FACULTY
NEWSLETTER

Spring semester is well underway now. Search season is in full swing. Thanks to everyone who is on the search committee. Lots of work, but one of the more critical things we do as faculty. These are your future colleagues! We are just about wrapped up with scheduling for the Fall. It seems a long way away, but we have worked most things out. Thanks to everyone who is and will be teaching within SDS.

I've included a few things to point you toward that below.
1) Seed grant applications, 2) Nominations for Outstanding Data Science Faculty Research, and 3) Our conferences. Please register and attend. If you are unable to pay the $50 registration for AF, please email me, and we can discuss it. WiDS has no fee. Our Request for Authorization for the Ph.D. in Data Science is in front of the Graduate Council on the 7th. With their approval, we'll shortly thereafter send it to the UNC System for initial approval. The BS in Sports Analytics Request for Preliminary Authorization is about ready to send as well. BTW-our census number of students was 538 this Spring. Up 35% from Spring 2022.

Finally, our SDS affiliate faculty Joyce Dalsheim is the speaker for the CLAS Personally Speaking Series on February 7th. Sign up and join the conversation!

Do you have an event or story idea to share with the SDS community? As always, please submit ideas to Lindsay Lennon, SDS Communications and Events Manager.

Outstanding Data Science Faculty Research Award

Applications are now open! This annual faculty research award is aimed to recognize significant achievements in data science research of a core or an affiliate faculty member of the School of Data Science in the calendar year 2022. The award's winner will receive a one-time $2,000 research stipend that can be used to cover any research-related expenses, such as conference travel, data and software purchase, and compensation for study participants.

Application Deadline: **February 15, 2023.**

MORE INFO

Carolina Population Center Opens Triangle Federal Statistical Research Data Center

The Carolina Population Center, a population research center located at UNC-Chapel Hill, recently opened a branch of the Triangle Federal Statistical Research Data Center, which is part of the Federal Statistical Research Data Center (FSRDC) program. **The Chapel Hill branch is the first to open up within the UNC System and one of roughly 30 centers nationwide.**

Under this program, the Census Bureau allows researchers with approved proposals to perform statistical analysis on non-public microdata from the Census Bureau's economic, health, and demographic censuses and surveys. These datasets are among the largest and most important sources of statistical information in the U.S. and many of them can only be accessed through a FSRDC.

The RDC is free for all researchers (faculty and graduate students) affiliated with a UNC System school.

Welcome New SDS Faculty

Marco Scipioni joins the SDS faculty team this spring. He will be teaching DTSC 2301 - Modeling in Society. His areas of expertise are Python, JavaScript programming, machine learning, statistical analysis, and data visualization. Marco is passionate about discovering patterns and connections between numbers to illuminate the truth behind data, improve decision-making, and eliminate bias. He has six years of experience teaching at Queens University and is the co-founder of Lumiton, a laser-infused clothing company that transforms sunlight into red and near-infrared light.

Robert Fox moved to Charlotte 23 years ago as a consultant with IBM. Since then, he has had a long (20-year!) professional career in the financial services sector (working for various banks), where he analyzed information and developed and managed data science teams and solutions. He maintains a strong link to the industry; and tries to stay on top of the business use cases that drive value from information.

New Library Database: LandScan Global

The campus library now offers **LandScan Global,** a database that includes historical global population datasets from 2000-2020. This is valuable for analyzing population trends and demographic changes.

Please note: To access this resource off-campus, you must be connected to the UNCC VPN. Data from 2021 is free!

FAQ
How to Connect

Major Faculty Research Areas in SDS

Six major research areas have been compiled with examples of grants/projects, sample publications, and any faculty currently working on those specific topics. Please refer to this list of research areas as inspiration for collaborative projects.

RESEARCH LIST

Women in Data Science Conference: March 8th

Along with encouraging you to attend this year's WiDS Conference, we also ask that you encourage your students to attend this *free* conference. Keynote speakers Kate Darling and Neelima Sharma will join us, and many other breakout speakers. All speaker info can be found **here**. Be sure to emphasize to students that a *Career Fair* will take place during lunch and the evening reception.

MORE ABOUT WIDS

Analytics Frontiers Conference: March 9th

The School of Data Science will once again be hosting the **Analytics Frontiers Conference** on March 9th at the Marriott near campus. The morning's keynote speaker will be Rumman Chowdhury, former Director of the META team at Twitter. She is a pioneer in the field of applied algorithmic ethics, creating cutting-edge socio-technical solutions for ethical, explainable, and transparent AI. The afternoon keynote will be Arnold W. Bunch Jr., the founder, and President of Bunch Consulting, LLC. He previously served in the United States Air Force for 38 years retiring with the rank of General. **Registration is now open!**

Register today!

