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### TENURED AND TENURE-TRACK FACULTY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Member</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bagci, Ulas</td>
<td>HEC 221</td>
<td>(407) 823-1047</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bagci@ucf.edu">bagci@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bassiouni, Mostafa</td>
<td>HEC 307</td>
<td>(407) 823-2837</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bassi@cs.ucf.edu">bassi@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boloni, Ladislau</td>
<td>HEC 319</td>
<td>(407) 823-2320</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lboloni@cs.ucf.edu">lboloni@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chatterjee, Mainak</td>
<td>HEC 305</td>
<td>(407) 823-5793</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mainak@cs.ucf.edu">mainak@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Da Vitoria Lobo, Niels</td>
<td>HEC 252</td>
<td>(407) 823-2873</td>
<td><a href="mailto:niels@cs.ucf.edu">niels@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dechev, Damian</td>
<td>HEC 211</td>
<td>(407) 823-2549</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dechev@cs.ucf.edu">dechev@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foroosh, Hassan</td>
<td>HEC 212</td>
<td>(407) 823-5299</td>
<td><a href="mailto:foroosh@cs.ucf.edu">foroosh@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fu, Xinwen</td>
<td>R1 378</td>
<td>(407) 823-5337</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Xinwen.Fu@ucf.edu">Xinwen.Fu@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gazzillo, Paul</td>
<td>HEC 239</td>
<td>(407) 823-3187</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Paul.Gazzillo@ucf.edu">Paul.Gazzillo@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonzalez, Avelino J.</td>
<td>HEC 329</td>
<td>(407) 823-5027</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gonzalez@cs.ucf.edu">gonzalez@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heinrich, Mark</td>
<td>HEC 433</td>
<td>(407) 882-0138</td>
<td><a href="mailto:heinrich@cs.ucf.edu">heinrich@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hu, Haiyan (Nancy)</td>
<td>HEC 233</td>
<td>(407) 882-0134</td>
<td><a href="mailto:haihu@cs.ucf.edu">haihu@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hua, Kien A.</td>
<td>HEC 229</td>
<td>(407) 823-5342</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kienhua@cs.ucf.edu">kienhua@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes, Charles E.</td>
<td>HEC 247C</td>
<td>(407) 823-2762</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ceh@cs.ucf.edu">ceh@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jha, Sumit</td>
<td>HEC 255</td>
<td>(407) 882-2215</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jha@cs.ucf.edu">jha@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaViola, Joseph</td>
<td>HEC 321</td>
<td>(407) 882-2285</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jjl@cs.ucf.edu">jjl@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leavens, Gary T.</td>
<td>HEC 437D</td>
<td>(407) 823-4758</td>
<td><a href="mailto:leavens@cs.ucf.edu">leavens@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liu, Fei</td>
<td>HEC 217</td>
<td>(407) 823-3183</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Fei.Liu@ucf.edu">Fei.Liu@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mahalonobis, Abhijit</td>
<td>HEC 244</td>
<td>(407) 823-4999</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Abhijit.Mahalonobis@ucf.edu">Abhijit.Mahalonobis@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marinescu, Dan C.</td>
<td>HEC 304</td>
<td>(407) 823-4860</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dcm@cs.ucf.edu">dcm@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mohaisen, Aziz</td>
<td>R1 377</td>
<td>(407) 823-1294</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mohaisen@ucf.edu">mohaisen@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orooji, Ali</td>
<td>HEC 345D</td>
<td>(407) 823-5660</td>
<td><a href="mailto:orooji@cs.ucf.edu">orooji@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pattanaik, Sumanta</td>
<td>HEC 218</td>
<td>(407) 823-2638</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sumant@cs.ucf.edu">sumant@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shah, Mubarak</td>
<td>HEC 245D</td>
<td>(407) 823-5077</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shah@cs.ucf.edu">shah@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solihin, Yan</td>
<td>R1 335</td>
<td>(407) 823-4191</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Yan.Solihin@ucf.edu">Yan.Solihin@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanley, Kenneth</td>
<td>HEC 332</td>
<td>(407) 823-4289</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kstanley@cs.ucf.edu">kstanley@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sukthankar, Gita</td>
<td>HEC 232</td>
<td>(407) 823-4305</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gitars@cs.ucf.edu">gitars@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thankachan, Sharma</td>
<td>HEC 207</td>
<td>(407) 823-5316</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sharma.thankachan@ucf.edu">sharma.thankachan@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turgut, Damla</td>
<td>HEC 316</td>
<td>(407) 823-6171</td>
<td><a href="mailto:turgut@cs.ucf.edu">turgut@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wang, Liqiang</td>
<td>HEC 437E</td>
<td>(407) 823-3187</td>
<td><a href="mailto:lwang@cs.ucf.edu">lwang@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wisniewski, Pamela</td>
<td>HEC 217A</td>
<td>(407) 823-3189</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pamwis@ucf.edu">pamwis@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wocjan, Pawel</td>
<td>HEC 341</td>
<td>(407) 823-2844</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wocjan@cs.ucf.edu">wocjan@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wu, Annie</td>
<td>HEC 314</td>
<td>(407) 823-5922</td>
<td><a href="mailto:aswu@cs.ucf.edu">aswu@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yooshep, Shibu</td>
<td>BIO 133A</td>
<td>(407) 823-5307</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shibu.yooseph@ucf.edu">shibu.yooseph@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhang, Shaojie</td>
<td>HEC 311</td>
<td>(407) 823-6095</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shzhang@cs.ucf.edu">shzhang@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhang, Wei</td>
<td>BIO 137B</td>
<td>(407) 823-2763</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Wzhang.cs@ucf.edu">Wzhang.cs@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zou, Cliff</td>
<td>HEC 243</td>
<td>(407) 823-5015</td>
<td><a href="mailto:czou@cs.ucf.edu">czou@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CONTACT INFORMATION

### LECTURERS AND INSTRUCTORS AND VISITING LECTURERS AND INSTRUCTORS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angell, Sarah</td>
<td>HEC 230</td>
<td>(407) 823-1061</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sangell@cs.ucf.edu">sangell@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aria, Reza (Ray)</td>
<td>HEC 258</td>
<td>(407) 823-0667</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Reza.Aria@ucf.edu">Reza.Aria@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glinos, Demetrios</td>
<td>HEC 257</td>
<td>(407)823-0682</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ginos@cs.ucf.edu">ginos@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guha, Arup</td>
<td>HEC 240</td>
<td>(407) 823-1062</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dmarino@cs.ucf.edu">dmarino@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leinecker, Richard</td>
<td>HEC 328</td>
<td>(407) 823-0169</td>
<td><a href="mailto:richard.leinecker@ucf.edu">richard.leinecker@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Llewellyn, Mark</td>
<td>HEC 236</td>
<td>(407) 823-2790</td>
<td><a href="mailto:markl@cs.ucf.edu">markl@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meade, Travis</td>
<td>HEC239A</td>
<td>(407)823- 5237</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Travis.Meade@ucf.edu">Travis.Meade@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montagne, Euripides</td>
<td>HEC 216</td>
<td>(407) 823-2684</td>
<td><a href="mailto:eurip@cs.ucf.edu">eurip@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nedorost, Thomas</td>
<td>HEC 317</td>
<td>(407)823-0408</td>
<td><a href="mailto:thomas.nedorost@ucf.edu">thomas.nedorost@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whiting, Karin</td>
<td>HEC 412</td>
<td>(407)823-4757</td>
<td><a href="mailto:karin.whiting@ucf.edu">karin.whiting@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
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### AFILIATED FACULTY, VISITORS, AND JOINT APPOINTMENTS

