



THE WEEKLY

Greetings from IDIA

Hope you had a great start to the fall semester. We realize that the weeks ahead are packed with both in-person and virtual opportunities for us to connect, convene, and grow in our research collaborations. To keep the IDIA community abreast of all the exciting projects happening at Mason, we are transitioning from a monthly newsletter to The Weekly. In addition to what you received in the monthly newsletter, we hope to spotlight the IDIA faculty, their research, programs, and resources in The Weekly.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT



[Center for Mathematics and Artificial Intelligence \(CMAI\)](#), led by Harbir Anil, has a remarkable research output. Besides a large number of research grants, just in the last 1.5 years, CMAI faculty affiliates have published or submitted over 50 research articles in leading journals. This level of output is comparable to some of the top research centers in the country.

[Learn more](#) about Harbir and CMAI.

UPCOMING EVENTS

INTERDISCIPLINARY COMPUTING RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Register Here

Friday, October 8, 2021

Douberry Hall

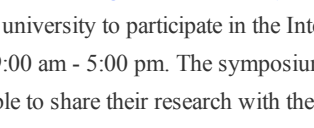
CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Today, not only are computing devices pervasive in society, but computational methods are used in almost every field of endeavor. This symposium, co-sponsored by the recently launched School of Computing (SoC) and the Institute for Digital Innovation (IDIA), aims to bring together faculty from across the university to discuss potential research collaborations. Our goal is to facilitate dialogue and create connections between faculty with expertise in digital technologies and faculty focused on developing computational approaches and deploying computing systems to address problems in their fields as well as faculty focused on tracking the societal impact of digital technology and digital systems.

The symposium will feature Lightning Talk sessions organized around the four themes of a healthy society, healthy economy, healthy planet, and healthy people, interpreted broadly and including other emergent interdisciplinary research themes, where faculty can provide brief introductions to their research, a poster session to connect speakers from the Lightning Talk sessions to attendees who are interested in collaboration, as well as a Birds-of-a-feather sessions on topics proposed by attendees.

Are you interested in giving a lightning talk? Use the slide template on the website and email it to ida2@gmu.edu by Friday, September 27

STEERING COMMITTEE



Event Schedule

09:00 - 09:15 a.m. EST | Welcome Remarks and Registration
09:15 - 10:00 a.m. EST | Lightning Talks: Healthy Planet
10:00 - 10:15 a.m. EST | Break
10:15 - 11:00 a.m. EST | Lightning Talks: Healthy People
11:00 - 11:15 a.m. EST | Break
11:15 - 12:00 p.m. EST | Lightning Talks: Healthy Economy
12:00 - 12:05 p.m. EST | Lunch
12:05 - 12:45 p.m. EST | Lightning Talks: Healthy Society
12:45 - 01:00 p.m. EST | Break
2:00 - 2:45 p.m. EST | Poster and Networking Session I
2:45 - 3:00 p.m. EST | Break
3:00 - 3:45 p.m. EST | Poster and Networking Session II
3:45 - 04:00 p.m. EST | Break
04:00 - 05:00 p.m. EST | Image Hour & Networking

The [School of Computing \(SoC\)](#) and the [Institute for Digital Innovation \(IDIA\)](#) at George Mason University are bringing together faculty from across the university to participate in the Interdisciplinary Computing Research Symposium on October 8th from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. The symposium aims to facilitate connections and dialogue between faculty, who will be able to share their research with the Mason community. Learn about the [event](#) and [register](#) today!

Frontiers of Computing in Health and Society

DATE

20-21 September

TIME

10:00am to 3:00pm

WHERE

Virtual

[Register here](#)

Computation and data reshape how we study scientific health, societal questions, as well as lived human experiences. In recognition of the tight interconnection of these areas, George Mason University is launching a new initiative to promote research in and train the next generation of leaders who will address these complex societal challenges. This initiative has two thrust areas:

- **Computational Systems Biomedicine** - To utilize computational methods to develop improved diagnostic, therapeutic, prognostic, and prevention strategies for chronic diseases.
- **AI, Social Justice, and Public Policy** - To acknowledge that social systems are increasingly embedded within computational platforms that mediate daily human activity and provide theoretical and practical solutions to significant problems at the nexus of AI, social justice, and public policy.

Mason researchers are not only developing new technologies but also assessing how computation impacts our health and society. The Frontiers of Computing conference organizers - Christopher Carr, Siddhartha Sikdar, Sanmay Das, and Christopher DiTeresi - invite you to [register](#) and learn from the leading researchers in this field. The conference is one of many efforts of [Mason's TTP Faculty Thematic Hiring Initiative](#) to promote multidisciplinary education, research, and collaboration in computing.

Uniting Women in Cyber

VIRTUAL SUMMIT



OCTOBER 5 - 6, 2021

SAVE THE DATE

JOIN US TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF CYBERSECURITY, TECHNOLOGY, AND BUSINESS.



The Cyber Guild believes our world will be more secure when cybersecurity is part of the fabric of everyday living. We will continually advance cybersecurity, by attracting diversity to all levels of the industry, unifying allies across the private and public sectors, and ensuring opportunities are as universal as talent.

