



Welcome to the Spring Semester. I hope you all had a relaxing holiday. Lots of things to look forward to this Spring. Our Research Award, Seed Grants and now a Truist research grant opportunity (see the email I sent last Friday). We have two new faculty, our conferences are coming in March, and data from the NC Secretary of State on business formation and dissolution will be arriving into our AWS infrastructure shortly. It's almost like the holiday keeps giving! We also have a new Provost, as well as the Research leadership announced last Fall. As I announced at the last faculty meeting, our industry board contributed over \$20k for scholarships and Wells Fargo contributed another \$100k for support of the School and our efforts in Model Risk Management. Our PhD in Data Science and BS in Sports Analytics are making their way through the approval process. Hopefully we'll get these to the UNC System in the next couple months for preliminary approval (thanks to all the Committee members for this). Oh and by the way, we are now over 500 students in SDS programs and we expect to continue to grow as first time in college high school applications are up over 50% vs last year! Lots to be excited about and all of this is due to your hard work, dedication and work to research, teach and serve. Thanks for all you do.

-Doug

*BTW*-current books I'm reading are *The Undoing Project* by Michael Lewis about the Nobel winners for behavioral economics and *The Changing World Order* by Ray Dalio who seems to be expanding on Jay Forrester's ideas on the dynamics of the long economic cycle. OK I'm in an economics

rut....finished Ethical Machines by Blackman last month so not totally economics. I was also able to squeeze in the Atlee Pine series from David Baldacci just so you know it isn't all technical reading! Let me know if you read anything interesting I should put on my pile! (I should say I also have the Biopolitics of Intellectual Property part way read....for the last 15 months....sorry Gordon☺).

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.



## Siddharth Krishnan won Best Paper Award at the IEEE International Symposium on NCA



[Siddharth Krishnan](#), his Ph.D. student [Maya Kapoor](#), and [Dr. Tom Moyer](#) submitted their paper ““Deep Packet Inspection at Scale: Search Optimization Through Locality-Sensitive Hashing” using funds from the SDS Seed Grant from last summer. They won the [Best Paper Award](#) among 37 other submissions at the IEEE International Symposium on Network Computing and Applications, premier venue in computer networks. Congratulations to your team!

## Call for Proposals: Summer Seed Grants

The data science seed grant is now [accepting proposals](#) for summer 2023. The grants are designed to support cross-disciplinary research projects, hoping to fuel the collaborative spirit that already exists within the field of data science. This initiative annually awards more than \$120,000 to UNC Charlotte and partnering faculty and researchers.

[APPLY NOW](#)

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## 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](#)

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## 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 as well as developed and managed data science teams and solutions. He maintains a strong link to industry; and tries to stay on top of the business use cases that drive value from information.



[Read more about Robert](#)

## 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](#)

## Last Call for Summer School

Are you interested in teaching a summer course for 5 or 10 weeks? We are currently building the summer SDS schedule. Whether an existing DSBA, HCIP, or DTSC class or a new special topics course, please reach out to [Josh Hertel](#) with suggestions or questions.



## Analytics Frontiers Conference: March 9th Featuring Keynote Speaker Rumman Chowdhury

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](#), current 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. **Registration is now open!**



**REGISTER  
TODAY**

## **Info Session: Foundational Security for Food Systems (FS2) Disruption**

**January 17th, 3:00 - 4:00pm**

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Defense Sciences Office (DSO) is sponsoring an Information Session webcast to provide information to potential proposers on the objectives of the anticipated Foundational Security for Food Systems (FS2) Disruption Opportunity (DO). Registration in advance is required to view this pre recorded webinar on January 17. The goals of the FS2 DO Information Session are to (1) introduce the research community (Proposers, Academia, and Government) to the FS2 DO vision and goals; and (2) explain the mechanics of a DARPA DO and the milestones of this particular effort.

**MORE INFO**

## **Big Data Health Science Case Competition**

February 3-5, 2023  
(virtually)

The Big Data Case Competition is intended to provide enthusiastic teams of graduate and senior undergraduate students with the opportunity to apply their

knowledge to analyzing big datasets in healthcare. Students will compete in teams to solve an issue in healthcare using big data analytics for a chance to win cash prizes!

UofSC  
BDHSC

# BIG DATA HEALTH SCIENCE

## Student Case Competition

February 3-5, 2023

LEARN MORE

## Important Dates

Find the full [SDS Calendar of Events](#) on the program website or add it to your google calendar [HERE](#).

- [January 9, 2023](#): First Day of Classes
- [January 14, 2023](#): No Saturday classes
- [January 16, 2023](#): Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day -University Closed
- [January 17, 2023](#): Last day to add, drop with no grade
- **January 18, 2023: 2nd Cancellation for non-payment Payment Information**
- January 21, 2023: Saturday Classes Begin
- January 23, 2023: Census date for Spring Enrollment



## 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](#).

## HPC Educational Cluster account requests for Spring 2023 term

If you are planning to use the UNC Charlotte HPC educational cluster for course sections during the Spring 2023 term, use this [link](#) to complete the account creation request form. The hard deadline for submissions will be three weeks after the start of the term, and form submissions will be disabled on January 30, 2023.

[MORE DETAILS](#)

## DEFTECH Opportunity: Blue OSINT

The Defense Innovation Unit DIU is looking for a solution to be proposed by **January 12, 2023**. The ideal prototype is envisioned to leverage open-source data, machine learning (ML) data science tools, and S&T-specific subject matter expertise to identify and characterize S&T development activities by foreign state competitors and adversaries across five technology areas of interest, namely: Artificial Intelligence, Biotechnology, High Performance Computing, Semiconductors, and Quantum Computing.

