

2023

Academic Careers Workshop

July 13 – 16, 2023
Marriott at Houston
Intercontinental Airport
Houston, TX



In collaboration with



Welcome!

2023 Academic Careers Workshop

The Academic Careers Workshop (ACW) organized by CMD-IT in collaboration with CAHSI and AccessComputing provides assistant- and associate-level faculty, senior doctoral students, and postdocs in computing unique and tailored experiences about academic careers.

The workshop targets participants from the following communities:

African Americans/Blacks, Native Americans/Indigenous, Hispanics/Latinx, and People with Disabilities

The goal of the ACW is to mentor our targeted community about the academic career ladder through panels of diverse senior faculty discussing the following:

- Tenure and promotion process
- Launching a research program
- Effective teaching strategies
- Promotion to full professor
- Effective strategies for proposal writing
- Affinity Research Group Model for effect research teams

We hope you find the workshop interesting and informative

Academic Careers Workshop Organizers

Valerie Taylor (Argonne National Laboratory)

Illya Hicks (Rice University)

Richard Ladner (University of Washington)

Ann Gates (University of Texas at El Paso)

Timothy Pinkston (University of Southern California)

Daniel Garcia (UC Berkeley)

Jeanine Cook (Sandia National Laboratory)

Thursday, June 9	Evening
4:00-6:00 pm	Workshop Check-In (Presidio A and B)
6:00-8:30 pm	Mix and Mingle Reception (w/ hors d'oeuvres) (Presidio A and B) * including 1-minute Elevator Pitch (7-8pm)
Friday, June 10	Full Day 1
7:30-8:30 am	Full Breakfast (Presidio A and B)
8:45-9:00 am	Welcome and Information about Different Types of Universities; Introduction to CMD-IT, AccessComputing, CASHSI (San Jacinto A and B) Presenters: Valerie Taylor (Argonne/UChicago)
9:00-10:30 am	Panel 1: Demystifying the Promotion and Tenure Process (San Jacinto A and B) Moderator: Ann Gates (UTEP) Panelists: Valerie Taylor (Argonne/UChicago), Dan Garcia (UC Berkeley)
10:30-11:00 am	Break
11:00-12:30 pm	Panel 2: Launching a Research Program (San Jacinto A and B) Moderator: Valerie Taylor (Argonne/UChicago) Panelists: Natalia Villanueva Rosales (UTEP), Clayton Lewis (UColorado)
12:30-2:00 pm	Lunch (Presidio A and B)
2:00 -4:00 pm	Panel 3: Funding Opportunities (San Jacinto A and B) Moderator: Valerie Taylor (Argonne/UChicago) Panelists: Hal Finkel (DOE), Jeff Forbes (NSF), Kathleen Fischer (DARPA)
4:00-4:30 pm	Break
4:30-6:00 pm	Panel 4: Effective Teaching (San Jacinto A and B) Moderator: Dan Garcia (UC Berkeley) Panelists: Rob Parke (USC), Christine Alvarado (UCSD)
6:00 – 8:00 pm	Dinner: Informal Panel About Different Career Paths (Presidio A and B)

Saturday, July 15	Full Day 2
7:30-8:30 am	Full Breakfast (Presidio A and B)
8:30-10:00 am	Part 1: Proposal Writing Workshop (San Jacinto A and B) Presenter: Weisong Shi (UDelaware)
10:00-10:30 am	Break
10:30-12:00 am	Part 2: Proposal Writing Workshop (San Jacinto A and B) Presenter: Weisong Shi (UDelaware)
12:00-1:30 pm	Lunch and Networking (Presidio A and B)
1:30 - 3:00 pm	Part 1: Affinity Research Group Model (San Jacinto A and B) Presenter: Ann Gates (UTEP), Natalia Villanueva Rosales (UTEP)
3:00-3:30 pm	Break
3:30-5:30 pm	Part 2: Affinity Research Group Model (San Jacinto A and B) Presenter: Ann Gates (UTEP), Natalia Villanueva Rosales (UTEP)
5:30-6:00 pm	Networking Time
6:00-8:00 pm	Dinner: Informal Panel About Academic Application (Presidio A and B)

Sunday, July 16	Half Day - Mock Review Panels and Focus Groups
7:30-8:30 am	Full Breakfast (Presidio A and B)
8:30-10:00 am	Part 1: Mock Review Panel: Group 1: Ann Gates (UTEP) (San Jacinto A and B) Group 2: Valerie Taylor (Argonne/UChicago) (Pecos A and B)
10:00-10:30 am	Break
10:30-12:30 pm	Part 2: Mock Review Panel: Group 1: Ann Gates (UTEP) (San Jacinto A and B) Group 2: Valerie Taylor (Argonne/UChicago) (Pecos A and B)
12:30-2:30 pm	Lunch and Wrap-up with Focus Group Discussions (Presidio A and B)

2023 Academic Careers Workshop

PARTICIPANTS



Sampson Akwafuo
sakwafuo@fullerton.edu

Assistant Professor

Research Area(s): Computational Epidemiology, Algorithms, Health Informatics

Dr. Sampson Akwafuo is an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at the California State University, Fullerton. He obtained his PhD from the University of North Texas, Denton; MS from Glasgow Caledonian University, UK; and a B.Tech from the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, Nigeria. His research interest is at the intersection of Computer Science and Public Health, including health informatics, contagion modeling, computational epidemiology, algorithms development and optimization. His current focus is on the development of machine learning models for predicting potential outbreaks of specific diseases in a location of interest, modeling and evaluating public health strategies and interventions for HIV/TB, and the optimization of emergency response logistics for disasters.