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<th>Faculty Member</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Awad, Amro J.</td>
<td>HEC 339A</td>
<td>(407)823-1304</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Amro.Awad@ucf.edu">Amro.Awad@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azevedo, Roger</td>
<td>TA 322C</td>
<td>(407)823-5349</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Roger.Azevedo@ucf.edu">Roger.Azevedo@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batarseh, Issa</td>
<td>HEC 204</td>
<td>(407) 823-0185</td>
<td><a href="mailto:batarseh@ece.ucf.edu">batarseh@ece.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeMara, Ronald F.</td>
<td>HEC 310</td>
<td>(407) 823-5916</td>
<td><a href="mailto:demara@ece.ucf.edu">demara@ece.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ewetz, Rickard</td>
<td>HEC 235</td>
<td>(407) 823-4766</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Rickard.Weetz@ucf.edu">Rickard.Weetz@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fallah, Yaser</td>
<td>HEC 355</td>
<td>(407) 823-4182</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Yaser.Fallah@ucf.edu">Yaser.Fallah@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fan, Deliang</td>
<td>HEC 343</td>
<td>(407) 823-4476</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dfan@ucf.edu">dfan@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garibay, Ivan</td>
<td>ENG2 424</td>
<td>(407) 823-2204</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Ivan.Garibay@ucf.edu">Ivan.Garibay@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li, Xiaoman</td>
<td>HEC 210</td>
<td>(407) 823-4811</td>
<td><a href="mailto:xiaoman@ucf.edu">xiaoman@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rahnavard, Nazanin</td>
<td>HEC 335</td>
<td>(407) 823-1762</td>
<td><a href="mailto:nazanin@ece.ucf.edu">nazanin@ece.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shumaker, Randall</td>
<td>P2 314</td>
<td>(407) 882-1301</td>
<td><a href="mailto:shumaker@ist.ucf.edu">shumaker@ist.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wang, Jun</td>
<td>HEC 320</td>
<td>(407) 883-0449</td>
<td><a href="mailto:juwang@ece.ucf.edu">juwang@ece.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welch, Gregory</td>
<td>P3 110</td>
<td>(407)-796-2823</td>
<td><a href="mailto:welch@ucf.edu">welch@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wiegand, Paul</td>
<td>P3 209</td>
<td>(407) 882-0313</td>
<td><a href="mailto:wiegand@ist.ucf.edu">wiegand@ist.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuan, Jiann S.</td>
<td>HEC 423</td>
<td>(407) 823-5719</td>
<td><a href="mailto:yuanj@ece.ucf.edu">yuanj@ece.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuksel, Murat</td>
<td>HEC317A</td>
<td>(407) 823-4181</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Murat.Yuksel@ucf.edu">Murat.Yuksel@ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### PROFESSORS EMERITUS AND RETIRED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Member</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>E-mail</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deo, Narsingh</td>
<td>HEC 361</td>
<td>(407) 823-6336</td>
<td><a href="mailto:deo@cs.ucf.edu">deo@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dutton, Ronald</td>
<td>HEC 440</td>
<td>(407) 883-2920</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dutton@cs.ucf.edu">dutton@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guha, Ratan</td>
<td>HEC 228</td>
<td>(407) 823-2956</td>
<td><a href="mailto:guha@cs.ucf.edu">guha@cs.ucf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AT UCF

Research in Computer Science spans a wide range of topics. At UCF research in Computer Science emphasizes:

- Innovative uses for computation (including new applications, algorithms, protocols, and tools),
- Studies of issues surrounding computation (including security, theory, human-computer interaction, and insights into the design, programming and verification of programs and systems), and
- Investigations into the nature of computation (including questions such as: what is intelligence, and what are

Typically, writing a computer program is not considered worthy of a research publication, unless the program is being used to demonstrate some new tool, programming technique, or has some other purpose driven by the kinds of Computer Science questions described above. Thus, while we are eager to partner with others in research, our potential research partners need to be aware that computer science research is not the same as programming.

Our faculty have won many awards (such as best paper awards at conferences) and have been recognized by various professional societies. We have on our faculty 6 Fellows of the IEEE, 1 ACM Fellow (retired), 1 IAPR Fellow, 1 SPIE Fellow, and 2 Fellows of the AAAS. Our faculty also includes 5 NSF CAREER award winners, 3 AFOSR Young Investigator award winners, and 2 DARPA CS Study Group award winners.

In what follows we give a brief overview of the main research areas in Computer Science at UCF.

**Computer Vision** addresses the problem of how to use computers to process visual information, including pictures and videos. Specific problems include detection and recognition of objects, features, or actions, segmentation of videos, and using image or video data in computational processes. Drs. Bagci, Foroosh, da Vitoria Lobo, Mahalanobis, Shah and Welch work in this area.

**Image and Video Processing** addresses the problems of acquisition, storage, retrieval, and processing of images, videos, and high dimensional signals for extraction and analysis of useful information for human users, robots, and autonomous systems. Specific problems include design and analysis of imaging sensors, high-dimensional signal representation and transformation, compression methods, image/video retrieval, 3D sensing and modeling, medical imaging, space imaging, and live video computing. Drs. Bagci, Foroosh, and Hua work in this area.

**Virtual Reality (VR)** is a multidisciplinary area of research aimed at interactive computer-mediated immersive simulations of environments or experiences typically involving sight, sound, and touch. Simulations involving a blending of real and virtual objects is often referred to as Augmented Reality (AR). Research in VR/AR encompasses a wide range of fundamental topics, including computer graphics, multi-modal systems (e.g., displays, tracking, haptics, robotics), 3D interaction, illusions of presence/tele-presence, and human factors. One of our current foci is on human-centered experiences involving avatars and virtual humans for training teachers, healthcare practitioners, and military personnel.

**Human Computer Interaction (HCI)** is the scientific study how humanity communicates with all aspects of computing technology. HCI is an interdisciplinary field that spans computer science, computer engineering, psychology, human factors, and cognitive science. In our department, we focus specifically on developing and evaluating interactive systems that help to improve people's lives when using computer-based environments. We focus on improving the user experience in application areas such as education, entertainment, medicine, robotics, and general work productivity. Drs. Gonzalez, Hughes, LaViola, Welch, and Wisniewski work in these areas.

**Artificial Intelligence (AI)** seeks to understand the fundamental nature of intelligence and how to make computers exhibit intelligent behavior. **Machine Learning** addresses the problem of how to automatically learn concepts and behaviors from data. With seven faculty in AI and machine learning, UCF CS is highly active in these areas. Major research strengths include complex systems, data mining, diagnostics, evolutionary computation, intelligent simulation, knowledge representation, learning from observation of human performance, multi-agent systems, natural language processing, neural networks, neuroevolution, robotics, and social informatics. Dr. Bagci, Drs. Boloni, Gonzalez, Hu, Liu, Stanley, Sukthankar, and Wu work in this area.
Computer Graphics addresses the problem of how to produce images of objects from their mathematical descriptions using computers. Examples of specific research foci include how to render realistic looking objects, how to animate such objects, and how to use rendering and animation for simulation and interactive training including Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality. Some of our work involves computer vision/image processing, for example interactive view synthesis and Spatial Augmented Reality. Drs. Hughes, Pattanaik, and Welch work in this area.

Software Engineering addresses the problem of how to produce quality software on time and within a specific budget. Systems work addresses the problem of how to build large computer systems that accomplish some specific purpose. Specific research problems in Software Engineering that we are investigating include: how best to describe what software systems are supposed to do (specification), how to ensure that computational systems behave correctly (verification), model checking of software and hardware systems with a particular emphasis on scalable formal verification of cyber-physical systems and quantitative computational models, how to parallelize systems for maximum efficiency, how to model, analyze, and optimize the performance of software, and how to build large, concurrent and distributed systems. Drs. Dechev, Gazzillo, Hua, Jha, Leavens, Marinescu, Orooji, Turgut, and Wang work in these areas.

Database research addresses the problem of storage and retrieval of data. Information must be stored in a fashion that allows both efficient and convenient retrieval by people and applications. Specific problems addressed in research at UCF include techniques for parallel and distributed processing of very large data sets, database management as a service, moving object databases for mobile computing, querying multimedia databases that may include online cameras as a special class of storage devices, database management in the Internet of Things, and data privacy and security. Drs. Bassiouni, Hua, Llewellyn, Orooji, and Zou work in this area.

Parallel Computation deals with the theory and practice of organizing computations to run faster on machines with several processors. Different models of parallelism are studied along with parallelizability of various problems. Practical aspects involve designing parallel algorithms and data structures to solve compute-intensive problems on rapidly-evolving platforms with massive parallelism, fast and efficiently. A key challenge for creating and adapting parallel software applications is the high architectural complexity of HPC systems in terms of their degree of concurrency and heterogeneity, sensitivity to communications and data movement, and requirements for locality. Enabling effective large-scale multiprocessor computing will have an impact that crosses multiple areas of science. There are still many barriers involved in building efficient HPC software applications and hardware platforms. Research at UCF aims to provide the fundamental tools and techniques for understanding how to design applications and algorithms for the rapidly evolving massively parallel chip architectures. Drs. Dechev, Hua, Jha, Marinescu, and Wang work in this area.

Networking and Mobile Computing is concerned with designing efficient communications protocols and architectures for exchanging data among computers and mobile devices. The scientific results of the field enable a wide range of networked applications and enhance the real-world experience of network and mobile users. Research areas investigated by our faculty include but are not limited to resource management techniques in ad hoc, cellular, and cognitive radio networks, challenging topics in sensor networks such as intruder tracking, underwater sensors and maximizing value of information, intelligent sharing of wired and wireless bandwidth, and real-time transmission of audio and video over wireless networks/Internet. Drs. Bassiouni, Chatterjee, Fu, Hua, Mohaisen, and Turgut work in this area.