[FULL DETAILS](#)

*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.



# ICPSR Summer Program Scholarships: *Open to Undergraduate and Graduate Students*

This program offers fee waivers to attend three-week sessions this summer, either in person or online. Each workshop covers the equivalent of a semester-long class! **Applications for scholarships are due February 1, 2023.**



## Join a CLT User Group

Charlotte has a wide variety of community meet-ups - get engaged today!

- Charlotte R User Group- The School of Data Science is excited to be a cohost for this monthly meetup. Join us on the third Tuesday of every month at CCB. Our first meeting will be at the Dubois Center on January 17th @Noon. More information [HERE](#).
- Charlotte Tableau User Group - Log in and subscribe for upcoming events!

*Do you have other groups that we should recognize? Please send a link our way for the next edition!*

**R USERS GROUP RETURNS!**

Presenter:  
Davis  
Vaughan

January 17, 2023  
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

UNC Charlotte Center City  
320 E 9th St. Charlotte, NC 28202

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
CHARLOTTE

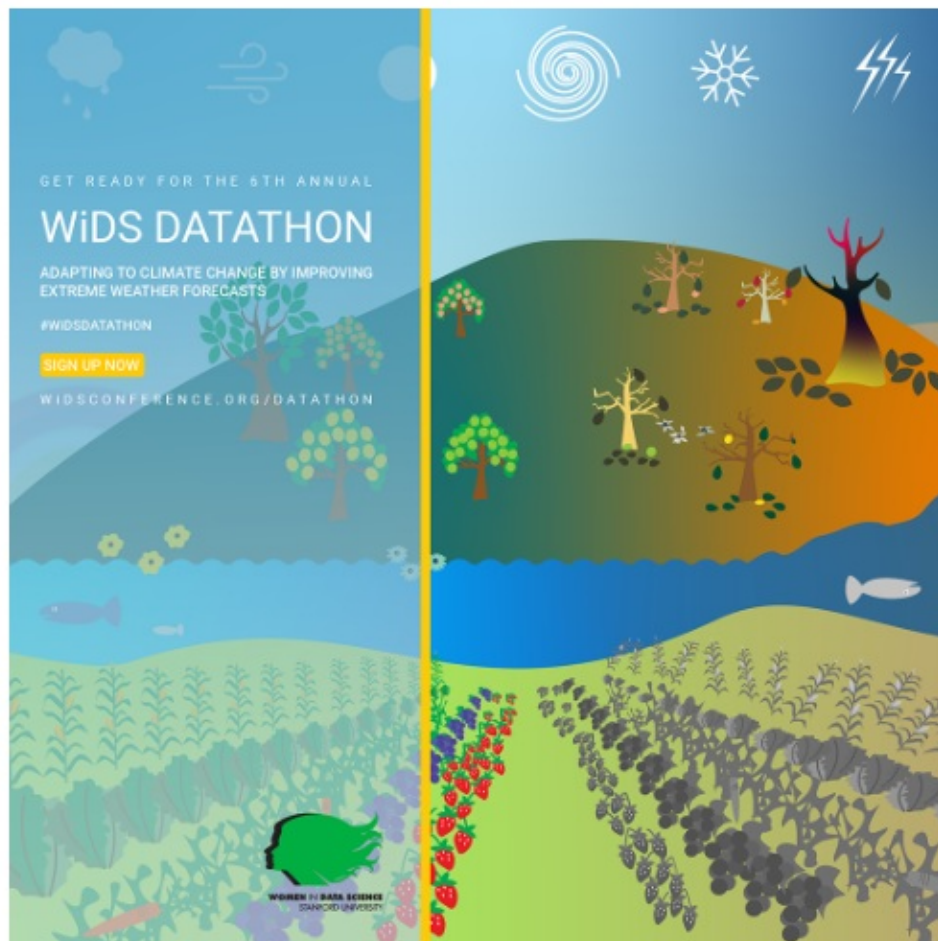
SCHOOL OF  
DATA SCIENCE

RStudio rebrands to:  
posit

## Spring 2023 SDS Seminars Moving to Mondays?

This spring, we are shifting the regular SDS professional seminars from Tuesdays to Mondays. The first session is on Monday, January 23rd, at 4:00 pm in the Center City Building. The Monday seminars run from 4:00-5:00 pm and feature guest speakers from the data science and health analytics industries who provide real-world insights and perspectives on various career paths. Please encourage your students to attend. These seminars are great for students to engage, learn, and build their professional networks! The full schedule with registration links is on our [events](#) page.

# 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.

## Coursera for Campus

The School of Data Science has joined Coursera for the Campus Basic Plan. DSBA and HIA graduate students and Data Science undergraduates have access to more than 4,000 courses in the Coursera catalog. Students must request access by completing the google form below. Participants will receive an email confirmation from SDS and Coursera with an invitation to set up an account. More information about [Coursera for Campus](#) can be found [HERE](#).

## 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](#)

## TechNet Fort Bragg Symposium & Exposition

The TechNet Fort Bragg Symposium and Exposition will be held at the Iron Mike Conference Center in Fort Bragg, February 9-11, 2023. If you are interested in attending, click the button below for more information.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

## 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.

[MORE INFORMATION](#)

## 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](mailto:Dongsong.Zhang).



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