Alexander N. Alvara

engineer_alvara@berkeley.edu

PhD Candidate

Research Area(s): MEMS, nanoscale science, space science, microrobots, Femto spacecraft/satellites, extreme environments studies

Alexander is a 5th-year M.S./Ph.D. student at UC Berkeley in Mechanical Engineering (ME) with a focus on microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) and nanoscale science and has recently won 10 fellowships in his graduate career including the NSF GRFP, Ford Predoctoral, and the GEM Ph.D. fellowship awards. As a transfer student, he received his three B.S. degrees from UC Irvine '17 in Mechanical Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, and Materials Science with a focus on Mechanical Design, Propulsions and Flow Physics. During his gap year (2017-2018), he conducted research developing pediatric surgical tools with the Hospital for Sick Kids in Toronto, Canada as a U.S. Fulbright Fellow. Alexander has many hobbies and is part of the Cal Sailing Club, is learning guitar, is a part-time videographer for the ME Dept at UC Berkeley, and is a fan/practitioner of Jui Jitsu. Alexander thoroughly enjoys working with students of all ages towards their goals, whether those goals be grad school, a professional life, or just learning a new skill. An interesting fact about Alexander is he was born and raised in Southern California to a family of 8 kids and holds no high school diploma/degree/GED or equivalent.





Nathanael Assefa
nassefa2@illinois.edu
PhD Candidate

Research Area(s): Scientific Machine Learning

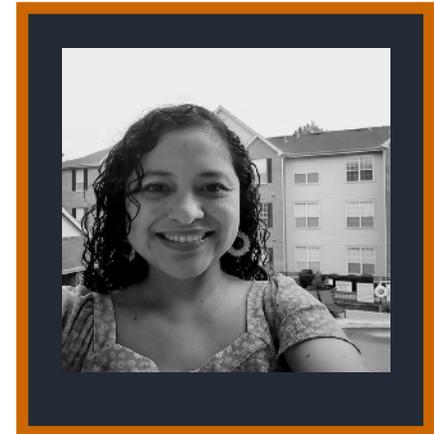
I am a PhD candidate in the Computer Science program at UIUC advised by Dr. Nancy Amato and Dr. Jared Bronski. I enjoy exploring challenges and opportunities for improving the rigor, robustness, and reliability of Scientific Machine Learning necessary for routine use in science and engineering. I am interested in applying linear algebra and analysis to harmonize Learning and Numerical techniques to this end. I am hopeful my thesis will make inroads in three areas via both analysis and augmentation:

1. Optimization (Convergence Guarantees)
2. Active Learning (Sample Complexity Guarantees)
3. Robustness (Solution Stability Guarantees)

I am primely interested in this approach for studying mathematically rich differential equations, and, on a more applied front, I would like to hone this research on differential equations in Physical Applied Mathematics or in Financial Mathematics. I am currently looking at extending the analysis in Learning Theory to Numerical Analysis for fundamental problems in wave equations and PDEs like the Kuramoto–Sivashinsky (KS) equation.

Rubenia Borge
rubeniaolaska@gmail.com
PhD Candidate
Research Area(s): Deep Learning

I am a PhD Candidate at the University of North Texas. Before that I worked in data analysis, business intelligence, information technology and software development. I have a masters degree in Management of Information Systems, and a bachelor's degree in Systems Engineering. During my PhD I studied artificial intelligence algorithms and applications. My research is on deep learning algorithms for Forecasting.





Marcus Felipe Botacin

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Visiting Assistant Professor

Research Area(s): Computer Vision, Biometrics

Marcus is a Computer Science Assistant Professor at Texas A&M University (TAMU) since October/2022. Marcus holds a Computer Science Ph.D. (Federal University of Paraná, Brazil, 2021), a Master in Computer Science (University of Campinas, Brazil, 2017), and a Computer Engineering Bachelor (University of Campinas, Brazil, 2015). His main research interests are malware analysis, reverse engineering, and the science of security. Marcus has also wide experience researching how the Brazilian malware samples are different from the global malware samples. Marcus' master's dissertation was awarded by the Brazilian Computer Society (SBC) for the best security research work developed in Brazil in 2017. Marcus published papers in top venues (ACM TOPS, DIMVA, IEEE TDSC, and others) and is currently a PC member for top venues such as ACM CCS, NDSS, and USENIX Security. Marcus was also awarded a student grant to attend USENIX Enigma 2019 and he was a USENIX Enigma 2021 and 2023 speaker.

