



School of Data Science  
UNC CHARLOTTE

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SDS Faculty,

I'm looking forward to our final faculty meeting next week on Thursday, April 8th. Duan Chen has assumed the reins and will be running the meeting. We have several items to discuss and vote on (yes, our first voting as a faculty).

There are meetings going on to discuss SDS committees for next year, so please try and think through this and express your preferences.

In addition, we will be sending you all the first draft of the SDS Mission, Vision, Commitments and Strategy soon. I look forward to your feedback on that as well.

Finally, I'm expecting our first face-to-face faculty meeting to occur this fall. We'll be able to celebrate for many reasons!

Doug Hague, Executive Director

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## SDS Bootcamps: Revision and Updates

  
**SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE**  
**BOOTCAMP COURSES**  
INTRODUCTION TO PYTHON FOR DATA SCIENCE,  
INTRODUCTION TO R FOR DATA SCIENCE, OVERVIEW OF  
STATISTICS FOR DATA SCIENCE

All three of the current boot camps are in the process of being reviewed and updated to relaunch in late April. We are seeking feedback from students and faculty regarding revisions to the existing Python, Statistics, and R training modules. These online courses were created as a free resource for students enrolled in the HIA and DSBA programs. They are intended to be utilized as introductory or foundational review tools. Please share any suggestions or requests with [SungJune Park](#). More information about the courses can be found here:

### SDS Bootcamps

Students currently enrolled in any sections must **complete the bootcamps by Wednesday, May 5th, 2021**. We plan to open up the new and revised sections to the SDS community by **Friday, April 30**. The courses will again be open to all new and continuing SDS students.

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## Teaching Assistant Allocation for Fall 2021

SDS is starting the process of allocating TA support for Fall 2021 SDS

classes. If you are teaching a **DTSC, HCIP or DSBA** course this fall you should be on the lookout for an email from Josh Hertel with information regarding the specific allocation and a link to a Google Forms folder with eligible candidates. In anticipation I wanted to review the policy on how we assign SDS funded Teaching Assistantships.

### **SDS Enrollment/TA Allocation**

- 25 or more students = 20 hours a week
- 15-24 students = 10 hours a week
- Less than 15 students = 0 hours

SDS pays master's candidates \$5,100 for a semester-long (15 weeks/20 hour a week) assignment, roughly \$17.00 an hour. These positions are funded through the HIA and DSBA Tuition Increments. As a result with, few exceptions, we require the students selected to be a TA for an SDS course, be enrolled in an SDS program.

General requirements for SDS funded assistantships can be [found here](#). Some important high-points:

- Students holding an SDS funded assistantship must be registered for a minimum of 6 credit hours and a maximum of 9 credit hours.
- Students must have a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- Assistantships do not come with tuition remission.
- International students are eligible to hold an assistantship, but they need to sign up for the ISSO workshop if they have not already done so.

Please contact [Josh Hertel](#) if you have any questions.

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## **Registration Now Open: Analytics Frontiers 2021**



UNC Charlotte's School of Data Science is hosting the seventh annual Analytics Frontiers Conference on **April 22nd - 23rd, 2021!** In response to the current COVID-19 guidelines on large face-to-face gatherings, the conference

will be held virtually.

We're thrilled to announce that registration for the virtual event is officially open! **In addition, we are offering lower rates for individual attendees and UNC Charlotte faculty and students!**

This year, the conference will be a two-day event, complete with two keynote speakers, panel discussions and a series of breakout sessions, featuring industry and academic experts from across the region, highlighting groundbreaking research, innovative industry solutions and more.

**Register Now!**

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## **Altair: Data Analytics for Enhancing Student Learning and Research**

Altair's no-code data preparation, AI, machine learning, and visualization tools enable students to learn how to generate easy-to-understand datasets, models, and dashboards that deliver actionable insights from data. Incorporate **Altair Data Analytics tools** in your classrooms to give your students marketable skills to drive smart organizational decision-making beyond graduation. Hands-on experience using full-featured data transformation and predictive analytics tools, like **Monarch**, to derive insights is invaluable for students starting careers in data science. Please contact Darius Fadanelli for more information.

***Darius Fadanelli | Director of EDU Outreach***  
email: [dxs@altair.com](mailto:dxs@altair.com)



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**Applications Now Open: Seed Grants for Data Science Summer 2021 Cycle**



The School of Data Science is now accepting research proposals for the summer 2021 seed grants for the data science funding cycle. This grant opportunity provides up to \$10,000 per award, resulting in a total of \$50,000 for UNC Charlotte and partnering faculty and researchers.

