

# NEIL ALAN CHILSON

neil@abundance.institute | chilson@gmail.com

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## EXPERIENCE

**ABUNDANCE INSTITUTE**, Salt Lake City, UT

**Head of AI Policy**

*April 2024 – Present*

- Responsible for developing scenarios and engagement strategy on AI policy.
- Subject matter expert on AI, competition, privacy, consumer protection, and content moderation.
- Evangelize policy-relevant optimistic views on technology, especially AI.
- Collaborate with industry, trade associations, think tanks, and advocacy organizations to identify and take advantage of landscape opportunities.
- Representative work:
  - Directed the AI Election Observatory, which tracked and analyzed all media on AI in US elections
  - Direct the AI Regulatory Hub, which in 2024 generated 31 public comments in key administrative proceedings
  - Testified to House E&C subcommittee on Federal Trade Commission practices
  - Frequently interviewed on all matters of technology policy, including AI, antitrust, privacy, and matters involving the Federal Trade Commission

**THE CENTER FOR GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY**, Logan, UT

**Senior Research Fellow**

*May 2023 – April 2024*

- Subject matter expert on AI, antitrust, privacy, consumer protection, and content moderation.
- Evangelized our point of view on technology policy issues, including the power of emerging technology to create widespread human prosperity.
- Representative work:
  - Testified before the Senate Rules Committee and the House Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Information Technology, and Government Innovation on AI

**STAND TOGETHER**, Arlington, VA

**Senior Research Fellow, Technology and Innovation**

*May 2018 – Present*

- Established vision, principles, and strategy for innovation-related components of the \$110MM economic progress portfolio.
- Developed Web3/cryptocurrency strategy, including point-of-view, landscape analysis, narrative development, strategic opportunities for engagement given existing capabilities, and recommendations for growing our capabilities.
- Subject matter expert on Web3/cryptocurrency, antitrust, privacy, and content moderation. Shape grantmaking decisions, strategic alliances, and broader political responses.
- Evangelized our point of view on technology policy issues, including the power of innovation via emergent order. Collaborated with industry, trade associations, think tanks, and advocacy organizations to identify and take advantage of landscape opportunities.
- Identified, developed, stewarded, and optimized grantmaking to academics, think tanks, and social entrepreneurs.
- Representative work:
  - Published book, “Getting Out of Control: Emergent Leadership in a Complex World.”
  - Testified at DOJ Workshop, “Section 230 – Nurturing Innovation or Fostering Unaccountability?”

**FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION**, Washington, DC

**Acting Chief Technologist**

*July 2017 – May 2018*

- Advised the Acting Chairman, other commissioners, and FTC staff on technological developments and policy implications. Helped establish and communicate the Commission’s technology policy frameworks. Created and executed strategies for developing internal expertise and shaping external conversations on technology topics, including privacy, data security, network neutrality, cryptocurrency, and robocalling. Organized workshops and drafted and revised Commission reports, congressional testimony, and comments to other agencies.
- Representative matters:
  - Summer 2017 Privacy Sweep: Lenovo, Uber, Tax Slayer, Privacy Shield Enforcement Actions

- Chairman's comments on FCC's Restoring Internet Freedom Proposal
- Economic Liberty Task Force
- Informational Injury Workshop
- Blockchain Working Group

**Attorney Advisor, Office of Acting Chairman Ohlhausen**  
**Attorney Advisor, Office of Commissioner Ohlhausen**

*January 2017 – June 2017*

*January 2014 – January 2017*

- Advised Ohlhausen on every major technology-related matter before the Commission, including privacy and data security complaints and settlements, Part III data security cases, order enforcement actions, commission and staff reports, congressional testimony, and comments to other agencies. Negotiated changes with staff and with other Commissioners' offices. Prepared for and facilitated at party meetings. Drafted/co-drafted Commission opinions and partial dissent in two major Part III consumer protection cases. Drafted numerous policy speeches and papers.
- Representative matters:
  - Big Data Report, Data Broker Report, and Internet of Things Report
  - LabMD, ECM BioFilms, LifeLock
  - FCC Broadband Privacy Proceeding

**WILKINSON BARKER KNAUER LLP, Washington, DC**

**Associate – Telecommunications Practice**

*September 2007 – January 2014*

- Researched and drafted FCC filings including comments, reply comments, *ex parte* notices, and consent decree compliance reports, as well as license renewals and equipment registrations.
- Supported large cross-industry transactions subject to significant FCC, FTC, and DOJ scrutiny by researching and analyzing industry structure, regulatory issues, and managing sensitive documents under protective orders.
- Provided written and oral analysis to clients of numerous FCC, FTC, legislative and judicial proceedings and industry events across all telecommunications subject areas, including spectrum policy, competition policy, cable and broadcast regulation, cable set-top box regulation, ownership restrictions, broadband policy, network neutrality regulations, wireless handset and location privacy issues, and First Amendment issues.
- Developed strategies for privacy and accessibility regulatory compliance and drafted supporting documents for commercial clients, including privacy policies, end-user licensing agreements, and template reports.