Kenneth Fletcher

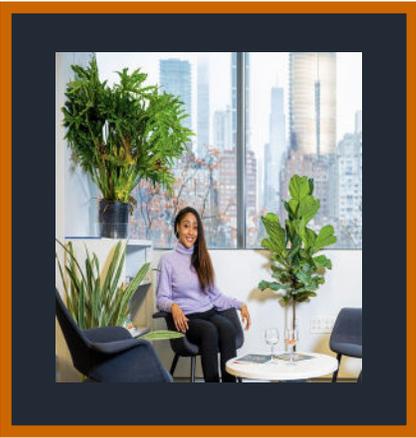
kenneth.fletcher@umb.edu

Assistant Professor

Research Area(s): Recommender Systems, Metal Additive Manufacturing

A computer scientist and software engineer, Kenneth Fletcher is an Associate Professor of Computer Science at the University of Massachusetts Boston (UMass Boston). Prior to joining UMass Boston, Kenneth worked with Product Innovation and Engineering as a Software Engineer. His research spans Service and Cloud Computing, Software Engineering, and Metal Additive Manufacturing. He has been a technical reviewer for several journals and conferences including the IEEE Transactions on Service Computing (TSC), IEEE Transactions on Network and Service Management (TNSM), IEEE Conference on Service Computing (SCC), and IEEE Conference on Web Services (ICWS), just to name a few.





Maya Mundell

mhm223@cornell.edu

PhD Candidate

Research Area(s): HCI, Tech Entrepreneurship, Platform Studies, the Impact of Computing Technologies

I'm a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Information Science at Cornell University and Cornell Tech. As a qualitative researcher working at the intersection of tech entrepreneurship, platform studies, and the impact of computing technologies, I explore individual, institutional, and philanthropic approaches to fostering tech entrepreneurialism within marginalized communities, noting their lack of representation in global startup culture. My work informs and supports the development of tech-enabled, entrepreneurial infrastructures and ecosystems that facilitate restorative economic justice for structurally exploited populations. Centering marginal perspectives is integral in my goal to expand and reconfigure notions of what it means to be a tech entrepreneur and technological innovator. My longer-term goal is to foster the development of platforms and tech entrepreneurship ecosystems whose properties and forms of governance make it possible for marginalized groups to collectively establish institutional power that may otherwise not be available to them.

I'm working with Dr. Phoebe Sengers and Dr. Tapan Parikh. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the United States Department of State have graciously supported my scholarship.

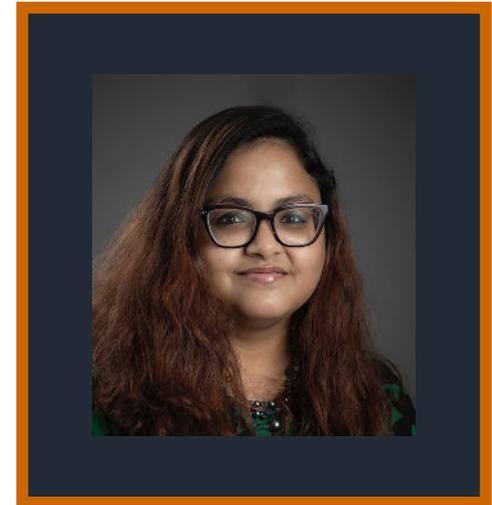
Nasheen Nur

nurn@fit.edu

Assistant Professor

Research Area(s): Explainable AI, Natural Language Processing, Accessibility

Dr. Nasheen Nur is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer and Engineering Sciences at the Florida Institute of Technology (FIT). She completed her doctoral study at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte in 2021. Her research focuses on Explainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI), Natural Language Processing, AI in Education, and Accessibility. In her dissertation, she designed a software tool prototype for analyzing students' behavior using temporal analytics and explainable artificial intelligence. Student advisers and data scientists collaborate iteratively to develop knowledge about student patterns of success and failure using this interactive tool. She specializes in concept-oriented visualization, machine learning models, and user interface techniques for explainable artificial intelligence (XAI). She was a Data Science Intern at the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory in 2018. She worked as a .NET front end developer at IQVIA Bangladesh after her undergraduate degree in Computer Science and Engineering from the Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology.





Darian Osahar Nwankwo

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PhD Candidate

Research Area(s): Bayesian Optimization, Scientific Machine Learning

A PhD candidate in Cornell University's computer science department, Darian Nwankwo—an Atlanta, GA, native—is an enthusiastic problem-solver dedicated to applying his computational and mathematical skills to problems in various domains. Before beginning his matriculation at Cornell, he graduated top of his class from Morehouse College's computer science department, earning membership into Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society along the way.

He has several industry and academic positions that have contributed to his diverse perspective on problem-solving. He was initially exposed to industry standards on how to write software while at Google. Subsequently, he decided to pursue academic research where he studied Human-Computer Interaction at Stanford University and Mathematical Biology at Morehouse College. After gaining exposure to work in industry and academia, he joined an industry research lab at Adobe, prior to starting his graduate studies.

His academic research afforded him a position with industry titan IBM, working with their Analog AI research team helping develop next generation hardware for accelerating AI applications. Upon completion, he was recognized by some researchers at AMD where he worked as a Scientific Machine Learning researcher, helping to advance our understanding on developing heterogenous systems for machine learning workloads in high-performance computing applications. Subsequently, he interned with LinkedIn Research as an Applied Research Intern working on Time Series Forecasting methods for hardware provisioning at LinkedIn's data centers. Upon completion of this internship and writing his thesis, Darian will begin to explore full-time opportunities.