Computer Security is concerned with designing mechanisms for protecting computers and networks from attacks, keeping information confidential and safe from tampering, preventing unauthorized access to resources, and providing robust security to various applications including e-commerce transactions. Research areas investigated by our faculty include but are not limited to Intrusion Prevention and Detection, Malware Propagation Modeling and Analysis, Security of Wireless Networks, Sensor Networks and Vehicular Ad hoc Networks, Authentication Protocols, and Cloud Security. Digital Forensics addresses the problem of recovering evidence (e.g., to be used in court) from computers, mobile devices, or any storage media that may hold data in binary form. Drs. Bassiouni, Fu, Jha, Gazzillo, Leavens, Mohaisen, Wocjan, and Zou work in these areas.
**Bioinformatics** is an interdisciplinary field to study various biological problems using advanced computational and statistical methods. With large-scale high-throughput biological data rapidly accumulated, this fast-growing field has become an indispensable part to biology research, also an important avenue for computer scientists to study biological problems. Bioinformatics research at UCF CS focuses on the following several areas: computational genomics, metagenomics, non-coding RNA and RNA genomics, systems biology to model gene protein interactions and gene regulation, and machine learning and data mining algorithms to integrate massive biological data and networks. Computational systems biology is the new and upcoming inter-disciplinary science that combines approaches from dynamical systems, control theory, formal methods, and process algebra to study the complex interactions within and among biological systems. Building on the existing success of bioinformatics and bio-imaging research, computational systems biology constructs mathematical and computational models so as to facilitate a holistic understanding of biological systems; hence, it differs fundamentally from the reductionist view of traditional studies in life sciences. Together with partners from medical schools and national laboratories, we are studying translational computational systems biology with applications in drug design, metabolic networks, clinical-decision making, and the design of verified biomedical cyber-physical systems. Drs. Hu, Jha, Thankachan, Yooselph, Shaojie Zhang, and Wei Zhang work in these areas.

**Theory of Computing** addresses the problem of understanding the fundamental nature and limits of computation. Algorithms addresses the problem of how to best solve specific problems using minimal time and space resources. **Quantum Computing** addresses the problem of how to compute using quantum mechanical phenomenon, such as photons. Specific problems in the Theory of Computing include how to classify problems as to their degree of difficulty. Specific problems in Algorithms include finding (optimal) algorithms for computing problems, and proving that a given problem requires a certain minimum amount of resources for its solution. Specific problems in Quantum Computing include finding algorithms for solving problems efficiently using quantum information. Drs. Deo, Hughes, Marinescu, Thankachan, Wocjan, Yooselph, and Shaojie Zhang work in these areas.

**Computer architecture** research focuses on designing computer systems optimized for high performance, energy efficiency, and scalability or some combination thereof. This research may focus on many aspects of computer systems including the design of processors, memory systems, GPUs, mobile and embedded devices, big data I/O systems, networks, and large-scale parallel machines. Specific problems include the hardware/software co-design of energy efficient architectures for heterogeneous multicore processors and understanding the interaction of file systems and parallel I/O systems in big data applications and its implications for modern file system design. Drs. Heinrich and Solihin work in this area.
Ulas Bagci
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science: University of Nottingham, UK, 2010.
Other Affiliations:
Guest Investigator, Clinical Center, NIH, Bethesda, MD.

Contact
Homepage: http://cs.ucf.edu/~bagci
bagci@crcv.ucf.edu
407-823-1047

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~bagci
- Biomedical Imaging
- Deep Learning
- Computer Vision / Image Processing
- Machine Learning for Social Sciences

Other Experience
- Staff Scientist and Lab Manager, NIH.
- Visiting Fellow, University of Pennsylvania.
- Co-Founder, DGMed Inc.

Professional Activities
- Member: MICCAI, IEEE (Senior), ACM, AAAS, ASA, Royal Statistical Society (RSS), RSNA (Associate), SNMMI
- Editorial Board Member: Elsevier CBM, Medical Physics
- Program Committee Member for many international conferences
- Served as a reviewer for more than 20 peer reviewed journals
- Associate Editor: Medical Physics
- Panelist: NSF, Czech Science Foundation, Breast Cancer Now (UK), Fondation Recherche Medicale (FR), AAAS
- More than 30 invited talks in nationwide and international.

Honors & Awards
- 2016-Best Scientific Reviewer Award, MICCAI.
- 2016-Department of Health/FL rapid pilot Grant: Zika Imaging of fetuses for early detection
- 2016-Mayo-UCF Seed Grant: Pancreas tumor detection/characterization
- 2015-FL Hospital-UCF Seed Grant: Machine Learning for improvement of cortical response assessment in Epilepsy
- 2016-Nvidia GPU grant
- 2014 & 2011-RSNA Certificate of Merit (3 times)
- 2014-IEEE TBME Highlights on the Cover-Novel PET Image Segmentation methodology
- 2013 & 2012-Winner of NIH FARE Award
- 2013-Highlighted in AuntMinnie and MDLinx due to Novel MRI/PET Image Analysis Software
- 2012-Best Poster Prize, Molecular Imaging of Infectious Disease

Mostafa Bassiouni
Professor
Ph.D., Computer science; Pennsylvanial State University, 1982

Contact
bassi@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-2837

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~bassi
Director, UCF Center for Cybersecurity, a National NSA/DHS Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education and Cyber Defense Research
Director, CSIT-TEAM Florida Consortium of Metropolitan Research Universities UCF, USF, FIU
Associate Chair for IT
Co-Director, Networking and Security (NetSec) Lab

Professional Activities
- Associate Editor, The Computer Journal - Oxford University Press
- Editor-in-Chief, Electronics- Digital Publishing Institute (MDPI)
- University Internet-2 Application Chair, 1998-2001
- Program Chair, 1st & 2nd Conference on Computer Simulation Methods and Applications, 1998 & 2000
- Technical Program Committee Member of many Conferences
- Guest Co-Editor, Journal of Simulation Practice & Theory, Special Issue on Simulation Methods and Applications, April 2002
- Served as Reviewer for 40 International Journals and IEEE/ACM Transactions

Honors & Awards
- UCF Research Incentive Award, 2004-05
- Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, College of Engineering & Computer Science, 2013
- Distinguished Research Lecturer Award, College of Engineering & Computer Science, 2003
- Distinguished Researcher Award, College of Arts and Science, 1995
Ladislau Bölöni

Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; Purdue University, 2000

Contact
lboloni@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-2320

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~lboloni

- Robotics
  - Deep learning based end-to-end control
  - Human-robot teaming
- Autonomous agents
  - Modeling of human behavior in social and cultural environments
  - Mutable agents
- Cognitive architectures
  - Narrative reasoning
- Distributed and grid computing
  - Task scheduling and resource allocation
- Wireless networking
  - Sensor networks with mobile sinks and nodes
  - Value of information based approaches

Other Experience
- Visiting Researcher, Hungarian Academy of Science 1994-95
- Infrastructure Architect, CPlane Inc. 2000-2002
- Visiting Researcher, Imperial College, London, 2011
- Visiting Researcher, University of Rome La Sapienza, 2012
- Chief Software Architect, MosaixSoft Inc. 2015-2017

Honors & Awards
- Kurzweil Best Artificial General Intelligence Idea Prize 2014
- Best Paper Award ICC 2013
- NASA Software Award 2005
- Senior Member, IEEE

Selected recent papers:

Mainak Chatterjee

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science & Engineering; University of Texas at Arlington, 2002
Secondary Joint Appointment in Electrical & Computer Engineering

Contact
mainak@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-5793

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~mainak

- Cybersecurity
  - Blockchain and Cryptocurrencies
  - Trust models; Attack & defense strategies
  - Information fusion & consensus
- Wireless Networks
  - Software defined radio & Dynamic spectrum access
  - Internet of things; Ad hoc and sensor networks; 4G/5G
  - Testbed implementations
- Network Economics
  - Pricing issues in networks
  - Game and Auction theories
- Online Social Networks
  - Online recommender systems & rating predictions
  - Social network interactions
  - Information propagation
- Video Delivery
  - Video transport. Quality of Experience (QoE)
  - IPTV, VoD, Streaming media

Other Experience
- Faculty Fellow, Air Force Research Lab
- Consultant, NEC, ITT, BAH, and AFRL
- Research Intern, Nokia Research, 2001

Professional Activities
- Editor: Pervasive and Mobile Comp; Computer Comm.
- Founding Chair: ACM Workshop Mobile Video (MoVid)
- External PhD Examiner: Canada, Norway, India, Germany
- TPC Co-Chair: GlobeCom WoWMoM, ICCCN, ICDCN
- TPC member: INFOCOM, DySPAN, ICC, PerCom

Honors & Awards
- UCF Teaching Incentive Program Award (TIP), 2010, 2016
- Best paper award, IEEE PIMRC 2011
- US National Research Council Fellowship Award 2011
- Best paper award, IEEE Globecom 2008
- Young Investigator Program (YIP) Award, AFOSR
- Best dissertation award, CSE, UTA, 2002
- Best Summer Intern, Nokia Research, Dallas, 2001
Niels da Vitoria Lobo

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; University of Toronto, 1993