We hope you'll join us this October at the Uniting Women in Cyber Virtual Summit. You can save your seat by registering [here](#).

Contact: [Mary Beth Borgwing](#) Co-Founder & President/The Cyber Guild

Sustainable Research Pathways Workshop & Summer Experience

We are proud to announce the founding of Virginia's first Women in High-Performance Computing Eager to expand your research and establish productive collaborations with renowned scientists at a Department of Energy (DOE) National Laboratory? This is your opportunity! Through SRP, faculty and students contribute to multi- and inter-disciplinary research that is changing the world. Berkeley Lab staff are looking for scientists interested in working on large research problems that intersect with your research interests. We encourage you to view the current projects shared by participating lab staff to get an idea of ongoing research projects.

New this year: [Quantum Information Science and Technology \(QuIST\) group](#) is joining SRP and is eager to connect with faculty and students interested in building the next generation of quantum processing hardware. Anyone who loves physics, computer science, electrical engineering, and/or device engineering should check out this opportunity.

[Register here](#)

Deadline: September 24th, 2021

Virginia Women in HPC

We are proud to announce the founding of Virginia's first Women in High-Performance Computing (WHPC) program. Join Virginia WHPC for its inaugural event featuring inspiring lightning talks by female faculty of the Commonwealth sharing and discussing how HPC has facilitated their scientific research and professional careers. This virtual event is jointly hosted by Virginia Commonwealth University, George Mason University, Virginia Tech, William & Mary, University of Richmond, and Research Computing at the University of Virginia.

Virginia WHPC is committed to increasing diversity and inclusion by promoting and encouraging the participation of women in high-performance computing and related fields. Interested in upcoming WHPC events or getting involved in promoting diversity in high-performance computing?

Interested? Subscribe to the mailing list [here](#).

For questions and ideas, please reach out to Jaysree Sarma at jsarma@gmu.edu



Apply to Sprinternship®

Sprinternship® is a program of Break Through Tech, whose goal is to achieve gender equity in tech. It is a **three-week paid** micro-internship for first- and second-year college students from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in tech.

Program Participants

Sprinternships are designed for women, non-binary, and gender fluid individuals who are first and second-year students at George Mason University or students in the Advance program at Northern Virginia Community College looking to increase their experience in tech before applying for a summer internship.

What to expect

In three weeks, Sprinterns tackle a challenge project while immersed in their host company's business and culture, participate in a series of career development workshops, and strengthen their professional network. Sprinterns will build their résumé, their community, and their professional network while learning about careers in tech.

Program and Application Dates

Our Sprinternship® program will run from **January 3-21, 2022**, with several career development workshops taking place in the fall semester. Applications opened on August 30, 2021 and close October 8, 2021 at 11:59pm.

More information and access application [here](#) or email us at breakthroughtech@cs.gmu.edu.



Questions? Contact Libby G. Bradford, Career Access Lead for GMU Break Through Tech, DC, at lbradfo@gmu.edu

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

NSF-Simons Collaboration on a National Institute for Theory and Mathematics in Biology (NITMB)

Preliminary Proposal Due Date - December 01, 2021

Full Proposal Due Date - July 18, 2022

AWARDS

Congratulations to -

- Lattanzi, David from the College of Engineering & Computing for receiving the National Science Foundation grant on Collaborative Research: HDR DSC: Infusion of data science and computation into engineering curricula.
- Kaya, Erdogan from the College of Educ & Human Development for receiving the National Science Foundation grant on Collaborative Research: Developing Integrated Computer Science Curricula for Linguistically Diverse Classrooms in Grades 3-5.
- Johri, Aditya from the College of Engineering & Computing for receiving the National Science Foundation grant on Workshop: ProVis-EER: Developing Professional Vision into Empirical Practices within Engineering Education Research (EER) through Digital Apprenticeship.
- Zeng, Kai from the College of Engineering & Computing for receiving the National Science Foundation grant on Collaborative Research: NSF-AoF: CNS Core: Small: Secure Wireless Powered Backscatter Communication for IoT.

IDIA AFFILIATION

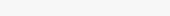
Did you know that, as an IDIA faculty affiliate, you are eligible to:

- Compete for [internally funded IDIA projects](#)
- Serve as [IDIA Advisory Council members](#)
- Receive support for [IDIA relevant events](#)
- Become part of the [dynamic multidisciplinary faculty network](#) focused on digital techniques and technologies to advance fields as diverse as finance, education, built infrastructure, science, economics, agriculture, health, transportation, entertainment, national security, and social justice.

There is no financial burden to you or your departments for affiliation with the institute. Participation in IDIA does not prevent its members from being associated with other university centers. If you are not already affiliated, I encourage you to submit your profile [here](#).

Share with us

We would love to hear about your research activities, awards and recent publications. We are also working with your colleges and others in compiling this information to keep university leadership policy makers, businesses, and organisations apprised of digital innovation-related research activities at Mason. Whether you have a success story or concern or an idea, we are eager to hear from you.



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