INTRODUCING
OUR NEW FACULTY

I am pleased to introduce the new faculty joining the Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences (ICS) this year. These outstanding researchers and educators advance our School's strategic priorities in the areas of data science, artificial intelligence, big data systems, and human-computer interaction while strengthening our expanding collaborations across campus in the areas of bioinformatics and health informatics. With these new hires, the number of tenure-track faculty in our School has surpassed 100, increasing by 50% within 4 years and reflecting the unprecedented growth in our student enrollments and research activity.

Heading into 2021, ICS will continue recruiting exceptional candidates for multiple faculty positions in the Departments of Computer Science, Informatics, and Statistics. For more information on faculty recruiting, please visit *bit.ly/ICSFacultyRecruiting.*

Marios C. Papaefthymiou
Professor of Computer Science
Ted and Janice Smith Family Foundation Dean

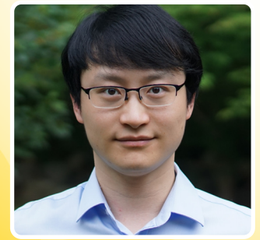
ics.uci.edu

UCI Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Sciences
6210 Donald Bren Hall
Irvine, California 92697-3425

2020 NEW FACULTY






UCI Donald Bren School of Information & Computer Sciences

Elena Agapie

Assistant Professor, Informatics
Ph.D., Human Centered Design and Engineering, University of Washington

Agapie researches, designs and builds technologies that empower people to engage in positive behaviors through a human-centered approach. Her work draws on people's lived experiences and practices from psychology, exercise science or mental health, as she designs tools to help people pursue healthy behaviors. For example, she developed an online system that uses crowdsourcing to help people access expert-quality exercise advice from peers. Agapie has worked on research teams at Microsoft Research, FXPAL, Intel Labs and JPL. She joined the ICS faculty in July 2020.

Mohsen Imani

Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering, UC San Diego

Imani's research interests are in the areas of computer architecture, brain-inspired computing and embedded systems. His research aims to design secure, real-time, robust computing systems that can natively support a wide range of learning and cognitive tasks on edge devices. Particularly, he is working to accelerate big data and machine learning applications by redesigning algorithms using strategies that more closely model the human brain. His Ph.D. has opened up a new interdisciplinary research on brain-inspired hyperdimensional computing that connects areas in machine learning, computer systems and neuroscience. Imani joined the ICS faculty in July 2020.

Faisal Nawab

Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Ph.D., Computer Science, UC Santa Barbara

Nawab's research is in the areas of distributed cloud computing and big data management. He runs the EdgeLab, which focuses on solving distributed data management problems to enable edge technologies, such as Internet of Things (IoT), smart surveillance, augmented and virtual reality, smart cities, and autonomous vehicles. Recently, Nawab has been utilizing advances in blockchain and serverless technology to build more efficient data management systems that span both edge and cloud computing infrastructures. He was an assistant professor of computer science and engineering at UC Santa Cruz and will be joining the ICS faculty in January 2021.

Ioannis Panageas

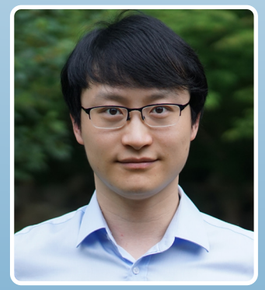
Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Ph.D., Algorithms, Combinatorics and Optimization, Georgia Tech

Panageas is interested in the theory of computation, machine learning and its interface with non-convex optimization, dynamical systems, probability and statistics. More specifically, his research focuses on addressing questions about equilibration, robustness and performance of algorithms and complex systems. Some applications include regression from dependent/censored data, min-max optimization, online learning and learning in games. Panageas is the recipient of the 2019 NRF Fellowship for AI. He was an assistant professor at the Information Systems Department of Singapore University of Technology and Design before joining the ICS faculty in October 2020.

Anne Marie Piper

Associate Professor, Informatics
Ph.D., Cognitive Science, UC San Diego

Piper's research in human-computer interaction and accessible computing aims to create more equitable and inclusive digital experiences for people of all ages and abilities. Her prior and ongoing work focuses on designing new technologies for collaborative work among ability-diverse teams of professionals and academics; developing accessible content production tools for artists, writers and musicians who are blind; and leveraging the arts as a form of expression and as a resource for designing alongside people with dementia or speech-language impairments. She joined the ICS faculty in July 2020.



Tianchen Qian

Assistant Professor, Statistics
Ph.D., Biostatistics, Johns Hopkins University

Qian's research focuses on answering causal questions from novel experimental design and complex data. He develops efficient and robust statistical procedures for settings where the data is high-dimensional and longitudinal, the treatment is time-varying, and missing data is present. His work on designing and analyzing micro-randomized trials helps the development of digital and behavior change interventions. He is interested in causal inference, clinical trials, machine learning, mobile health, precision medicine and semiparametric models. Before joining UCI, he was a postdoc at Harvard University's Department of Statistics. Qian joined the ICS faculty in July 2020.

Jing Zhang

Assistant Professor, Computer Science
Ph.D., Electrical Engineering and Molecular and Computational Biology, USC

Jing's research interests are in the areas of bioinformatics and computational biology. She was previously a postdoc at Yale University. During her postdoc, she was one of the coordinating trainees in international consortia, such as ENCODE and psychENCODE, where she leveraged various machine learning technologies and novel high-throughput sequencing assays to decipher the gene regulation "grammar." She led the current release of the ENCODEC deep annotation resource for cancer in ENCODE3. Her current research focus is on developing computational methods to understand how genetic variations can result in phenotypic changes. Zhang joined the ICS faculty in July 2020.

Faculty Recruiting

UCI's Donald Bren School of Information and Computer Sciences, home of the Departments of Computer Science, Informatics, and Statistics, is seeking exceptional candidates for multiple tenured/tenure-track Professor and Professor of Teaching positions. A detailed description of each position, and application instructions, can be found at ***bit.ly/ICSFacultyRecruiting.***