Contact
niels@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-2873

Research
http://server.cs.ucf.edu/~vision/faculty/nielslobo.html

- Computational Vision
  - Object Detection in Cluttered Backgrounds
  - Integral Image Based Curve Detection
  - Hand and Person Detection and Tracking
- Active Vision and Mobile Robotics
  - Automobile Lane Following
  - Obstacle Detection
  - Optical Flow and Affine Motion Integration
- User Interfaces and Graphical Modeling
  - Wristband Trackers
  - Games for Mathematics Education

Professional Activities
- Associate Editor, Image Vision and Computing
- Associate Editor, Machine Vision and Applications

Honors & Awards
- UCF Millionaire’s Club, UCF Office of Research, 2008
- Teaching Incentive Program Award, 1996

Active Funding
- Pictures Represent Opportunities For Inspiration In Tech
  $1.2M from National Science Foundation with Mubarak Shah, Juli Dixon, and Gina Gresham, to work with Orange County Public High Schools, 2007-2010
- Project GAUSS: $600K to work with Math Majors (co-PI), from National Science Foundation, 2008-2011
- REU in Computer Vision: $300K, National Science Foundation, co-PI

Damian Dechev

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering; Texas A&M University, 2009

Contact
dechev@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-2549

Research
http://cse.cs.ucf.edu

- Programming Techniques and Tools
- Multiprocessor Programming
- Concurrent Data Structures
- Verification of Concurrent Algorithms
- Large-scale Performance Analysis

Other Experience
- Senior Member of Technical Staff, Sandia National Laboratories, Livermore, CA 2009-2010;
- Research Assistant, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 2003-2009;
- Adjunct Faculty, University of Delaware, Newark, DE, 2001-2003;

Professional Activities
- Referee for NSF and DOE ASCR Reviews Panels.
- UCF CS Department Graduate Committee Member.

Honors and Awards
Hassan Foroosh

CAE Link Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; INRIA-University of Nice, France, 1996
Secondary joint faculty, ECE, UCF

Contact
foroosh@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-5299

Research
Director, Computational Imaging Lab.: http://cil.cs.ucf.edu
• Video Surveillance and Camera Networks
  • Tracking in Video Camera Networks
  • Video Activity Recognition and Monitoring
  • Video Context Analysis, Understanding, and Retrieval
  • Multi-Target Tracking on Moving Platforms
  • Camera Network Self-Calibration and Self-Configuration
• Machine Learning
  • Deep Learning: Sparse Architectures, “Big Data” Analytics
  • Subspace Representation, Sparse Coding/Sampling
  • Mathematical modeling of Deep Learning
• Image/Video Processing
  • Super-resolution (Video, SAR, EO, IR, Hyper-spectral)
  • Compressed Sensing, Cooperative Sensing, Compressed Domain Target Localization, Recognition, and Coding
  • Medical Image Analysis and Processing
• Image-Based Modeling
  • 3D Modeling from Video/Image Data
  • Video-Based Motion Capture and Animation
  • Facial expression, Gesture, and Text Recognition in video

Other Experience
• Senior Research Scientist, UC Berkeley, 2000-2002
• Research Scientist, University of Maryland, 1997-2000

Professional Activities
• Member of the IEEE Multimedia Communications Technical Committee (MMTC)
• Associate Member of IEEE Image, Video, and Multidimensional Signal Processing Technical Committee, 2010
• Associate Editor, IEEE Transactions on Image Processing, 2011-2015, 2002-2008
• Area chair, Organizing Committee, for IEEE ICIP, since 2002
• TPC member and Session Chair: CVPR, ICCV, since 2002

Honors & Awards
• CAE Link Professorship, 2018
• UCF Inaugural Luminary Award, 2017
• CECS Advisory Board Award for Faculty Excellence, 2017
• CECS Excellence in Research Award 2016, 2014, 2006
• UCF Millionaires’ Club Award, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013
• UCF Research Initiative Award (RIA), 2014, 2009
• UCF Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) Award, 2013, 2008
• IAPR Piero Zamperoni Award, 2004
• IAPR Best Scientific Paper Award
• Several Honorable Mentions, IEEE
• Senior Member, IEEE

Xinwen Fu

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Engineering; Texas A&M University, 2005

Contact
xinwenfu@ucf.edu
605-270-9427

Research http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~xinwenfu/
• IoT security and privacy
• Mobile security and privacy
• Network security and privacy
• Computer security and privacy
• Network forensics

Professional Activities
• NSF Panelists 2017
• Symposium Co-chair, Communications and Information Security Symposium, International Conference on Computing, Networking and Communications (ICNC) 2017
• Program Co-chair, IEEE International Conference on Trust, Security and Privacy in Computing and Communications (TrustCom) 2016

Honors & Awards
• NSF Grant titled “CICI: Regional: New England Cybersecurity Operation and Research Center (CORE)”, Duration: 1/2017 - 12/2018
• NSA Grant titled “An IoT Security and Privacy Course Built upon Frontier Research, Industry Need and Affordable Platforms for Classrooms”, Duration: 3/2017 - 2/2018
• Best paper award, International Conference on Wireless Algorithms, Systems, and Applications (WASA), 2017
• Best paper award, International Performance Computing and Communications Conference (IPCCC) 2016
• Award of Excellence, GeekPwn 2016 Ethic Smart Life Hack Competition
• Erich Spengler Student Cyber Paper Award (best student paper award) with students, The Colloquium for Information Security Education (CISSE), 2016
Paul Gazzillo

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; New York University, 2016

Contact
Paul.Gazzillo@ucf.edu

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~pgazz

- Programming languages
- Software engineering
- Security
- Analysis of configurable systems
- Side-channel attacks
- Blockchain smart contracts

Professional Activities
- Program Committee, SPLC18 Challenge Track
- Artifact Evaluation Committee, OOPSLA18
- Artifact Evaluation Committee, POPL18

Honors & Awards
- MacCracken Fellowship (NYU)
- Global Research Initiative Fellowship (NYU)
- Matthew Smosna Prize (NYU)
- SIGPLAN Research Highlight (ACM SIGPLAN)

Funding

Avelino J. Gonzalez

Professor
Ph.D., Electrical Engineering; University of Pittsburgh, 1979

Contact
Avelino.gonzalez@ucf.edu
407-823-5027

Research
http://people.cecs.ucf.edu/gonzalez

- Artificial Intelligence
- Human Behavior Representation in Tactical Simulations
- Context-based Reasoning
- Machine Learning from Observation of Humans
- Virtual humans
- Knowledge-Based Systems

Other Experience
- Interim Chair, Civil and Environmental Engineering Department, University of Central Florida, 2005-2007.

Professional Activities
- Founding President (1998-1990), past Treasurer (1993 to 2008), Florida Artificial Intelligence Research Society
- Life Fellow, IEEE
Mark Heinrich

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Electrical Engineering; Stanford University, 1998

Contact
heinrich@cs.ucf.edu
407-882-0138

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~heinrich

- Parallel Computer Architecture
- Heterogeneous/GPGPU Architectures
- Energy-efficient architectures
- Cloud-based Mobile and Web Services
- Scalable Cache Coherence Protocols

Other Experience
- CS Senior Design Coordinator, 2013-present
- Director, School of Computer Science, UCF, 2005
- Associate Director, School of EECS, UCF, 2005-07
- Founder, CTO, Phanfare Inc., 2004-2011, Acquired by Carbonite, August 2011
- Assistant Professor, ECE, Cornell University, 1998-2002

Professional Activities
- Senior Member, IEEE, Member ACM
- Reviewer NSF, various IEEE and ACM Conferences (ISCA, ASPLOS, HPCA, MICRO, PACT)
- Program Committee and Workshop Chair, HPCA

Honors & Awards
- Over 1,700 citations on Google Scholar
- IBM Faculty Award, 2004
- NSF CAREER Award, 2000-2004
- “The Stanford FLASH Multiprocessor” selected as one of best papers in 25 years of ISCA (836 citations)
- Cornell University College of Engineering’s Michael Tien ’72 Excellence in Teaching Award, 2001
- Cornell University IEEE Teacher of the Year, 1999-2000
- NSF Graduate Fellow, 1991-94
- Graduated 1st in class, Duke University, EE/CS, 1991

Haiyan (Nancy) Hu

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; University of Southern California, 2006

Contact
haihu@cs.ucf.edu
407-882-0134

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~haihu

- Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
- Integrative Approaches to Identifying Phenotype Specific Pathways and Networks
- Motif Discovery and Regulatory Network Inference
- Gene/Protein Function Prediction
- Large-scale Genomic Data Integration
- Computational Epigenomics
- Data Mining and Machine Learning algorithms

Other Experience
- Research Assistant Professor, Indiana University 2006-2008

Professional Activities
- Panelist for National Institutes of Health (NIH) (2016)
- Panelist for The American Association for the Advancement of Science (2012)
- Guest Editor, Journal on Bioinformatics and Systems Biology
- Editorial Board of The International Journal on Bioinformatics and Biotechnology
- Reviewer for Pattern Recognition, Neural Networks, Genomics, Bioinformatics, and others
- Local Arrangement chair of ACM BCB conference (2012).