He enjoys reading, learning new mathematics, playing pool and exercising.



Chinasa T. Okolo

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PhD Candidate

Research Area(s): Human-Computer Interaction, Artificial Intelligence, Information and Communication Technologies for Development

Chinasa T. Okolo is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Computer Science at Cornell University. Her research leverages ethnographic methods to understand how frontline healthcare workers in rural India perceive and value artificial intelligence (AI). She also examines how explainability can be best leveraged in AI-enabled technologies deployed throughout the Global South, focusing on healthcare. Outside of her dissertation focus, Chinasa has researched factors impacting the effective adoption and successful implementation of AI in Africa and has worked with international organizations such as the African Union to expand digital inclusion and develop strategic AI policy measures. Her work has been supported by funding from The National GEM Consortium, Oracle Corporation, the North American Network Operators' Group (NANOG), the National Science Foundation (NSF), and Google and covered in venues like VICE, Bloomberg, and VentureBeat, amongst others. Chinasa holds a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science from Pomona College, a Master's degree in Computer Science from Cornell University, and has previously interned at Apple, developing responsible AI/ML methodologies for health sensing applications, and at Microsoft Research, where she built computational models and domain-specific computational tools for bacterial quorum sensing. In the fall, Chinasa will begin as a CTI Fellow at the Brookings Institute, working on tech policy and AI governance, before pursuing a postdoctoral fellowship at MIT CSAIL.

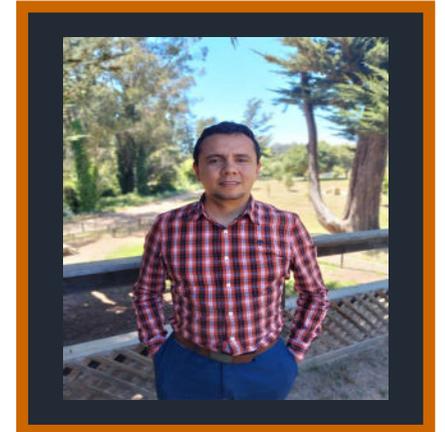
Neil Anderson Ortiz

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PhD Candidate

Research Area(s): Network security, CPS, ICS, SCADA systems

I am a Ph.D. Candidate in Computer Science with a background in Electrical Engineering and five years of experience in the industry. My research field is Network security for Industrial Systems. My particular focus is on network analysis for SCADA systems in the power grid. I am currently in the last year of my doctoral program at the University of California Santa Cruz. My expected graduation date is December 2023. Before my graduate studies, I received my bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering in Colombia. I then worked in the power grid sector in Colombia for five years as a real-time engineer performing work in electrical substations (220 and 500 kV) and with SCADA systems. I moved to the US to do my graduate studies. For my Ph.D., I am working on my dissertation in the cybersecurity field. My thesis title is: Measuring Physical and Cyber-attacks in Energy Infrastructure. I am conducting studies in both the cyber and the physical realms of critical infrastructures. My current work focuses on security for SCADA systems. I am performing network traffic analysis on industrial protocols used for supervision and control from generation plants to end-customers. The goal is the development of new anomaly detection methods based on real-world data. Also, I'm researching the history of attacks against electrical towers in Colombia





Olamide Timothy Tawose

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PhD Candidate

Research Area(s): Distributed Computing, Databases, Applied Cryptography

Olamide Timothy Tawose is currently a Ph.D. candidate and a member of the member of the High Performance & Data Intensive Computing (HPDIC) Laboratory under the supervision of Professor Dongfang Zhao at the Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, University of Nevada, Reno. He received his BS degree in computer science from Ekiti State University, Nigeria, in 2014 and the MS degree in big data science and technology from the University of Bradford, United Kingdom, in 2017. His current research interests lie in distributed computing, databases, and applied cryptography. His work has been presented at conferences like SIGMOD, IPDPS and AAAI, where he actively engages in scientific discourse. Besides impact through scientific publications, he is passionate about bridging the DEI gap through mentoring aimed at inspiring young students from underrepresented backgrounds and encouraging their interest in the field of computer science. He also serves as a reviewer for conferences and journals like SIGMOD, IEEE Access, IJCIS, MDPI. He has been nominated or received awards like the Federal Government of Nigeria Postgraduate Scholarship Overseas, UNR Graduate Dean 's Fellowship, GSA Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award.

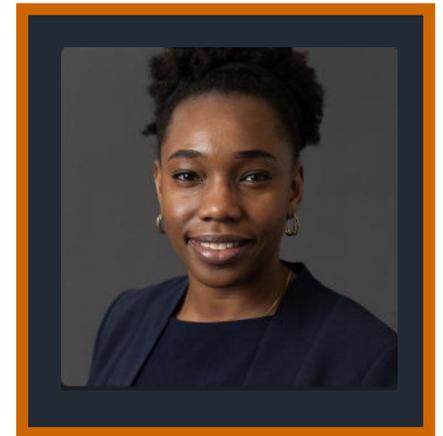


Olga I. Velazquez
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Cybersecurity RMF Team Manager
Research Area(s): Cyber Audit

