addiction and attentional environments for cows are a reality.

15:13:42 From Yves Citton to Everyone:

Reading the manifesto part, I felt it put a lot of emphasis on attention as a form of effort, implying that it requires from us to be focused, to be active. But attention is also receptivity, not necessarily requiring effort, but NOT being tense towards a goal, suspending the effort, the goal...

Meghan D, Vitória Oliveira, David Landes: 🍷

15:14:07 From Jac Mullen to Everyone:

Replying to "I really appreciate that point @Jac Mullen . It fe...":
It was Christopher Mole's point. I really appreciated it too.

15:14:19 From kristinlawler to Everyone:

Question of whether phrases like "catastrophic lie" constitute hyperbole, some thought so, some thought it was powerful language

15:14:47 From kristinlawler to Everyone:

Also some question of — too much use of italics/caps?
Lane Stroud: ❤️

15:15:16 From Yves Citton to Everyone:

Also the emphasis on "liberation" could be articulated, not (only) to a fight of resistance, but (also) to letting attention go, liberating it from purposefulness and focusing...

15:15:17 From Etienne Turpin to Everyone:

Around the world!
Peter Schmidt: ❤️

15:15:37 From kristinlawler to Everyone:

Also question: does the instrumental form of attention constitute dehumanization (again, the group was divided on this)

15:15:59 From Meghan D to Everyone:

Replying to "Instead of "work" or "activism" perhaps promoting ...":
"Energy-gathering" is intriguing and lovely to me..

15:16:25 From Yves Citton to Everyone:

Thank YOU!!!

15:16:49 From Kyle Winston to Everyone:
Thank you everyone!!