Honors and Awards
- NSF CAREER Award, 2012
- Research Incentive Award, UCF 2014
- Reach for the Stars Award, UCF 2015
Kien A. Hua

Pegasus Professor
Ph.D., Electrical Engineering: University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, 1987

Contact
kienhua@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-5342

Research
Co-Director, Data Systems Lab: http://dsg.cs.ucf.edu/

- Data Management
- Data Analysis
  - Multidimensional Data Analytics, Social Media Analytics, Medical Imaging, Intelligent Transportation Systems, Computer Music
- Data Communications
  - Video Communications, Wireless Communications, Vehicular Networks
- Data Security and Privacy
  - Security in ad hoc networks, Privacy in Video Surveillance, Privacy in Location-based Services

Other Experience
- Advisory Engineer and Lead Architect of a Parallel Computer Project, IBM Mid-Hudson Laboratories
- NASA domain expert in space launch technology

Professional Activities
- Keynote Speaker, Conference Chair, Track Chair, Program Vice Chair, Technical Program Committee Member of numerous IEEE and ACM Conferences
- 300 refereed publications

Honors & Awards
- IEEE Fellow
- Pegasus Professor, UCF
- 13 Top/Best Paper Recognitions at international conferences and one paper of the year at a journal
- Best Presenter Awards at an IEEE international conference
- UCF College of Engineering & Computer Science Distinguished Lecturer
- UCF Teaching Incentive Awards (three times)
- UCF Research Incentive Award

Charles E. Hughes

Pegasus Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; Penn State University, 1970
Secondary Appointments: Professor, School of Visual Arts & Digital Media; Affiliate faculty, IST

Contact
ceh@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-2762

Research
Co-Director, Synthetic Reality Lab: http://sreal.ucf.edu
Affiliate, Computational Imaging Lab: http://cil.cs.ucf.edu
Affiliate, Interactive Experiences Research Cluster: http://www.eecs.ucf.edu/isuelab/
Co-PI, TeachLivE Lab: http://www.ucf.edu/teachlive

- Virtual Environments
  - Gesture and facial analysis in virtual environments
  - Physical/social presence in virtual environments
  - Use of VEs in teacher/GTA/ medical resident preparation, protective strategies for self and others, rehabilitation, de-escalation skills and self regulation

Other Experience
- Professor, Computer Science, Univ. of Tenn., 1974-80
- Assistant Professor, Comp. Sci., Penn State, 1972-74
- NRC Postdoctoral Research Associate, 1971-72

Professional Activities
- Entertainment Computing, Associate Editor, 2011-
- IEEE VR Program Committee, 2012-13
- IEEE VR, co-chair, Research Demos, 2013
- HCII Program Committee, 2008-
- ISMAR 2009 Tutorial Chair; Program Committee, 2009-13
- Over 200 refereed publications

Honors & Awards
- Pegasus Professor, UCF 2007
- IEEE SeGAH Best Paper Award, 2016
- Best Publication Award from the Teacher Education Division of the Council for Exceptional Children, 2015
- Dean’s Research Professorship Award, 2013
- Excellence in Research, CECS 2014
- UCF Research Incentive Award, 2013, 2007, 1995
- Undergraduate Teacher of the Year, UCF 2001
- Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, UCF 2001, 1992
- Senior Life Member, IEEE, & Senior Member, ACM
- Keynote at ACM Multimedia EMASC Workshop, 2014
Sumit Kumar Jha

Associate Professor
Charles N. Millican Faculty Fellow
Ph.D., Computer Science; Carnegie Mellon University, 2010
MS, Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, 2009
B.Tech. (Honors), Computer Science and Engineering, IIT Kharagpur, 2004
Certificate in Quantitative Finance (CQF), 2012

Contact
jha@cs.ucf.edu
407-882-2215

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~jha

- Formal Methods
- Emerging Computer Architectures
- Computational Systems Biology
- Stochastic and Hybrid Systems
- Computational Modeling and Validation
- Computational Finance

Other Experience
- Air Force Summer Faculty Fellow, AFRL, Rome, 2014
- AFRL Informational Directorate Visiting Faculty, Rome, 2013
- General Motors R&D, Detroit, 2005

Professional Activities
- Invited Panelist at the SRC SemSynBio EDA/DBA (electronic design automation/ biological design automation) meeting, Edinburgh, UK, 2016
- Invited Speaker at the Numerical Software Verification (NSV) meeting, Vienna, 2014
- Program Committee, IEEE International Conference on Computational Advances in Bio and Medical Sciences (ICCABS), 2012-2017
- Program Committee, ACM Conference on Bioinformatics, Computational Biology and Biomedicine (ACM BCB), 2012
- Program Committee, Constraints in Formal Verification, 2011
- Member, Alpha Quant Club, 2010-2011
- Invited Speaker, BioPathways Workshop, International Conference on Systems and Molecular Biology, 2010

Honors and Awards
- Air Force Young Investigator Award April 19, 2016
- IEEE ICCABS Best Paper Award 2014
- IEEE ICCABS Best Paper Award, 2010
- Carnegie Mellon Graduate Research Fellowship, 2004-2010

Joseph J. LaViola Jr.

Charles N. Millican Professor of Computer Science
Ph.D., Computer Science; Brown University, 2005
Sc.M., Applied Mathematics; Brown University, 2001

Contact
jjl@cs.ucf.edu
407-882-2285

Research

- Virtual and Augmented Reality
- Pen and touch-based user interfaces
- 3D user interfaces
- Usability analysis

Other Experience
- Director of the Modeling & Simulation Graduate Program at UCF, 2016 - 2018
- Adjunct Associate Professor of Research, Brown University, 2006-Present
- Founder, Fluidity Software, Inc., Somerville, MA, 2006-Present
- Founder, J JL Interface Consultants, Inc., Oviedo, FL, 2000- Present

Professional Activities
- Senior Member, ACM, IEEE Computer Society
- Associate Editor, ACM Transactions on Interactive Intelligent Systems

Honors & Awards
- UCF Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award, 2018
- UCF Research Incentive Award, 2017
- UCF Research Incentive Award, 2012
- NSF CAREER Award, 2009

Research Grants

Selected Publications
Gary T. Leavens

Professor and Chair of the Dept. of Computer Science
PhD, Electrical Engineering & Computer Science; Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1989

Contact
leavens@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-4758

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~leavens

- Formal Methods in Software Engineering
  - Specification of OO software components
  - Design of JML (see www.jmlspecs.org)
  - Theory of behavioral subtyping and specification inheritance.
- Programming Languages
  - Design and semantics of aspect-oriented programming languages.
  - Theory and design of multiple dispatch languages, including MultiJava (see http://multijava.sourceforge.net/).
- Computer Security
  - Design of information flow security policy languages

Other Experience
- Professor, Iowa State University 1989-2007
- Member of Technical Staff, Bell Labs, 1977-84

Professional Activities
- Member of IFIP Working Group 1.9/2.15 (Verified Software) and IFIP WG 2.3 (Programming Methodology)
- General Chair, Foundations of Software Engineering 2018
- General Chair, SPLASH 2012 conference
- Program Co-chair, VSTTE 2010 conference
- Research Program Chair, OOPSLA 2009 Conference
- Co-editor-in-chief: Transactions on Aspect-Oriented Software Development (Springer), 2011-2013, now on editorial board
- Associate Editor: Journal of Object Technology
- Assistant Editor, Software and Systems Modeling
- Co-organizer of two international workshop series

Honors & Awards
- Upsilon Pi Epsilon honor society, 2011
- “Memorable Teacher”, College of LAS, Iowa State Univ., 2007
- Senior Member of the ACM, 2007
- Senior Member of the IEEE Computer Society, 2000
- IEEE Distinguished Visitor Program Speaker 2003-2005

Selected Publications
- For other papers see https://www.cs.ucf.edu/~leavens/main.html

Fei Liu

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science;
University of Texas at Dallas, 2007

Contact
feiliu@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-3183

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~feiliu/

- Natural language processing
- Summarization
- Social media analysis
- Language generation
- Information extraction and retrieval
- Spoken language understanding
- Machine learning
- Data mining
- Data analytics and visualization

Other Experience
- Senior Research Scientist, Bosch Research, Palo Alto, California, 2011 – 2013

Professional Activities
- Area Chair, North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL)

Honors & Awards
- Invited to participate in MIT Rising Stars in EECS (An Academic Career Workshop for nearly 60 top EECS women scholars in academia), 2015
- Special Performance Recognition Award, Bosch Research, 2012
- Eric Jonsson Distinguished Research Fellowship, 2007-11
- Academic Excellence Award, 2011
- The Aage and Margareta Moller Endowed Scholarship, 2010
Abhijit Mahalanobis
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; Carnegie Mellon University, 1987

Contact
amahalan@crcv.ucf.edu;
Abhijit.Mahalanobis@ucf.edu

Research
http://crcv.ucf.edu/people/faculty/mahalanobis.php
- Automatic Target Detection and Recognition
- Computer Vision Systems and Applications
- Integrated Sensing and Information Exploitation