Dr. Olga I. Velázquez is an Information Technology (IT) Security Professional providing services and solutions to various organizations within the Department of Defense (DoD). Experienced Contractor Defense in Governance Management of IT Security. Demonstrating expertise to ensure regulatory compliance, conducting security reviews, evaluating risks, and developing security processes. Dedicating to the continuous improvement of organizational cybersecurity posture and processes. She received the Army National Guard Minuteman Award—one of the most distinguished awards available for contractors—for the initiative of developing and implementing a financial management database. Dr. Velázquez graduated from the School of Business Administration at the University of Puerto Rico, where she was awarded a Bachelor of Science in Financial Accounting. She obtained a Master of Science in Information Technology from the John Hopkins University (JHU) in Baltimore, MD. She completed the Doctor of Science in Cybersecurity at Marymount University (MU) in Arlington, VA. She was selected for membership in MU Chapter of Upsilon Pi Epsilon (UPE). Dr. Velázquez was chosen for the MU Cybersecurity Teaching Institute and MU Fellowship Programs. From an academia perspective, Dr. Velázquez has an innate passion for sharing knowledge, helping students, and peers develop practical skills to help them become well-rounded cybersecurity professionals. She taught System Analysis and Design for seven years at Northern Virginia Community College (NVCC) as an Adjunct Faculty. This teaching experience gave her the opportunity to address a diverse audience. Dr. Velazquez enjoy traveling, reading, community services, dancing, and listening to Jazz.

Ihudiya Finda Williams
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Postdoctoral Associate/Assistant Professor
Research Area(s): HCI and ICTD

Ihudiya Finda Williams obtained her Ph.D. from the School of Information at the University of Michigan on the topic of digital literacy development for formerly incarcerated individuals. More broadly, her research examines digital technology use among populations with low resources, highlights the injustices in existing systems they use, and explores tech-enabled solutions to challenges they face. Ihudiya has completed research internships at Adobe Research and Microsoft Research. Prior to her Ph.D., she worked as a software engineer and product manager at Xerox, Booz Allen Hamilton, and the U.S. Department of State. Her work has been supported by the GEM Fellowship, Generation Google Scholarship, Microsoft Research Dissertation Fellowship, and the Rackham Graduate School Merit Fellowship. She is an alumnus of Rochester Institute of Technology and Harvard Graduate School of Education.



2023 Academic Careers Workshop

ORGANIZERS & SPEAKERS



Jeanine Cook *Organizer*
Sandia National Laboratories

Dr. Jeanine Cook is currently a Principal Member of Technical Staff at Sandia National Laboratories in the Scalable Architectures group. Her research interests include processing-in-memory architectures, next-generation memory technologies and subsystems, performance analysis tools for Exascale systems, and performance modeling and simulation. Prior to joining Sandia, Dr. Cook was an Associate Professor in The Klipsch School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at New Mexico State University. She remains Affiliated Faculty at NMSU, directing the research of several Ph.D. students. Dr. Cook was honored with a Presidential Early Career Award in Science and Engineering (PECASE) in 2008 from President George Bush for her work in performance modeling. She is a member of IEEE Computer Society and ACM.

Dan Garcia *Organizer*
UC Berkeley

Dan Garcia (UC Berkeley MS 1995, PhD 2000) is a Teaching Professor in the Electrical Engineering and Computer Science department at UC Berkeley. Selected as an ACM Distinguished Educator in 2012, he has won all four of the department's computer science teaching awards, and holds the record for the highest teaching effectiveness ratings (6.7/7) in the history of the department's introductory courses. He is a national leader in the "CSforALL" movement, bringing engaging computer science to students normally underrepresented in the field. Thanks to four National Science Foundation grants, the "Beauty and Joy of Computing (BJC)" non-majors course he co-developed has been shared with over 500 high school teachers. He is delighted to regularly have more than 50% female enrollment in BJC, with a high mark of 65% in the Spring of 2018, shattering the record at UC Berkeley for an intro computing course, and is among the highest in the nation! He is humbled by the national exposure he and the course have received in the New York Times, PBS NewsHour, NPR's All Things Considered, USA Today, and the front pages of the San Jose Mercury News and San Francisco Chronicle. He has won the NCWIT Undergraduate Research Mentoring award, the UC Berkeley Unsung Hero award, the LPFI Lux award, and the SAP Visionary Member award for his work to diversify computing. He has served on the ACM Education Board, the College Board Computer Science Principles Development Committee, and was the SIGCSE Symposium co-chair in 2018.





