

Selected Recent Accomplishments of Computing-Related Faculty and Students

October 2023

Honors

- Computer Science and Linguistics Professor Emeritus Martha Palmer was presented with the Association for Computational Linguistics' lifetime achievement award for her contributions to the field of computational linguistics over the past 50 years.
- A newly installed Creative Ball Machine in the Computer Science Education Lab honors the legacy of the late Computer Science and Institute of Cognitive Science professor Mike Eisenberg. Eisenberg was a pioneer in the maker movement and a beloved, award-winning teacher.
- Computer Science major Elizabeth Eyeson was named the outstanding undergraduate of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the spring 2023 graduation ceremony. Eyeson played leadership roles in developing department space and in the National Society of Black Engineers, and currently is pursuing a PhD in computer science at UCLA.
- Computer Science and BioFrontiers professor Dan Larremore was awarded the Erdős–Rényi Prize in network science – an annual award for scientists under 40 - for his internationally recognized work on COVID-19 and network epidemiology.
- Computer Science and BioFrontiers professor Aaron Clauset was named a Fellow of the Network Science Society, for contributions in areas including community detection, algorithms to characterize the structure of networks and applications in the social and biological domains.

Education

- The CU Boulder BS in Computer Science is ranked #16 among public institutions in the US News and World Report's 2023 rankings, placing it in elite company. The College of Engineering overall was ranked #17 among publics in the Best Undergraduate Engineering rankings.
- The new online Computer Science MS degree on Coursera began enrolling students this past August, in the first of six annual 8-week sessions; there are over 500 course enrollments this session, a number that is expected to grow as students progress and more courses are available.
- Starting in the Fall 2023 semester, CU Boulder has launched interdisciplinary PhD and MS programs in robotics. These programs bring together expertise in field robotics, reasoning and assurance, smart materials, human-centered robotics, biomedical robotics, and more.
- Computer Science Professor Nikolaus Correll has developed a specialization in robotics on Coursera which uses a free, open-source robotic simulator to provide students with broad exposure to robotics and allows them to implement a complete mobile manipulation pipeline.

Research

- CU Boulder received a \$5M grant for 5G cellular security research co-led by research professor Keith Gremban (aerospace engineering) and including professors Eric Keller and Tamara Lehman (computer engineering) and James Curry (applied math and computer science).
- Information Science professors Casey Fiesler and Stephen Voids are part of a team working on a \$1.2M National Institutes of Health grant aimed at developing a "person-centered artificial pancreas" to aid people with type-1 diabetes.

- CU Boulder is a partner with CU Denver and CU Colorado Springs (lead campus) in a \$2M center that will train ROTC cadets in next generation cyber operations. CU Boulder participants include Computer Science professors Yueqi Chen and Dirk Grunwald.
- Computer Science professor Sriram Sankaranarayanan was a keynote speaker for the Hybrid Systems: Computation and Control conference.
- Computer Science emeritus professor Clayton Lewis gave a keynote address “Large Language Models and the Psychology of Programming” at the annual workshop of the Psychology of Programming Interest Group.
- Computer Science professor Dirk Grunwald had two papers included in a list of the most noteworthy papers in the International Symposium on Computer Architecture in the last 25 years (1996-2020).
- The paper “Queer in AI: A case study in community-led participatory AI”, co-authored by a large group including new Computer Science professor Maria Pacheco, received a best-paper award at the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency.
- Incoming (fall 2024) Computer Science professor Esther Rolf received a Sustainable Development Goals Digital Gamechangers Award in the “GameChanger for Planet” category for her work on machine learning based on earth-orbiting satellite imagery.
- ECEE professor Eric Wustrow and his collaborators (including CS professor Eric Rozner in one case) received two best paper awards for their research related to wi-fi localization.
- Computer Science professor Josh Grochow and his PhD student Michael Leve received a best paper award at 2023 International Symposium on the Fundamentals of Computation Theory.
- Teo Price-Broncucia received best student paper recognitions for two papers on Kalman inversion co-authored with his advisor, Computer Science professor Rebecca Morrison.

Activities related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Information Science professor Lecia Barker, NCWIT CEO Lucy Sanders, and Computer Science/BioFrontiers professor Dan Larremore received a \$300K NSF Broadening Participation in Computing grant to study the mechanisms that lead to computer science subfield segregation and also quantify participation of domestic racial minorities in computer science subfields.
- Computer Science emeritus professor Clayton Lewis led a workshop session, “Making departments and programs more accessible for students with disabilities” for CRA's Level Up program, aimed at promoting inclusive undergraduate education in computing.
- Computer Science professor Daniel Acuña was part of ACM's panel celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month, “Communities Matter: Celebrating Hispanic-Latino Alliances in Computing.”

Entrepreneurship

- At the annual finals of the CU New Venture Challenge entrepreneurship competition, a team led by computer science student Evan Baltman earned third place and \$15K for their company LingDisco which uses music as an effective tool to help learn new languages.

Service to the Profession

- Computer Science and BioFrontiers professor Aaron Clauset is serving on the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine committee on "Pathways to Doctoral Degrees in Computing."

New Faculty

- The Department of Computer Science welcomes eleven new faculty this fall and winter: tenure-line faculty Huck Bennett (theoretical computer science), Theodora Chaspari (affective computing, human-centered and responsible machine learning, and health analytics), Stephen Kissler (epidemiology, pathogen evolution, and complex social systems), Maria Pacheco (natural language processing, machine learning, and computational social science), and Michael Rivera (digital fabrication, also in ATLAS Institute), as well as teaching faculty Alfonso Bastias, Ami Gates, Ahmed Hamza, Julie Jarzemsky, Divya Vernerey, and Bill Wright. In addition, the Department of Information Science welcomes professor Evan Peck (Information visualization, human-computer interaction, and computing ethics education).