Other Experience
- Senior Fellow, Lockheed Martin Corporation (2012-2018)
- Lead, Center of Excellent (COE) for advanced ATR and Video Analytics, Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, Orlando, FL (2000-2012)
- Assistant Professor (Dept of ECE, Univ. of MD, Univ. of Az) 1987-1991
- Associate Editor for Applied Optics
- Division Chair, OSA Board of Meetings (3 year term)
- Conference Chair, SPIE Conference on ATR

Honors & Awards
- Fellow of IEEE,
- Fellow of OSA
- Fellow of SPIE
- Recipient of Minority Scientist of the Year Award (2006)
- Lockheed Martin NOVA award (2006)

Dan C. Marinescu
Professor
Ph.D., Electrical Engineering and Computer Science; Polytechnic Institute, Bucharest, 1975

Contact
dcm@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-4860

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~dcm/
- Scheduling
- Parallel Algorithms and Performance Evaluation of Parallel and Distributed Systems
- Quantum Computing and Quantum Information Theory
- Cloud Computing

Other Experience
- Professor of Computer Science at Purdue University from 1984-2001
- Associate Professor of EECS, Polytechnic Institute
- Senior Researcher, Institute for Atomic Physics of the Romanian Academy of Science.
- Adjunct Professor, Tsinghua University, Beijing
- Visiting Faculty at several institutions and universities.
- Journal/Book Publications:

Honors & Awards
- Author of “Approaching Quantum Computing” which was co-authored with Gabriela M. Marinescu and was awarded the prize of the Romanian Academy of Science for Informatics in 2004.
- Ernest T.S. Walton Award, Science Foundation of Ireland, 2007
- Fulbright Professor
Aziz Mohaisen

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; University of Minnesota, 2012

Contact
mohaisen@ucf.edu

Research
Homepage: http://cs.ucf.edu/~mohaisen/
- Networks security and measurements
- Emerging systems and applications security
- Privacy enhancing technologies
- Critical infrastructure security
- Security intelligence and analytics
  - Malware analysis, detection and classification
  - DDoS analysis and defenses
  - Mobile systems abuse and defenses
  - Web threat analysis and attribution

Other Experience
- Visiting Research Faculty, AFRL, Summer 2017
- Visiting Researcher, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2017
- Faculty Fellow, AFRL, Summer 2016
- Assistant Professor, SUNY Buffalo, 2015 – 2017
- Senior Research Scientist, Verisign Labs, 2012 – 2015
- Researcher, ETRI, 2007 – 2009

Professional Activities
- Organizer: ACM MobiSys 2017 (treasurer), EAI SecureComm 2017-2016 (Workshops co-chair), IEEE HotPOST 2017 (program co-chair), IEEE PAC (posters co-chair), IEEE CNS 2016 (travel co-chair), IEEE TrustCom 2016 (program co-chair)


Honors & Awards
- Best Student Paper Award, IEEE ICDCS 2017
- Distinguished TPC Member, IEEE INFOCOM 2017
- US Air Force Summer Faculty Fellowship, 2016
- Senior IEEE Member, 2015
- Best Paper Award, WISA 2014
- Best Poster Award, IEEE CNS 2013
- Dissertation Fellowship, University of Minnesota, 2011

Ali Orooji

Associate Professor and
Undergraduate Program Coordinator
Ph.D., Computer and Information Science; The Ohio State University, 1984

Contact
orooji@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-5660

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/csdept/faculty/orooji.html
- Database Systems
- Software Engineering

Other Experience
- CS/IT Undergraduate Coordinator and Undergraduate Committee Co-Chair, Dept. of Comp. Sci., 2006 – Present.
- Computer Programming Team Faculty Advisor, 1989 – present.
- Local chapter of UPE Faculty Advisor, 1991 – present.

Professional Activities
- ACM-ICPC International Steering and Executive Committee Member, 1998 – present.
- Int’l UPE Executive Council Member, 2000 – present.

Honors & Awards
- Outstanding Engineer Award, Computer Chapter, IEEE Orlando Section, 1995.
- Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, College of Arts & Sciences, UCF, 1998.
- Presidential Award for Special Merit (for Exceptional Professional Achievements), UCF, 2000.
- ACM-ICPC Measures Distinguished Service Award, Selected 2008; Award of Excellence, March 2008; and Distinguished Service Award, 2000.
- ACM-ICPC Award, Southeast Regional
- ACM-ICPC Award, World Contest Finals
Sumanta Pattanaik

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India, 1993

Contact
sumant@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-2638

Research
- Medical Volume Visualization
- Real-time Realistic Rendering, Material Modeling
- Nature Rendering
- Interactive Global Illumination
- High Dynamic Range Imaging & Display

Other Experience
- Visiting Faculty: University of Southern California, Summer and Fall 2015; Yale University, Fall 2008; University of Girona, Spain, Spring and Summer 2009.
- Research Associate, Program of Computer Graphics, Cornell University, 1995-2001
- INRIA Post-Doctoral Fellow, IRISA-INRIA, Rennes, France, 1993-1995
- Senior Staff Scientist, National Center for Software Technology (NCST), Bombay, India, 1985-95

Professional Activities
- Program Committee Member: I3D 2018.

Honors & Awards
- UCF TIP Award, 2011.

Active Grants
- NSF Grant- 2012-2017: A Unified Approach to Material Appearance Modeling
- UArizona-DARPA Grant (2016-2018), REVEAL: Light Field Measurement and Exploitation at Information Theoretic Limits

Recent Book

Selected Publication

Mubarak A. Shah

UCF Trustee Chair Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; Wayne State University, 1986
Secondary Joint Appointment in College of Optics and Photonics
Secondary Joint Appointment in Department of Mathematics

Contact
shah@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-5077
Assistant: Tonya LaPrarie 407-823-4952

Research
Center for Research in Computer Vision: http://crcv.ucf.edu/
- Video Surveillance and Monitoring
  - Visual Tracking
  - Scene and Object Recognition
  - Human Activity Recognition
  - UAV Video Analysis
- Video Registration
- Video Categorization and Segmentation
- 3D reconstruction
- Content-based Video Retrieval

Professional Activities
- Editor-in-Chief, Machine Vision & Applications, Springer
- Associate Editor ACM Computing Surveys
- Program Co-Chair, IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition (CVPR), 2008

Honors & Awards
- 2012 University Excellence in Research Award
- 2011 CECS Advisory Board Award for Faculty Excellence
- Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Award, 2011
- Fellow, IEEE (2003), AAAS (200), IAPR (2008), SPIE, 2008
- UCF Distinguished Researcher Award, 2007
- SANA Award, 2007
- Pegasus Professor Award, 2006
- UCF Research Incentive Award, 2003, 2009
- ACM Distinguished Speaker (DSP), 2008–
- IEEE Distinguished Visitors Program Speaker, 1997-2000
- Engineering Achievement Award, Harris Corp. Information Systems Div., 1999
- Outstanding Engineering Educator, IEEE 1997
- UCF Teaching Incentive Program Award, 1996, 2003
Yan Solihin
Charles N. Millican Chair Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2002

Contact
Yan.Solihin@ucf.edu

Research
Director for Cybersecurity and Privacy Cluster
Homepage: http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~solihin/

- Cybersecurity
  - Secure Execution Environment
  - Secure Persistent Memory
  - Side-Channel and Covert-Channel
  - Secure Heap
  - Emerging Threats
- Computer Architecture and Systems
  - Non-Volatile Memory Architecture and Persistency
  - Cache Quality of Service
  - Workload Characterization and Cloning

Professional Activities
- Program Chair, ICCD 2018
- Steering Committee Chair, IISWC 2016 - present
- Member of the Board of Advisors, ECE @ GWU
- NSF Program Director in CNS Division, 2016-2018
- Co-Founder of NSF/Intel Partnership for Foundational Microarchitecture Research (FoMR) program
- Inventor for 43+ patents/patent applications
- Given 70+ invited talks (incl. 2 keynotes and 1 distinguished seminar) and 10 tutorials
- Released 6 software packages

Honors & Awards
- ISCA Hall of Fame, 2018
- HPCA Hall of Fame
- MICRO Best Paper Runner-up Award, 2017
- IEEE Fellow, 2017, for “contributions to shared cache hierarchies and secure processors”
- ISPAS Best Paper finalist, 2013
- IPDPS Best Paper finalist, 2012
- IEEE Micro Top Picks, 2011
- IBM Faculty Partnership Award, 2010 and 2005
- HPCA Best Paper finalist, 2005
- NSF CAREER Award, 2004

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Kenneth O. Stanley
Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; University of Texas at Austin, 2004

Contact
kstanley@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-4289

Research
Homepage: http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~kstanley/
Evolutionary Complexity Group: http://eplex.cs.ucf.edu/

