Keynote Naomi S. Baron

Abstract:

In late 2022, computer users became infatuated with ChatGPT, Open AI's new artificial intelligence writing tool. Harnessing computers to compose and to edit written text has a much longer backstory. But it was ChatGPT that focused educators' attention on the powers and perils of AI for learning. One "peril" is the degree to which students – and the rest of us – should be trusting the writing that AI generates or edits for us. This talk will focus on four aspects of such trust: accuracy, deskilling, personal voice, and cognitive consequences. In the process, we will connect the dots between generative AI and reading in print versus on screens, as well as between the haptics of handwriting (a concept alien to AI) and print versus screen issues. An obvious crucial next step should be exploring the implications for both education and educational research.