“The Big (Data) Bang: Prospects and Challenges for the Future”

Big Data has been given currency as a key engine for social, political, and economic power and relations in today’s growing information society. At the same time, it has created new challenges and vulnerabilities in national and international relations, and related developments have been at the center of critical public and intellectual debates and controversies. Fundamental questions have been raised about Big Data relative to new ways of thinking about the world and about governance and relations across contexts. Focusing on culture, organization, and technology, topics of security and privacy have been particularly prominent in discussions of Big Data, as have implications for basic research and knowledge production. This panel will examine related issues from various perspectives, addressing problems and prospects of Big Data in analysis and application today and in the future.