- Inventor, NeuroEvolution of Augmenting Topologies (NEAT), HyperNEAT, and Novelty Search Algorithms
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML)
- Evolutionary Computation
- Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)
- Neuroevolution: Evolving ANNs with Evolutionary Algorithms
- Generative and Developmental Systems
- AI and ML in Video Games and Real-time Simulations

Book (with coauthor Joel Lehman)

Professional Activities
- Editorial Board of Frontiers in Robotics and AI, since 2015
- Associate Editor of IEEE Transactions on Computational Intelligence and AI Games, since 2008
- Advisory Board, O’Reilly Conferences AI Conference

Honors & Awards
- UCF Charles Millican Professorship in Computer Science, 2018
- International Society for Artificial Life (ISAL) Award for Outstanding Paper of the Decade 2002-2012
- UCF Reach for the Stars Award, 2014
- UCF CECS Dean’s Research Professorship Award, 2013
- UCF Research Incentive Award (RIA), 2012
- ACM Distinguished Speaker, named September 2011
- UCF Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) Award, 2011
- 2008 DARPA Computer Science Study Group (CSSG)
- Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award (School of EECS), 2008
- Finalist, 2010 Indie Game Challenge (12 of 250 independent games were chosen)
Gita R. Sukthankar

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Robotics; Carnegie Mellon University, 2007

Contact
gitars@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-4305

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~gitars/
http://ial.cs.ucf.edu/
- Multi-agent systems
- Machine learning
- Activity/plan recognition for:
  - Games and simulation systems
  - Assistive technologies
  - Human-robot interaction
- Social-computational systems

Other Experience
- HP Labs - Cambridge Research Laboratory
  Member of Research Staff, 2000–2003
- PARC – Sabbatical Visitor, 2015-2016

Professional Activities
- IFAAMAS Board of Directors (2016-2022)
- General chair, AAAI Conference on AI and Interactive Digital Entertainment (2013)
- Lead editor on Plan, Activity, and Intent Recognition: Theory and Practice and Social Interaction in Virtual Worlds

Honors & Awards
- UCF Reach for the Stars Award (2015)
- CECS Dean's Research Professorship Award (2013)
- UCF Research Incentive Award (2013)
- UCF Faculty Excellence for Doctoral Mentoring (Engineering and Sciences) (2012)
- ACM and IEEE Senior Member
- CECS Distinguished Researcher (asst. professor), 2010
- Charles N. Millican Faculty Fellow (2010, 2012)
- DARPA Computer Science Study Group, (2009)
- NSF CAREER (2009)
- Air Force Young Investigator Program (2009)
- ONR Summer Faculty Fellow (2008)

Sharma Thankachan

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; Louisiana State University, 2014

Contact
sharma.thankachan@ucf.edu

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~sharma/
- Parallel and External Memory Algorithms
- Algorithms for Sequence Analysis, Motivated from Applications in Bioinformatics
- Advanced Data Structures for
  - Succinct/Compressed Text (String) Indexing
  - Information Retrieval and Databases
  - Geometric Range Query Problems

Other Experience
- Post-Doctoral Fellow (2014-2014): School of Computer Science, University of Waterloo, Canada

Professional Activities (Program committee member)
- HiCOMB 2018: 17th IEEE International Workshop on High Performance Computational Biology
- ICCABS 2018: IEEE International Conference on Computational Advances in Bio and Medical Sciences.

Honors & Awards
- Dissertation year Fellowship (2013-2014), Louisiana State University.
- International Exchanges 2018 Award by the Royal Society.

Active Grants
- NSF grant (2017-2020): Sequential and Parallel Algorithms for Approximate Sequence Matching with Applications to Computational Biology ($306,000)
Damla Turgut

Professor
Ph.D., University of Texas at Arlington, 2002

Contact
turgut@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-6171

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~turgut/

- Wireless networks
  - Value of information (VoI)
  - Ad hoc, sensor, underwater & vehicular networks
- Internet of Things (IoT)
  - Value of information & value of privacy
  - Smart cities & IoT-enabled healthcare
- Data analytics and machine learning

Other Experience
- Visiting Researcher: KTH, Sweden (2018-2019), University of Rome – La Sapienza, Italy (2012); Imperial College, UK (2011)
- Assistant Instructor, Dept. CSE, UT Arlington, 1999-2002
- Faculty Associate, CAESAR, UT Arlington, 1997-1998

Professional Activities
- Associate Editor: Elsevier Ad Hoc Networks and IJCS
- General Chair: IEEE LCN
- TPC Chair/Co-Chair: IEEE CCNC, GLOBECOM, ICC, LCN
- Panel Reviewer: NSF, NSERC, Austrian Science Fund

Honors & Awards
- Charles N. Millican Professorship in CS (2018-2023)
- UCF Women of Distinction Award (2018)
- University Excellence in Professional Service Award (2017)
- Inducted into Scroll and Quill Society (2017)
- UCF Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) Award (2017, 2009)
- Featured in 2015 UCF Woman Making History
- UCF iSTEM Faculty Fellow (2014)
- Best paper award, IEEE ICC 2013

Selected Publications

Liqiang Wang

Associate Professor, Graduate Coordinator
Ph.D., Computer Science; Stony Brook University, 2006

Contact
lwang@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-4878

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~lwang/

- Distributed Machine Learning and Deep Learning
- Big Data, Cloud Computing, and High-Performance Computing
  - Performance and Scalability Optimization
  - Big Data Analytics
- Program Analysis
  - Concurrency Error Detection
  - Software Resilience

Other Experience
- Castagne Associate Professor, Computer Science, University of Wyoming, 2013-2015
- Visiting Research Scientist (Sabbatical Leave), IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, 2012-2013
- Assistant and Associate Professor, Computer Science, University of Wyoming, 2006 – 2015

Professional Activities
- Chair, IEEE PICom 2017, 2018
- Symposium Chair, IEEE IC2E, 2018
- Chair, IEEE SWF Workshop, 2010-2014
- Chair, IEEE Service Cup, 2012-2013
- Track Chair, IEEE Cloud Computing 2016, ICWS 2017, 2018
- Senior TPC Member, IEEE BigData 2014, 2017, 2018
- Guest Editor: Journal of Security and Communication Networks.
- Program Committee Member for: BigData, ICWS, Cloud, SCDM, HPCEES, PMAM, etc.
- NSF Committee on Software Infrastructure for Heterogeneous Computing, 2016-2017
- Panel Reviewer: NSF, NASA, Research Grants Council of Hong Kong

Honors & Awards
- Best Paper Award, IEEE CyberSciTech, 2018
- Overseas Scholars Collaborative Research Award, 2014
- Castagne Faculty Fellow Award, University of Wyoming, 2013-2015
- NSF CAREER Award, 2011
- NSF TeraGrid Fellowship, 2009
- Best Paper Award, IBM Verification Conference, 2005
Gregory F. Welch

Professor and Florida Hospital Endowed Chair in Healthcare Simulation
Ph.D., Computer Science; UNC Chapel Hill, 1996
Primary Appointment: Professor, College of Nursing
Secondary Appointments: Department of Computer Science and Institute for Simulation & Training
Adjunct Appointment: UNC Chapel Hill, Computer Science

Contact
welch@ucf.edu
407-796-2823

Research
Co-Director, Synthetic Reality Lab: [http://sreal.ucf.edu](http://sreal.ucf.edu)
- Virtual and Augmented/Mixed Reality
- Human motion tracking/capture systems
- Displays (head-worn, fixed, projector-based, etc.)
- Systems and general methods

Human-Computer Interaction
- Human surrogates (virtual and physical avatars)
- Interactive computer graphics, including projector-based graphics
- Healthcare applications
  - Patient simulation systems
  - Situational awareness during procedures
- Stochastic estimation (Kalman filters, etc.)

Other Experience
- Research Professor (Associate, Assistant), Computer Science, UNC Chapel Hill, 1996–2012
- NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 1987–1990

Professional Activities
- Associate Editor of journals Presence: Teleoperators and Virtual Environments and Frontiers in Virtual Environments
- IEEE VR 2019 & 2018 Program Co-Chair
- IEEE VR 2013 General Co-Chair
- ISMAR 2012 General Co-Chair
- Over 100 refereed publications, 5 patents, several pending
- Internationally-recognized “Kalman filter” web site

Honors & Awards
- IEEE Visualization and Graphics Technical Committee, 2018 Virtual Reality Technical Achievement Award
- IEEE Outstanding Performance, Co-Chair, VR 2013
- 1995 “An Introduction to the Kalman Filter” cited over 4,700 times according to Google Scholar
- Senior Member, IEEE Computer Society and Member, ACM
- Excellence in Teaching award, UNC-Chapel Hill, 2007
- Outstanding Senior Project, Purdue University, 1986

Pamela Wisniewski

Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Computer and Information Systems; University of North Carolina at Charlotte, 2012

Contact
pamwis@ucf.edu
407-823-3189

Research
Socio-Technical Interaction Research Lab: [http://www.stirlab.org](http://www.stirlab.org)
User Experience Lab: [http://www.cs.ucf.edu/ux/]
Human-Computer Interaction (HCI), Social Computing, Privacy, Safety, Health and Wellbeing in Sociotechnical contexts.