Ann Quiroz Gates *Organizer*

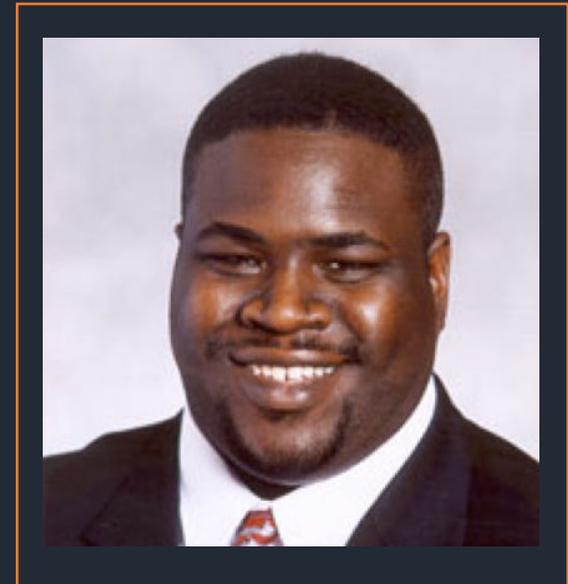
University of Texas at El Paso

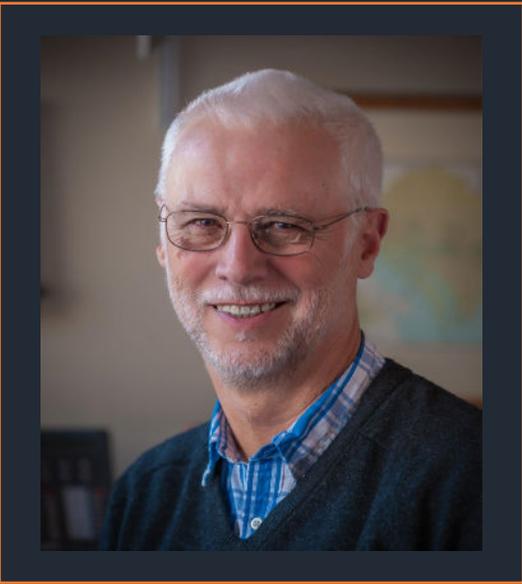
Dr. Ann Quiroz Gates is the Senior Advisor to the Provost on Strategic STEM Initiatives at the University of Texas at El Paso. She holds the AT&T Distinguished Professorship and served as the Chair of the Computer Science Department (2005-2008 and 2012-2020) and Associate VP of Research and Sponsored Projects (2008-2012). Gates is the Executive Director of the Computing Alliance for Hispanic-Serving Institutions (CAHSI), one of NSF's eight National INCLUDES Alliances that promote the importance of inclusion and equity in advancing innovation and discovery. She also directs the NSF-funded CyberShARE Center of Excellence that advances interdisciplinary education and research. Gates was a founding member of the NSF Advisory Committee for Cyberinfrastructure and served on the Board of Governors of IEEE-Computer Society 2004-2009. Gates was a member of the Naval Research Advisory Committee (2016-2018), AAAS Board appointed Committee on Opportunities in Science (2014-2017), and past member of the Computer Science Accreditation Board (2011-2013). Gates received the 2015 Great Minds in STEM's Education award, the CRA's 2015 A. Nico Habermann Award, the 2010 Anita Borg Institute Social Impact Award, and the 2009 Richard A. Tapia Achievement Award for Scientific Scholarship, Civic Science, and Diversifying Computing. She was named to Hispanic Business magazine's 100 Influential Hispanics in 2006 for her work on the Affinity Research Group model.

Illya Hicks *Organizer*

Rice University

Illya Hicks joined the Rice Faculty in 2007 after spending six years in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at Texas A&M University and is currently a full professor in the Computational and Applied Mathematics Department. He is a member of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), the Minority Issues Forum of INFORMS, the Mathematical Optimization Society, National Association of Mathematicians, American Mathematical Society, the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. His research interests are in operations research, combinatorial optimization, integer programming, graph theory, graph algorithms, machine learning and artificial intelligence. He was recently named an INFORMS fellow and will be the chair of the Computational and Applied Mathematics Department in July 2021.





Richard E. Ladner *Organizer*

University of Washington

Richard E. Ladner is a Professor Emeritus in the Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Washington. After a long career in theoretical computer science research he moved to the area of accessible computing research which is an important subarea of human-computer interaction (HCI). Over his career he has supervised or co-supervised 30 Ph.D. students. His research continues, but he also leads projects to bring more people with disabilities into computing fields. He is the PI for the NSF-funded AccessComputing Alliance that helps computing students at all levels complete their degrees in computing fields. He is also a PI for the NSF-funded AccessCSforAll that helps prepare K-12 teachers to include students with disabilities in their computing courses. For his work in broadening participation in computing, he is a recipient of the 2004 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics and Engineering Mentoring (PAESMEM), the 2008 A. Nico Habermann Award, the 2015 Richard A. Tapia Achievement Award for Scientific Scholarship, Civic Science, and Diversifying Computing, and the 2020 National Science Board Public Service Award. For his research in accessible computing, he is the winner of the 2014 SIGCHI Social Impact Award and the 2016 SIGACCESS Award for Outstanding Contributions to Computing and Accessibility. He is an ACM Fellow and an IEEE Fellow. He is a member of the Board of the Center for Minorities and People with Disabilities in Information Technology (CMD-IT).

Timothy M. Pinkston *Organizer*

University of Southern California

Timothy M. Pinkston is a Professor and George Pflieger Chair in Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Southern California (USC). He also is the Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs in the USC Viterbi School of Engineering. He earned a B.S.E.E. degree from The Ohio State University in 1985, and he earned M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from Stanford University in 1986 and 1993, respectively. Prior to joining USC in 1993, he was a Member of Technical Staff at Bell Laboratories, a Hughes Doctoral Fellow at Hughes Research Laboratory, and a visiting researcher at IBM T. J. Watson Research Laboratory. He founded the SMART Interconnects Group at USC where he conducts research on computer systems architecture. He has received prominent national awards, including the NSF Minority Research Initiation Award and NSF CAREER Award, and is the proud recipient of a Distinguished Alumnus Award from The Ohio State University's College of Engineering and Minority Engineering Program. He served three years (2005-2008) as an NSF Program Director in the CISE Directorate, serving the last year of his stint as the inaugural Lead Program Director for the newly established Expeditions in Computing Program. Dr. Pinkston is a Fellow of the ACM and Fellow of the IEEE.