REGISTER TODAY

TechNet: Fort Bragg, February 9-11th

The goal is to provide a forum to demonstrate new, innovative solutions and best practices regarding the challenges faced by our military. The event offers an opportunity for experts and leaders from the Army and Fort Bragg community to address various sides of the challenging, controversial issues facing the FORSCOM, USSOCOM, JSOC, and USASOC communities. It is expected to attract 700+ military, government civilians, and industry technology professionals. Vendors participating in the exposition can showcase their products and services to key decision-makers within the Department of Defense from the Fort Bragg area. Focus Areas: Artificial Intelligence; Cloud; Cyber; Data; Small Business.

MORE INFO

Join Us In Seattle: AMIA 2023 Informatics Summit

The AMIA 2023 Informatics Summit is heading to Seattle for the first time, March 13-16. Join more than 600 of your colleagues at workshops and sessions surrounding state-of-the-art informatics approaches, theories, and methods relevant to translational bioinformatics and precision medicine, clinical research informatics, and health data science and AI.

Register by February 8, and AMIA members can save more than $300!

HIMSS Global Health in Chicago: April 17-21

HIMSS 23 The Conference & Exhibition is the most influential health information technology event of the year, where 40,000+ professionals throughout the global health ecosystem meet to build relationships during lively networking events, learn from experts in hot topic education sessions, and discover innovative health tech products to solve their greatest challenges.

Important Dates

Find the full SDS Calendar of Events on the program website or add it to your google calendar **HERE.**

FACULTY RESOURCES

Welcome to DataCamp!
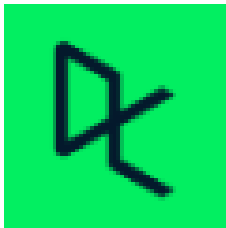
The School of Data Science and the College of Computing and Informatics recently signed a trial agreement with DataCamp. All SDS students *actively* enrolled for spring and all SDS faculty should have received an email invitation to create a **free account** with the platform (or join UNCC's platform with their existing account). If you have not seen the invitation please check your spam folder! All SDS students have free access to learning resources on

hundreds of topics in the field of data science. Please contact Robert Fox if you have questions about DataCamp.

SAS

Representatives from SAS reached out to the SDS to share with us free SAS professor workshops, and an Academic Programs brochure, which highlights additional resources including free teaching and learning portals, SAS Skill Builder for Students and SAS Educator Portal. Registration for their Summer 2023 SAS Educator Conference at SAS HQ in Cary, NC will open in March. Keep an eye out for more information.

Coursera on Campus

UNC Charlotte is partnering with online open course provider Coursera to offer students free access to Grow with Google career certificates. Certificate programs in digital marketing and e-commerce, IT support, data analytics, project management, and UX design will be available to supplement coursework in academic programs as well as give Charlotte students a competitive workforce advantage. More information about the UNC Charlotte partnership can be found **HERE.** Faculty may request access to Coursera's 500 licenses for themselves and their students **HERE.**

Online Alteryx SparkED Educator Resources

The **SparkED education program** provides you with a free comprehensive teaching and learning program, including a free 1-year renewable education license for Designer software. Alteryx offers several free trainings for faculty to get you started with Designer and present options for incorporating into your class(es) and one Advanced Designer Training to get you started using their Predictive Tools. An email address from a valid educational institution (.edu or regional equivalent) is required to register.

National Academies New Video: "Trustworthy Data for the Common Good"

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine has released a 3 minute video highlighting how people use data to make decisions at home, and in businesses, sources of data and the role of federal statistical agencies, efforts to use data responsibly, and more. This can be a great addition to your next class!

Technology Development & Proof of Concept Fund

Research and Economic Development, through the Office of Research Commercialization and Development, offers proof-of-concept grants for up to $10,000 to support product development and initial testing of new university-owned innovations and technologies with strong commercial potential. Through this program, the university hopes to fill a critical funding gap along the innovation continuum and reduce some of the barriers associated with licensing and commercialization by adding significant value to early-stage innovations. The Technology Development and Proof-of-Concept Fund is managed by UNC Charlotte's Office of Research Commercialization and Development.

Questions regarding the program should be directed here.

MORE INFORMATION

Data Science Resource Repository

The Northeast Big Data Innovation Hub (NEBDHub) is proud to announce the relaunch of the Data Science Resource Repository (DSRR) to include over 625 resources. The DSRR is a curated set of resources for data science learners, educators, researchers, and career explorers of all backgrounds and education levels. It is an open-access platform that leverages data science best practices and resources to broadly increase knowledge capacity. The NEBDHub encourages data science community members to submit favorite data science and STEM education and

research materials to the DSRR in both English and Spanish.

Student RESOURCES

Center for Graduate Life and Learning

The mission is to provide a comfortable and safe environment where graduate students and postdoctoral fellows can network and get personal and professional support and development to enhance career success. They offer a place to meet and study, professional development workshops, writing support, and a rich variety of resources tailored for graduate students. The CGLL is located in Atkins, directly across from the Career Center. Stop by and discover the resources available to you.