#### **OTHER RELEVANT EXPERIENCE**

- **Public Knowledge**, Part Time Law Clerk (2005-2007) – Drafted comments on FCC proceedings, analyzed proposed federal telecommunications and IP legislation, prepared Congressional testimony.
- **Alltel Information Systems**, Software Developer (2000-2002) – Designed and implemented custom server and client components for a three-tier client/server banking and financial application.

#### **EDUCATION**

**THE GEORGE WASHINGTON LAW SCHOOL**, Washington, District of Columbia

*Juris Doctor*, May 2007

- GPA: 3.347
- Finalist, 2006 & 2007 National Telecommunications Moot Court Competitions
- Student Bar Association Executive Vice President

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS**, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

*Master of Science*, Computer Science, August 2005

- GPA: 3.873
- Thesis on user interface evaluation; other focuses include data mining and agent-based simulations.

**HARDING UNIVERSITY**, Searcy, Arkansas

*Bachelor of Science*, Computer Science, December 1999

- Graduated *Summa Cum Laude*, GPA 3.95
- Presented parallel processing research at the Argonne National Laboratory.

## SELECTED PUBLIC SPEAKING

Panelist, *International AI Policy: Outlook for 2025*, Center for Strategic & International Studies, December 9, 2024.

Panelist, *Prompting Proper AI Policy for a Thriving Digital Future*, TedAI San Francisco, October 23, 2024.

Panelist, *Elections in the Age of AI*, Bipartisan Policy Center, April 24, 2024.

Panelist, American Economic Forum, Intercollegiate Studies Institute, November 1, 2023.

Keynote, Digital ecosystems for a sustainable society, IEEE-TEMS, October 9, 2023.

Panelist, *How Should Conservatives Approach Tech?*, Lincoln Network, February 17, 2022.

Moderator, *The FTC in Flux: What Comes Next?*, Net Choice, October 13, 2021.

Testimony before the United States Department of Justice Workshop: “Section 230 – Nurturing Innovation or Fostering Unaccountability?,” February 19, 2020.

Presenter, *The Tech Giants, Monopoly Power, and Public Discourse*, Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University, November 15, 2019, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HxPqQ3xrDZQ&t=1s>.

Panelist, National Archives’ 2nd Annual McGowan Forum on Ethics: The Challenge of Big Data, Washington DC, October 26, 2017.

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

*The Post-Chevron Case for More Case-by-Case*, Foundation for American Innovation, November 20, 2024.

*Comments of the Abundance Institute*, DOJ and Stanford Workshop on Promoting Competition in Artificial Intelligence, July 15, 2024.

*The Authoritarian Side of Effective Altruism Comes for AI*, Reason, July 5, 2024.

*Overregulating AI Will Disrupt Markets and Discourage Competition*, Bloomberg Law, November 17, 2023.

*Trolling the Intelligentsia with Optimism*, City Journal, November 3, 2023.

*The Feds’ ChatGPT Probe Threatens Free Speech*, National Review, August 17, 2023.

*AI is the next front in the culture war*, FoxNews.com, July 13, 2023.

*The Problem with AI Licensing & an “FDA for Algorithms”*, The Federalist Society, June 5, 2023.

*Pausing AI development would be a mistake. Congress shouldn’t meddle – for now*, USA Today, May 22, 2023

*The Coming Onslaught of “Algorithmic Fairness” Regulations*, Regulatory Transparency Project, November 2, 2022.

*50 Years After George Carlin’s ‘7 Words You Can’t Say on TV,’ Technology Is Defeating Censorship*, RealClear Policy, June 1, 2022.

GETTING OUT OF CONTROL: EMERGENT LEADERSHIP IN A COMPLEX WORLD, New Degree Press, 2021.

*Seeing (Platforms) Like a State: Digital Legibility and Lessons for Platform Governance*, 29 CATH. U. J. L. & TECH 31 (2021).

*Does Big Tech Need Its Own Regulator?*, Global Antitrust Institute, Report on the Digital Economy (November 2020).

“Hiding in Plain Sight – A Review of *Obfuscation: A Users Guide for Privacy and Protest*,” ISSUES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, Vol XXXIV No. 2, Winter 2018.

“Bayesian Analysis as a Framework for (Legal) Thinking,” 1 GEO. L.TECH. REV. 89 (2016).

“A Simplified ‘Pretence of Knowledge’,” Medium.com, April 4, 2016.

“A Framework for Specifying and Monitoring User Tasks,” COMPUTERS IN HUMAN BEHAVIOR, Vol. 22, Issue 4, July 2006, pp709-732.