- Human interactions mediated by technology
- Social media and privacy regulation
- Adolescent risk and resilience in online contexts
- Contextual Privacy in Internet of Things (IoT)

Other Experience
- Postdoctoral Scholar in the College of Information Science and Technology, the Pennsylvania State University, 2013-2015

Professional Activities
- Director of the User Experience (UX) Lab @ UCF and the Socio-technical Interaction Research (STIR) Lab
- Associate Chair and Program Committee Member for ACM SIGCHI GROUP 2018, CSCW 2018, and CHI 2019
- Inaugural Member of ACM’s Future Computing Academy in 2017 and member of the Fostering the Future of Computing working group
- Her research has been featured by *Gizmodo*, *NPR*, *Forbes*, *U.S. News and World Report*, *the Chicago Tribune*, *Science Daily*, and *the Associated Press*

Honors & Awards
- William T. Grant Early Career Scholar, 2018-2023
- Research Fellow, University of Illinois School of Information Sciences, 2018-2020
- McKnight Faculty Fellow, 2017-2018
- UCF’s Center for Success of Women Faculty Fellow, 2017
- ACM SIGCHI Best paper awards at CHI 2015 & 2016
- Best paper honorable mentions CSCW 2015 & CHI 2014
- TIAA-CREF Graduate Fellowship, 2005-2009
Pawel Wocjan

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science
Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, 2003

Contact
wocjan@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-2844

Research
Interdisciplinary Research in Quantum Computing and Quantum Information Science
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~wocjan

- Classical and Quantum Algorithms
- Quantum Information Theory
- Simulation of Quantum Systems
- Graph Theory

Other Experience
- Visiting Associate Professor, Center for Theoretical Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, sabbatical leave 2012-2013
- Postdoctoral Scholar in Computer Science, Institute for Quantum Information, California Institute of Technology, 2004-2006
- Research Assistant, Department of Computer Science, University of Karlsruhe, Germany, 1999-2004

Professional Activities
- Panelist and Reviewer for National Science Foundation
- Reviewer for Journals on Quantum Computing and Quantum Information Theory

Honors & Awards
- National Science Foundation CAREER Award for “Algebraic Approach to the Design of Novel Quantum Algorithms” in 2008
- UCF Research Incentive Award in 2011

Annie S. Wu

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering;
University of Michigan, 1995

Contact
aswu@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-5922

Research
http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~aswu

- Genetic Algorithms and Evolutionary Computation
- Complex Adaptive Systems
- Multi-agent Systems
- Machine Learning
- Data Analytics

Other Experience
- National Research Council Postdoctoral Research Associate, Naval Research Laboratory, 1996-1999

Professional Activities
- Editorial Board Member, Evolutionary Computation Journal
- Editorial Board Member, Memetic Computing Journal
- Panelist, National Science Foundation
- Program Co-Chair, Foundations of Genetic Algorithms X, January 2009
- Publicity Chair, 2008 Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference
- Executive Board, ACM Special Interest Group for Genetic and Evolutionary Computation (SIGEVO), 2005-2009
- Executive Board, International Society for Genetic and Evolutionary Computation, 2002-2004

Honors & Awards
- Excellence in Graduate Teaching Award, UCF College of Engineering and Computer Science, 2017
- National Research Council Research Associateship Award, 1996-1999
Shibu Yooseph

Professor
Genomics and Bioinformatics Cluster Lead
Ph.D., Computer and Information Science; University of Pennsylvania, 1997

Contact
shibu.yooseph@ucf.edu
407-823-5307

Research [http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~syooseph/]
- Algorithm design and combinatorial optimization
- Computational Biology and Bioinformatics: Genomics; Metagenomics; Sequence Assembly; Phylogenetics; Clustering and Ordination; Functional Genomics; Homology Detection; Biomarker Discovery; Machine Learning
- Microbiome research: Host-microbiome associations and mechanisms in the context of health and disease; Microbial diversity in different environments including water and air; Analysis and integration of ‘-omics’ data

Other Experience
- Human Longevity Inc. (2014-2016): Senior Director of Bioinformatics / Microbiome Lead
- J. Craig Venter Institute (2003-2016)
  - Professor of Informatics (2014-2016)
  - Director of Informatics, San Diego (2009-2011)
  - Associate Professor of Informatics (2009-2013)
  - Senior Computational Scientist (2003-2008)
- University of Southern California (1998-2000): Research Associate
- DIMACS, Rutgers University (1997-1998): Postdoctoral Fellow

Professional Activities
- On editorial board of Microbiome journal
- ICCABS 2017 General Chair
- AICoB Program Committee (2018, 2017)
- Ad-hoc reviewer for various journals including Nucleic Acids Research, Bioinformatics, and PLOS
- NSF Reviewer (2017, 2015, 2014)
- NSF BIGDATA panel member (2012)
- NIH Reviewer GCAT Study Section (2013, 2011)
- ISMB Program Committee (2014)
- RECOMB and RECOMB-SEQ Program Committee (2013)
- Vice Chair for ACM BCB 2011

Honors & Awards
- Best Paper Award, IEEE ICCABS 2012
- Best Paper Award, ASPDAC 2015
- J. Craig Venter Institute Summer Fellowship, 2006
- California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (CalIT2) Fellowship, 2001

Shaojie Zhang

Associate Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; University of California, San Diego, 2007

Contact
shzhang@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-6095

Research
Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Group
[http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~shzhang]

Professional Activities
- Organizing Committee Member, RECOMB Satellite Conferences on Systems Biology and Computational Proteomics (2006)
- Associate Editor, Frontiers in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology
- Review Editor, Frontiers in Non-Coding RNA
- Reviewer for Israel National Foundation, Austrian Science Fund, and Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et technologies
- Member, RNA Society

Honors & Awards
- Best Paper Award, IEEE ICCABS 2012
- Best Paper Award, ASPDAC 2015
- J. Craig Venter Institute Summer Fellowship, 2006
- California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (CalIT2) Fellowship, 2001
Wei Zhang
Assistant Professor
Ph.D., Computer Science; University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, 2015

Contact
wzhang.cs@ucf.edu
407-823-2763

Research [http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~wzhang/
• Computational Biology and Bioinformatics
  o Cancer Transcriptome
  o Biomarker Identification
  o Post-transcriptional Regulation
  o Drug Sensitivity Prediction
• Machine Learning
  o Network-based Learning
  o Semi-supervised Learning
  o Reinforcement Learning
  o Transfer Learning

Other Experience
• Research Associate, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities (2015-2017)
• Research Intern, Takeda Pharmaceuticals Company (2014)

Professional Activities
• Program Committee Member: ICDM 2018, ACM-BCB 2018, ICCABS 2017
• NSF panel member (2018)
• Reviewers for Nucleic Acids Research, Bioinformatics, PLoS One, BMC Bioinformatics, BMC Genomics, and others

Honors & Awards
• NSF CRII (2018)
• Best Poster Award, The 6th Annual Biomedical Informatics and Computational Biology Research Symposium (2014)

Selected Publications
• Wei Zhang, Jeremy Chien, Jeongsik Yong, and Rui Kuang. Network-based Machine Learning and Graph Algorithms for Precision Oncology. npj Precision Oncology, 2017.
• Jae-Woong Chang*, Wei Zhang*, Hsin-Sung Yeh, et al. mRNA 3’UTR Shortening is a Molecular Signature of mTORC1 Activation. Nature Communications, 2015.

Cliff C. Zou
Associate Professor
Program Coordinator, Digital Forensics Master Program
Ph.D., Electrical & Computer Engineering; University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 2005

Contact
czou@cs.ucf.edu
407-823-5015

Research
Computer and Network Security
[http://www.cs.ucf.edu/~czou/

Professional Activities
• Program Committee Member for dozens of conferences
• NSF panelist (2011,2016); NIH panelist (2014)
• Senior Member: IEEE

Honors & Awards
• Publications have more than 5700 citations according to Google Scholar Citation.
• Best Student Paper Award in conference ACSAC 2007.
• Received UCF Teaching Incentive Program (TIP) award, 2013.
• Undergraduate research project "Personal Medication Monitor" won the first price in the first annual UCF Inventing Entrepreneurs Innovation Competition (reported by UCF News).
• Paper "Honeypot detection in advanced botnet attacks" published in IJICS (2010) was reported by EurekAlert! News Service and The Register, respectively.
• Rootkit work (paper published in Securecomm'08) was reported by PCWorld (05/09/2008).
• Research published in NDSS’06 reported by “New Scientist Magazine”, Mar. 4, 2006 189(2541), pg. 32.
• Best Paper Award runner-up in PADS 2005.
• Best Paper Award runner-up in ICCCN 2004.
• Interviewed by National Public Radio (NPR) on our Internet worm research, September 2003