The purpose of this funding opportunity is to support cross-disciplinary research projects within the field of data science.

Proposals must be submitted by teams composed primarily of UNC Charlotte researchers. Candidate teams will have at least one principal or co-principal researcher holding an affiliate or core faculty appointment within the School of Data Science.

**Submission Deadline for Summer 2021: April 20th**

Proposals must be submitted as one single PDF by email to: [dzhang15@uncc.edu](mailto:dzhang15@uncc.edu)

For more information, please click below.

[Learn More Here](#)

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**SDS x Twitter: Academic Research Product Track**



Twitter recently launched the Academic Research product track on the new Twitter API. This product is a great tool for researchers to free data sets, from unlimited APIs.

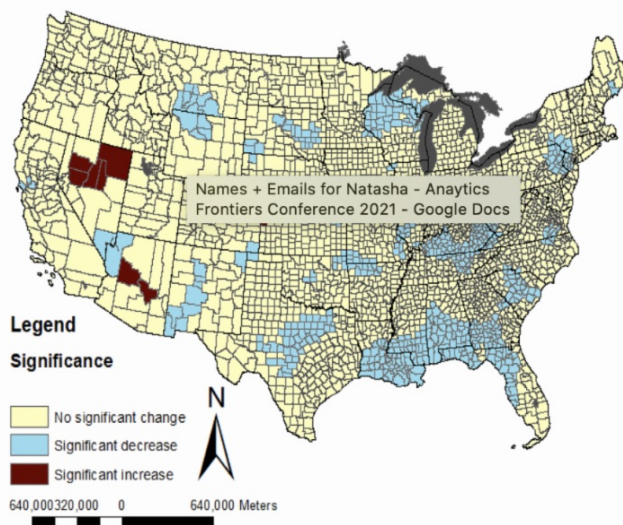
**We encourage all UNC Charlotte faculty members to apply for the academic research product track before requesting access to the School of Data Science's Twitter API historical track.**

Learn more about this exciting opportunity below:

[Learn More Here](#)



**National Rural Health Association Article of the Year: Dr. Rajib Paul**

**Figure 5** Significant Increase or Decrease of Percentage Change in Prevalence Over a 14-Day Period.

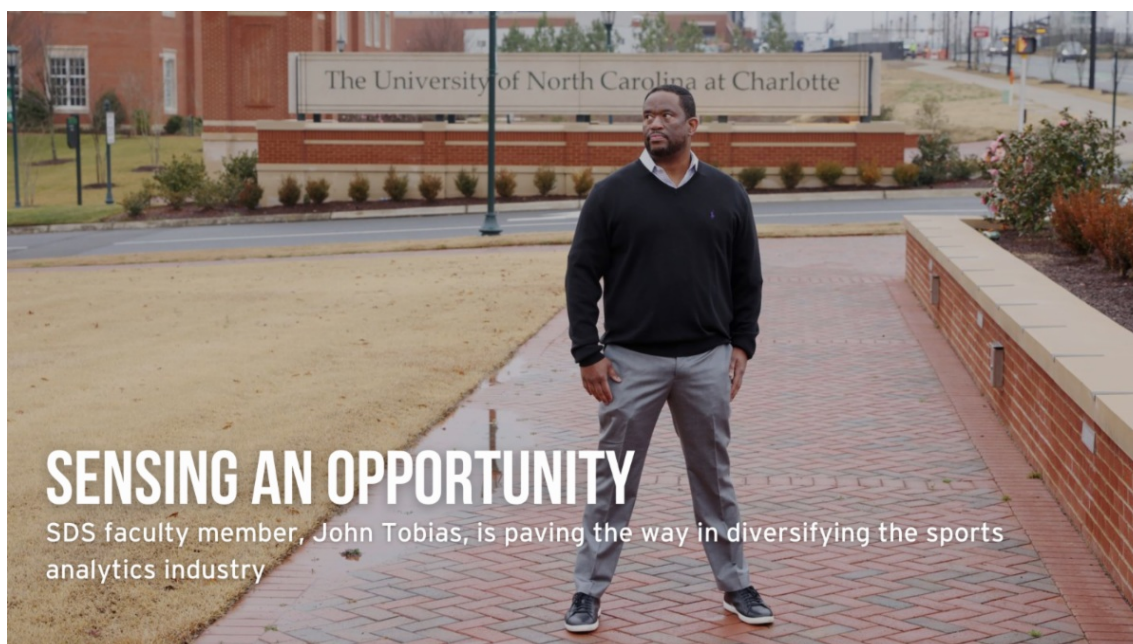
Congratulations to SDS affiliate faculty member, Dr. Rajib Paul, for receiving the 2021 article of the year award by the National Rural Health Association!

