School of Data Science
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F A C U L T Y

NEWSLETTER

SDS Faculty,

First of all, thanks to you all for managing and getting through this year. The first full academic year of SDS, a pandemic that forced many changes, social justice movements and changes are all major changes that occurred in a single year. Our dynamic and resilient student body and a great faculty that flexed as required enabled all the successes that we shared. Our semester is just about there. Finish strong and help celebrate our graduates as they made it through this crazy environment as well.

The summer will be here soon. I hope you take time for yourself over the summer. It has been a long haul through the last 14 months. A mental break will be great for us all (BTW-I'll be doing exactly this in late May and then again in July).

I did want to mention a few opportunities for our SDS Faculty.

First, our Diversity, Inclusion and Justice Committee has provided a recommendation for SDS to offer support to faculty that would like to participate in the University College Student Experience Project (SEP) Faculty Avenger training this summer. This is a great program that shows how small changes in teaching and classrooms can make a huge difference closing equity gaps in student success. Watch for more details coming soon. We hope to support all those that are willing to participate.

Second, revised Bylaws will be sent out to you (yes, I understand they are a riveting read). If you get a chance over the summer, take a look and provide

comments. We expect to finalize so we can vote for approval next fall. I had originally targeted voting by email, but let's take the summer and first weeks of the fall to consider these at a more thoughtful pace and finalize in our next faculty meeting (hopefully face to face for those that would like).

Third, SDS Summer Seed grant winners will be announced soon. Congrats in advance to those faculty.

Finally, we may have a few DSBA students that are still seeking a summer internship. If you have a research project that would fit for a DSBA internship, please watch for an email from me with the resumes. Most of these students will be seeking to graduate this summer so finding a project is important for them to accomplish this goal.

Thanks for all you do.

Doug Hague, Executive Director

Introducing Brenda Bradrick, Interim Student Advisor

As some of you may already know, Carly Mahedy will be out on leave starting in mid-May. While Carly is out, we are pleased to announce that Brenda Bradrick will step in to assist students, staff and faculty.

Brenda is a recent graduate from the Health Informatics Master Program receiving her M.S. in December of 2020. She is currently working on a Master's Certificate in Learning, Design and Technology at the Cato College of Education. She has worked as a graduate assistant for the School of Data Science.

Her industry experience includes Marketing Research Director of several business-to-business publications, Marketing and Research Analyst at National Geographic Traveler Magazine, Research Manager for the US Travel Industry Association and as a Senior Practice Administrator for the North American Operations Practice at McKinsey & Company.

SDS Bootcamps: Relaunching for Summer 2021

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 SDS boot camps **(Python, Statistics, and Introduction to R)** were reviewed this spring. **Registration for the summer SDS Boot Camps will open for students on Friday, April 30th.** These training modules are open to all students actively enrolled in the DSBA or HIA programs and were created as a free resource for students. They are intended to be utilized as introductory or foundational review tools. Please share this with your students. More information about the courses can be found below.

Students currently enrolled in the spring 2021 sections must complete the bootcamp by Wednesday, May 5th, 2021.

SDS Bootcamps

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: **dxf@altair.com**

Seed Grants for Data Science Spring 2021 Recipients

The School of Data Science awarded **$15,000** to two research teams through the Seed Grants for Data Science Spring 2021 cycle. Congratulations to the following teams:

- **Mary Lou Maher and Frederico Batista Pereira:** Detecting and Analyzing the Stance of the Public Toward the COVID-19 vaccine on Social Media in English and Arabic.

- **Victor Zitian Chen, Razvan Bunescu, Wlodek Zadrozny and Gus Hahn-Powell:** "Text-to-Knowledge Graph" Machine Reading for Strategy Mapping: Developing a Prototype for the Financial Industry

The recipients of the Summer 2021 Seed Grant cycle will be announced in Mid-May.

Learn More About the Seed Grants for Data Science

First MPH-PHAN/MS-HIAN Capstone Project Peer-Reviewed Publication

healthcare   MDPI

Article

Predicting Hospital Overall Quality Star Ratings in the USA

Nisha Kurian [1,2,3], Jyotsna Maid [1,2], Sharoni Mitra [1,2,4], Lance Rhyne [1,2], Michael Korvink [5] and Laura H. Gunn [1,2,6,*]

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Congratulations to the faculty and students from the HCIP 6250 Problem Solving in Healthcare Analytics course for the first MPH-PHAN/MS-HIAN capstone project peer-reviewed publication!

The paper, entitled *"Predicting Hospital Overall Quality Star Ratings in the USA,"* was published last week in the Decision Modeling for Healthcare Evaluation special issue of Healthcare, which is indexed in PubMed, etc. and has a 1.916 IF.

This is the first published manuscript based on our redefined target of publication-quality outcomes (as per our HIAN Advisory Board discussions in Fall 2019) to better prepare master's students for the workforce in which publications are increasingly encouraged in these areas among employers.

Learn more and read the paper below.

Read More Here

CANSSI-NISS Health Data Science Workshop

When: May 6 - 8, 2021

The First CANSSI-NISS Health Data Science Workshop will be held virtually on May 6-8, 2021, with pre-workshop short courses on May 6th. The workshop brings statisticians and health data scientists from the U.S. and Canada together to explore current approaches and new challenges for learning Big Data in Health Data Science.

The two-day workshop consists of two keynote presentations, four invited sessions, a poster competition for students and new researchers, a late-breaking session on AI and Health Data Science, and a networking happy hour. The themed invited sessions will explore current approaches and new challenges in:

- Statistical Issues with COVID-19
- Statistical Problems in Imaging and Genetics,
- Causal Inference for Big Health Data
- Methods for Electronic Health Data.

Registration
Early Bird Registration Deadline - May 3, 2021 (Registration fees $100 - $50 for students after May 3. Please Also Note: Registration closes when the

allocated spaces are filled.)

Conference Registration - $50 registration, $25 for students. Select the registration options on the right hand side of the page, check the box 'I am not a Robot" and then "Register for this Event" using your institutional email address.

Learn more about the conference and register below.

Register Here

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