



CoCo Seminar Series Spring 2017



The Development and Maintenance of Social Networks in Classroom Settings

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Jin Won Park (SOM) and Mavi Ruiz Blondet (Psychology)**
**Interdisciplinary team of PhD students
Binghamton University**

**Wednesday February 22nd, 2017
8:30-9:30am Engineering Building H-9
(Knoll-MacDonald Commons / Watson Commons)**

Network perspectives are used in both social science and natural science. In this interdisciplinary project we would like to understand dynamics of social network development and maintenance in classroom settings. Inspired by the homophily principle, relationship formation is driven by similarities of explicit characteristics. Throughout the process of interactions, implicit characteristics start to dominate. Relationships will be maintained depending on the behavioral traits of the students. To simulate relationship formation, an agent-based model is used, while relationship maintenance is modeled using network analysis. We aim to understand how behavioral traits influence success of students. Success is measured using a number of variables such as number of connections a student has and resources a student has located in their network after taking the course. We recommend students to make efforts to reach out of their comfort zone and make friends with others who have diverse characteristics.

Ximeng Chen is a doctoral student in College of Community and Public Affairs. Jie Guo and Jin Won Park are doctoral students in School of Management. Mavi Ruiz-Blondet is a doctoral student in Cognitive Psychology. They got to meet each other in SSIE 523 last semester, where they used their diverse backgrounds to give life to this project.

For more information, contact Hiroki Sayama (sayama@binghamton.edu).
<http://coco.binghamton.edu/>