Valerie Taylor *Organizer*

Argonne National Laboratory/University of Chicago

Valerie Taylor is the Director of the Mathematics and Computer Science Division and a Distinguished Fellow at Argonne National Laboratory. Her research is in the area of high-performance computing, with a focus on performance analysis, modeling and tuning of parallel, scientific applications. Prior to joining Argonne, she was the Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs in the College of Engineering and a Regents Professor and the Royce E. Wisenbaker Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at Texas A&M University. In 2003, she joined Texas A&M University as the Department Head of CSE, where she remained in that position until 2011. Prior to joining Texas A&M, Valerie Taylor was a member of the faculty in the EECS Department at Northwestern University for eleven years. She is also the CEO & President of the Center for Minorities and People with Disabilities in IT (CMD-IT). Valerie Taylor is an IEEE Fellow, ACM Fellow, AAAS Fellow and has received numerous awards for distinguished research and leadership, including the 2001 IEEE Harriet B. Rigas Award for a woman with significant contributions in engineering education; the 2002 Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni from the University of California at Berkeley; the 2002 CRA Nico Habermann Award for increasing the diversity in computing; the 2005 Tapia Achievement Award for Scientific Scholarship, Civic Science, and Diversifying Computing; the 2018 Outstanding Electrical and Computer Engineering Award from Purdue University; and the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award in Electrical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. Valerie E. Taylor earned her B.S. in ECE and M.S. in Computer Engineering from Purdue University in 1985 and 1986, respectively, and a Ph.D. in EECS from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1991.



Christine Alvarado

University of California

Christine Alvarado is a Teaching Professor in the Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) Department and Associate Dean of Undergraduate Education at the University of California, San Diego. Her current efforts are focused on designing curriculum and programs to make computing and computing education more accessible and appealing, with the specific goal of increasing the number of all women and Black, Latinx and Native American students who study computing. In 2014 she founded the UC San Diego Early Research Scholars Program (ERSP), and in 2023 she is helping to launch the new CRA UR2PhD program, which is based in part on ERSP and aims to dramatically increase the number of women and other gender marginalized students who pursue PhDs in computing. She has won several awards for her teaching and contributions to education including the A. Richard Newton Educator ABIE Award (2013), the UC San Diego Academic Senate Distinguished Teaching Award (2017), the UC San Diego Chancellor's Associates Faculty Excellence Award for Undergraduate Teaching (2019), the NCWIT Joanne McGrath Cohoon Service Award (2022) and in 2018 was named a Distinguished Member of the Association for Computing Machinery for Outstanding Contributions to Computer Science Education. Dr. Alvarado received her undergraduate degree in computer science from Dartmouth in 1998, and Masters and Ph.D. degrees in computer science from MIT in 2000 and 2004, respectively.

Hal Finkel

Department of Energy

Hal is a program manager for computer-science research in the US Department of Energy Office of Science's Advanced Scientific Computing Research (ASCR) program. Prior to joining ASCR, Hal was the Lead for Compiler Technology and Programming Languages at Argonne's Leadership Computing Facility. As part of DOE's Exascale Computing Project (ECP), Hal was a PathForward technical lead and PI/Co-PI of several multi-institution activities. Hal serves as vice chair of the C++ standards committee. He also helped develop the Hardware/Hybrid Accelerated Cosmology Code (HACC), a two-time IEEE/ACM Gordon Bell Prize finalist. Hal graduated from Yale University in 2011 with a Ph.D. in theoretical physics focusing on numerical simulation of early-universe cosmology.





