

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE  
**NEWSLETTER****September 2019**

Dear Faculty, Students & Alumni,

Welcome to a new school year of 2019-2020! The Department of Computer Science at CUNY Graduate Center is excited to launch its first issue of newsletters which will be a platform for all our faculty, students and alumni to stay connected, and informed with all the exciting events, seminars and other activities on a monthly basis.

During recent years, our extraordinarily talented faculty, students & alumni have built up the department as a world class research & teaching facility in the field. Our programs - the Computer Science PhD program and the recently established Data Science Master's program - have a rich curriculum that enables students with many technical and theoretical skills in a variety of fields ranging from Algorithm, Artificial Intelligence, Cryptography, Programming Language, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, to Computer Vision, Data Visualization, Data Mining, Computer Networks, Information Security, and many more areas. We are eager to share any exciting news and developments about the department with you and the world, to let people know about the amazing accomplishments that our faculty, students and alumni have achieved!

This newsletter is also an important step for the department to stay in touch with our alumni and Graduate Center community. You are all welcome to use our "**Submit Your Accomplishment and Upcoming Event**" button on the bottom of the department Webpage to let us know any news and events that you hope to share with the community! Happy Reading!

## **PAST EVENT HIGHLIGHTS**

### **August 28, 2019 : Grammatical Error Correction**

Shankar Kumar from Google talked about Corpora Generation for Grammatical Error Correction

### **September 10, 2019 : Data Analytics Talk**

High Performance Data Mining Analysis of Omics and Clinical Data: Experiences at University Magna Graecia of Catanzaro

### **September 11, 2019 : Dissertation Defense**

Understanding Human Cognitive Control via fMRI Analysis seminar by Xiuyan Ni

### **September 13, 2019 : Executive Committee Meeting**

The executive committee had its first meeting, and unanimously approved to appoint Prof. Anita Raja from Hunter College as a doctoral faculty at the Graduate Center

### **September 20, 2019 : Back to School Event**

A networking event for all the students and faculty of the GC CS community to kick start the fall semester (70+ people came)

- Speakers from Google, Facebook and Goldman Sachs given talks about their research
- Four faculty members, Raffi Khatchadourian, Amotz Bar-Noy, Michael Mandel and Anita Raja introduced their projects.
- Two best student posters were announced! Each of the two student winners will be awarded \$1,000 as an award.

### **September 27, 2019 : Dissertation Proposal**

Object Segmentation, Classification, and Pose Estimation based on 2D Color and 3D Range Images talk by Xiaoke Shen

## RECENT NEWS

- **Prof. Anita Raia (Hunter) Awarded 4 year NIH/NLM R01 grant** titled "SCH: Prediction of preterm birth in nulliparous women"
- **Two Best Student Poster Award Winners** are:
  - Improving Attention Mechanism in Graph Neural Networks via Cardinality Preservation, Shuo Zhang, Lei Xie
  - Strictly Monotone Correlation Coefficient for Time Series Forecasting and Analysis, Denis Khryashchev, Robert Haralick, Huy Vo
- **Prof. Neng-Fa Zhou's (Brooklyn) PicatSAT system** took the first place in both the CSP and COP categories of the main track in the 2019 XCSP competition.
- **Prof. Raffi Khatchadourian (Hunter) et al. received best paper award at IEEE SCAM 2018!**
- **Prof. Michael Mandel (Brooklyn) received NSF CAREER Award!**

## WEEKLY SEMINARS

A Data Science and Applied Topology Reading Group is jointly organized by Prof. Mikael Vejdemo-Johansson and Prof. Azita Mayeli. Seminars are held on Fridays. Below are the ones in Sept. 2019:

September 13, 2019 : Semester Introduction- Prof. Mikael Vejdemo-Johansson, [A light introduction to the basic techniques and ideas in Topological Data Analysis](#)

September 20, 2019 : Piecewise Manifold Clustering- Prof. Art Dikyom, [A theoretical description of the clustered data to recognize and evaluate stable nonlinear structures](#)

September 27, 2019 : Multiple Hypothesis Testing with Persistent Homology- Prof. Mikael Vejdemo-Johansson, [A talk about the need for multiple hypothesis corrections](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

October 17, 2019 : Computer Science Talk with Turing Award winner David Patterson

October 17, 2019 : Ph.D. in Computer Science Open House

October 25, 2019 : M.S. Program in Data Science Open House

We look forward to sharing more monthly highlights of developments at the department with more exciting seminars, events, and important announcements. For more updates, check us out on Facebook and Twitter, and the department website!

HELP US TO MAKE YOU PROUD

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