

Session 10: What is so Fascinating with Computer Science?

DO WE TALK TO EACH OTHER THROUGH COMPUTER SCIENCE?

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This is per se a fascinating track and question that blows directly on my face: like one of that rainy and windy scenes in old movies when a newspaper is blowing in the face of someone giving a aha moment. I am a sociologist, doing my PhD in computer science; ending my doctoral journey, I realized a couple of reasons about computer science that really fascinating me: first the “language”, second, the pervasiveness of computer science.

My research project on design for museum spaces seeks to understand how designing interactive and technologically enhanced spaces support sharing knowledge. Through my case studies in two different, even opposite, museums, I realized that Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) let museum visitors and staff to find their own path to interpret (here it is the language!) the environment and make sense of it. Thus, computer science, that seems something that belongs to computer scientist (e.g. programmers), is on another level and at the same time, an everyday experience that belongs to everyone (pervasiveness!).