Kathleen Fisher

DARPA

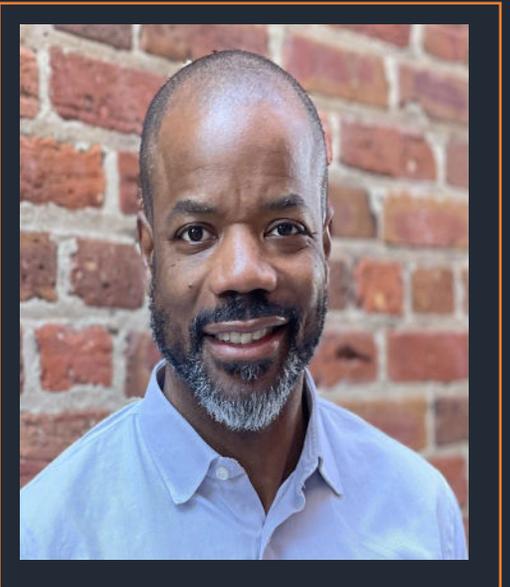


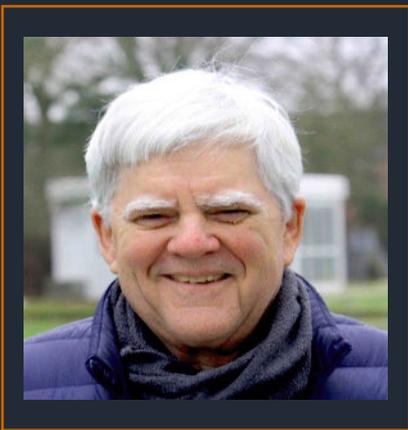
Dr. Kathleen Fisher assumed the role of office director for DARPA's Information Innovation Office (I2O) in May 2022. In this position, she leads program managers in the development of programs, technologies, and capabilities to ensure information advantage for the United States and its allies, and coordinates this work across the Department of Defense and U.S. government. Fisher was previously the deputy office director for I2O from October 2021 to April 2022. This is Fisher's second tour at DARPA, having previously served as a program manager in I2O from 2011 to 2014. Fisher joined DARPA from Tufts University, where she was a professor in the Department of Computer Science, and served as chair of the department from 2016 to 2021. Earlier in her career, she was a principal member of the technical staff at AT&T Labs Research. She is a AAAS fellow, an ACM fellow, and a Hertz Foundation fellow.

Jeffrey Forbes

National Science Foundation (NSF)

Jeff Forbes is the lead Program Director for the Education & Workforce program in the National Science Foundation's Directorate for Computer & Information Science & Engineering, managing programs that address the critical and complex issues of education and broadening participation in computing. From 2001-2019, Jeff was on the faculty of Duke University where he was an Associate Professor of the Practice of Computer Science. He received his BS and PhD in computer science from Stanford University and the University of California, Berkeley, respectively. His interests include computer science education and learning analytics.





Clayton Lewis

University of Colorado Boulder

Clayton Lewis is Emeritus Professor of Computer Science and Fellow of the Institute of Cognitive Science at the University of Colorado Boulder. His research career has spanned human-computer interaction, programming language design, educational technology, accessible computing, and currently Large Language Models, as a source of insights into human cognition. He is Co-PI of the CUE-NEXT project on the future of undergraduate education in computing. At CU he has served as department chair for CS and for Mechanical Engineering, and co-director for technology for the Coleman Institute for Cognitive Disabilities. Before joining the university he was manager of Human Factors at the IBM Watson Research Center. He has held visiting positions at the Open University (England), Benetech, the Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg (Delmenhorst, Germany), and the National Institute for Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (US Department of Education, now Health and Human Services). He has been honored by appointment as President's Teaching Scholar, at CU; by the ACM SIGCHI Social Impact Award, by the ACM SIGACCESS Outstanding Contribution Award, and by appointment to the SIGCHI Academy. He holds degrees from Princeton, MIT, and the University of Michigan.



Rob Parke

University of Southern California

Rob Parke is an Associate Professor of Information Technology Practice in the Information Technology Program in the Viterbi School of Engineering and has previously held a joint appointment in Iovine / Young Academy for Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation. He established the Connected Devices and Making minor to teach non-engineering students to create internet-enabled, hardware devices. He also created an Android development course for the Mobile App Development minor and serves as lead faculty for the introductory Python programming course. He has a strong interest in inclusive teaching practices and has been actively involved in addressing issues of inclusion and equity, both within USC and externally. Outside of academia, Rob has a lifelong love of technology from the technical to the creative, with professional experience in software development, information technology, web design, audio engineering, film / TV post-production, and digital media.

Natalia Villanueva Rosales

University of Texas at El Paso

Natalia Villanueva Rosales is an Associate Professor of Computer Science at the University of Texas at El Paso. Her work aims to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the discovery, integration, and trust of scientific data and models. Her approaches link human and machine knowledge to address societal-relevant problems in areas that require interdisciplinary research and collaborations across borders, such as sustainability of water resources and Smart Cities. She is passionate about encouraging and supporting women and Hispanics pursuing a career or education in Science and Engineering.





Dr. Weisong Shi

University of Delaware

Weisong Shi is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Computer and Information Sciences at the University of Delaware (UD), where he leads the Connected and Autonomous Research (CAR) Laboratory. Dr. Shi is the Center Director of a recently funded NSF eCAT NSF IUCRC Center, focusing on Electric, Connected, and Autonomous Technology for Mobility. He is an internationally renowned expert in edge computing, autonomous driving, and connected health. His pioneer paper, "Edge Computing: Vision and Challenges," has been cited more than 6000 times. Before joining UD, he was a professor at Wayne State University (2002-2022). He served in multiple administrative roles, including Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies at the College of Engineering and Interim Chair of the Computer Science Department. Dr. Shi also served as a National Science Foundation (NSF) program director (2013-2015) and chair of two technical committees of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Computer Society. Dr. Shi has published more than 290 articles in peer-reviewed journals and conferences and served in editorial roles for more than ten academic journals and publications, including EIC of Smart Health and AEIC of IEEE Internet Computing Magazine. He is the founding steering committee chair of several conferences, including the ACM/IEEE Symposium on Edge Computing (SEC), IEEE/ACM International Conference on Connected Health (CHASE), and IEEE International Conference on Mobility (MOST). He is a fellow of IEEE, a distinguished scientist of ACM, and a member of the NSF CISE Advisory Committee.

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