His work, *The Progression of COVID-19 From Urban to Rural Areas in the United States: A Spatiotemporal Analysis of Prevalence Rates*, was selected by a research committee based on innovation in the methodology, applicability of the results, and overall reach.

Learn more about the research below.

[Read More Here](#)

## FACULTY SPOTLIGHT | John Tobias



School of Data Science faculty member and full-time lecturer, John Tobias,

was recently featured in an article by the **Boston Globe Media** on the sports analytics industry.

Discover how Tobias, alongside others in the community, are working to diversify the field, starting from the undergraduate level.

[Read More Here](#)



## Wednesday Seminar x Niner Nation Gives: SDS, A Year in Review

**When: Wednesday, April 7, 4 - 5 p.m.**

Join us on April 7th, for a special panel discussion in honor of Niner Nation Gives.

Tune in to hear Executive Director, Doug Hague, and SDS founding member, Amaresh Tripathy, reflect on some of our greatest accomplishments and a glimpse into our future as a leader in data science education and research. Learn more and register below.

[Register Here](#)



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# APHI Nexus 2021 - Tackling Social Determinants of Health in the Charlotte Region



**When: Friday, April 9th, 2021**

Registration is now open (advance registration required) for APHI Nexus 2021 - Tackling Social Determinants of Health in the Charlotte Region: From Data to Action.

This free virtual (Zoom) conference is open to all (so free to share the invitation). It will feature:

- Keynote presentations from Past APHA President Dr. Joseph Telfair and Charlotte Leading on Opportunities' AJ Calhoun.
- Concurrent priority-setting focused breakout sessions
- healthcare safety net
- food insecurity
- the built environment
- interprofessional education
- Public Health 3.0
- A reporting out/synthesis session
- A multidisciplinary panel discussion on the Social Determinants of Mental Health During and After the COVID 19 Pandemic

**Please register by April 7th, 2021.** Visit [APHinnovation.org/nexus](https://www.aphinnovation.org/nexus) to register and for the full conference agenda.

**Register Here**

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**Spring Speaker Series: Binary Explosives: On a**

# Trans Landscape



SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE  
SPRING SPEAKER SERIES  
STATE VIOLENCE AND SURVEILLANCE

## BINARY EXPLOSIVES: ON A TRANS LANDSCAPE

TUESDAY, APRIL 13TH, 2021 | 2 - 3:30 P.M.

Toby Beauchamp  
Associate Professor of Gender and Women's Studies  
The University of Illinois

Hosted by:  School of Data Science  
UNC CHARLOTTE  College of Health and Human Services  
UNC CHARLOTTE  College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
UNC CHARLOTTE

**When: Tuesday, April 13th, 2 - 3:30 p.m.**

Please join UNC Charlotte's School of Data Science and Dr. Tony Beauchamp for a conversation on trans studies and environmentalism.

In April 2017, a U.S. Border Patrol agent's explosives-laden gender reveal party accidentally ignited a wildfire that burned nearly 47,000 acres across the southern Arizona desert. While many commentators readily framed the event as a metaphor for the violence of dichotomous gender, this talk asks how the wildfire might prompt new lines of inquiry for trans studies. Attending to the southwestern desert's material and political nuances, I work outward from the 2017 wildfire to pursue trans studies analysis of militarism, migration, and environmentalism, and to imagine the possibilities of a trans landscape.

**This event is hosted by UNC Charlotte's School of Data Science and the Department of Women and Gender Studies.**

Register and learn more about Dr. Tony Beauchamp below.

[Register Here](#)

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## Wednesday Seminar: DOD Panel

AN ONLINE EVENT

# WEDNESDAY SEMINAR SERIES

UNC CHARLOTTE  
School of Data Science

Artificial  
Intelligence/Machine  
Learning Objectives  
and Priorities within  
the DoD Domain.

April 14th, 2021

For more information, please visit:  
[datascience.uncc.edu/upcoming-  
events](https://datascience.uncc.edu/upcoming-events)

Sponsored by:



**When: April 14th, 4 - 5 p.m.**

On Wednesday, 14 April, at 4:00pm ET, the School of Data Science will host a webinar on the topic of Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning Interest Areas, Goals and Objectives within the Department of Defense domain. The primary objective is to provide awareness to our researchers as to near and mid-term needs and identified gaps in this domain. This will enable them to formulate research directions and identify relevant areas of expertise so as to be better prepared to respond to RFPs, solicitations, queries, etc.

The event is open to university-wide attendance as well as external parties.

[Register Here](#)



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Follow us on social media!