Spring 2023 SDS Seminars

Our Monday seminars run from 4:00-5:00 pm, in person at CCB, room 501, and feature guest speakers from data science and health analytics who provide real-world insights and perspectives in various career paths. The full schedule with registration links is on our events page. Seminars are held from 4:00 to 5:00 pm, in person at CCB, room 501.

Coming February 6, 2023- Sophia Lang and Pat Sellers,***Beyond the Resume: Job Search Tips and Tricks***.

Announcing the 6th Annual WiDS Datathon 2023 Challenge
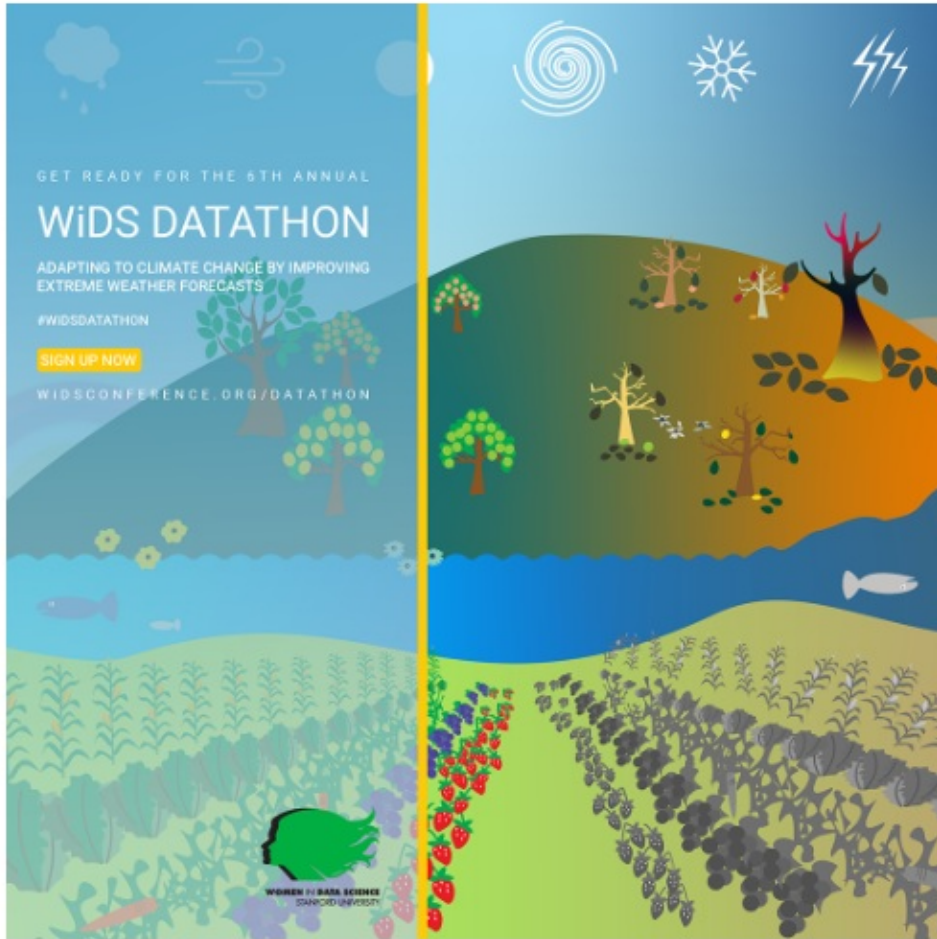
Looking for a real-world challenge for your students?
Encourage them to sign up for the 2023 Women in Data Science Datathon.
In this year's datathon challenges, participants will use data science to improve longer-range weather forecasts to help people prepare and adapt to extreme weather events caused by climate change. The contest is open to all.
Sign up now to participate.

Google Developer Student Clubs

Google Developer Student Clubs (GDSCs) are community groups for college and university students interested in Google developer technologies. By joining a GDSC, students grow their knowledge in a peer-to-peer learning environment and build solutions for local businesses and their communities.

FIND A CHAPTER

SDS Faculty Grant Awards

Grants have recently been awarded to some SDS Faculty members. Please spend some time looking through their recent research projects.

MORE INFORMATION

Call for Proposals: SDS Seed Grants

The call for proposals for the summer 2023 SDS seed grant for data science is available under the research section of the SDS homepage. The deadline for the proposal submission is **March 1, 2023.**

The call for applications for the outstanding data science faculty research award is also available under the research section. The deadline for the applications is **Feb. 15, 2023.**

CDC Announces New
Center for Forecasting and Outbreak Analytics

The Center will bring together next-generation public health data, expert disease modelers, public health emergency responders, and high-quality communications to meet decision-makers needs.

NSF Scholarships in Science, Technology, Education and Mathematics Program

The National Science Foundation currently has a funding opportunity for low-income STEM students. Interested in submitting a proposal?
Email: **Dongsong Zhang**.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE | SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE

Follow us on social media!

University of North Carolina at Charlotte | 9105 University Rd, Charlotte, NC 28223