

# ML and Society

May 12, 2022

# Couple of things about the project (not IP)

Autolab will start accepting final presentation slides by tonight

**Project report due by 5pm TODAY!**

# Discuss in groups

## Dream BIG!

Present your **most radical** ideas as answers to these questions. Do not feel constrained by how things are-- **think of where you want to be as if just by dreaming you can make it a reality!**

## But what can I as an individual do?

It is natural to feel that as an individual there is not much you can do and thinking of a first step can feel overwhelming. While these articles, do not give silver bullets, they do give a sense of what is possible (as well as the challenges involved):

- [A Medium article on Google Walkout](#) 
- [A Medium article by Alex Hanna](#) 

For this solution, answer the following questions:

1. **Question:** What are your **first step(s)** to fix tech?
  - **Answer:**
2. **Question:** What are your **first step(s)** to fix humans?
  - **Answer:**
3. **Question:** What are your **first step(s)** to fix structures in society?
  - **Answer:**
4. **Question:** What are your **first step(s)** to fix historical injustices?
  - **Answer:**

# Passphrase for today: **Alex Hanna**

Alex Hanna, Ph.D.



Photo by [Brittany Hosea-Small](#)

Dr. Alex Hanna is Director of Research at the [Distributed AI Research Institute \(DAIR\)](#). A sociologist by training, her work centers on the data used in new computational technologies, and the ways in which these data exacerbate racial, gender, and class inequality. She also works in the area of social movements, focusing on the dynamics of anti-racist campus protest in the US and Canada.

Dr. Hanna has published widely in top-tier venues across the social sciences, including the journals *Mobilization*, *American Behavioral Scientist*, and *Big Data & Society*, and top-tier computer science conferences such as CSCW, FAccT, and NeurIPS. Dr. Hanna serves as a co-chair of [Sociologists for Trans Justice](#), as a Senior Fellow at the [Center for Applied Transgender Studies](#), and sits on the advisory board for the [Human Rights Data Analysis Group](#) and the Scholars Council for the [UCLA Center for Critical Internet Inquiry](#). *FastCompany* included Dr. Hanna as part of their 2021 [Queer 50](#), and she has been featured in the Cal Academy of Sciences [New Science](#) exhibit, which highlights queer and trans scientists of color.

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This site is designed with the [Bootstrap](#) framework.

Let the discussion begin!

# Back to the Impossible Project...

**DALIA ANTONIA CARABALLO MULLER**

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**IMPOSSIBLE**

project

THINKING AT THE LIMITS  
OF THE POSSIBLE,  
TOGETHER.

<https://www.daliamuller.com/>

*REDEFINE POSSIBLE*

**THE IMPOSSIBLE PROJECT CENTERS A LEARNING PRACTICE THAT PREPARES STUDENTS TO TAKE ON GRAND CHALLENGES BY TEACHING THEM TO BEND: *BUILD* COLLECTIVE RESILIENCE, *ENHANCE* TRUE COLLABORATION, *NURTURE* CRITICAL IMAGINING AND *DISCOVER* PURPOSE THROUGH DEDICATION TO SOCIAL AND PLANETARY JUSTICE.**

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**BUILD COLLECTIVE RESILIENCE**

The Impossible Project challenges students to fail together from day one helping them recognize that failure is just the seed of a new beginning, a beginning easier to conceptualize and build from when we combine our diverse strengths, experiences and competencies.

**ENHANCE TRUE COLLABORATION**

Working together, students in the Impossible Project build not only resilient collectives, but also discover the unity of purpose and dedication necessary for longer-term and justice-oriented collaborative work. True collaboration is less a skill to be employed and more a way of living, working and engaging with the world.

**NURTURE CRITICAL IMAGINING**

Less afraid to fail and stronger for working together in true collaboration, students participating in the Impossible Project are prepared for the kind of cognitive dissonance that leads to growth. They embrace creative and critical thinking, opening the way for imagining just futures and calling them into being.

**DISCOVER PURPOSE**

Students who learn to work together in true collaboration, who can cultivate and sustain critical imagining, and who are brave enough to fail together will be well-positioned to discover their purpose and their power as members of a global community capable of advancing social and planetary good.