


2020

Annual Report 2019-2020

DePaul University College of Computing and Digital Media

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2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



TABLE OF CONTENTS

WHO WE ARE

- 5 Letter from the Dean
- 6 CDM Programs
- 7 By the Numbers
- 10 School of Cinematic Arts
- 12 School of Computing
- 14 School of Design

WHAT WE'RE DOING

- 17 Responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic
- 20 Supporting the Mission
- 21 Global Learning
- 23 Engaging and Educating Youth
- 24 Visiting Speakers
- 26 Faculty Grants
- 28 Faculty Publications
- 32 Faculty Screenings and Film Recognition
- 35 Faculty Exhibitions
- 36 Student and Alumni Recognition
- 37 CDM in the News

WHERE WE'RE GOING

- 39 2020-21 Preview

WHO WE ARE

The College of Computing and Digital Media is dedicated to providing students an innovative edge in today's computing, design and cinema fields. We are a diverse group of notable and award-winning faculty, students, and programs, with specialized areas of expertise that are nationally and internationally recognized. Our curriculum is reflective and responsive to the latest industry trends, technologies, and ideas across the computing and digital media spectrum. Our programs provide real-world experience and global perspectives through national and international opportunities, enabling students and faculty to keep pace with leaders in their field. Chicago is our engine for creation where students can leverage the resources of the city and our broad alumni network to launch careers that have impact and influence. Whether it's computing, design or cinema, we believe in the power of innovation and know it is at the heart of our students' success.

LETTER FROM THE DEAN



As I write this letter wrapping up the 2019-20 academic year, we remain in a global pandemic that has profoundly altered our lives. While many things have changed, some stayed the same: our CDM community worked hard, showed up for one another, and continued to advance their respective fields.

A year that began like many others changed swiftly on March 11th when the University announced that spring classes would run remotely. By March 28th, the first day of spring quarter, we had moved 500 CDM courses online thanks to the diligent work of our faculty, staff, and instructional designers.

But CDM's work went beyond the (virtual) classroom. We mobilized our makerspaces to assist in the production of personal protective equipment for Illinois healthcare workers, participated in COVID-19 research initiatives, and were inspired by the innovative ways our student groups learned to network. You can read more about our response to the COVID-19 pandemic on pgs. 17-19.

Throughout the year, our students were nationally recognized for their skills and creative work while our faculty were published dozens of times and screened their films at prestigious film festivals. We added a new undergraduate Industrial Design program, opened a second makerspace on the Lincoln Park Campus, and created new opportunities for Chicago youth.

I am pleased to share with you the College of Computing and Digital Media's (CDM) 2019-20 annual report, highlighting our collective accomplishments.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive.

David Miller, Dean

CDM PROGRAMS

UNDERGRADUATE

Animation BA/BFA
 Computer Science BS
 Computing BA
 Cyber-Physical Systems BS
 Cybersecurity BS
 Data Science BS
 Film and Television BA/BFA
 Game Design BS
 Game Programming BS
 Graphic Design BFA
 Industrial Design BFA**
 Information Systems BS
 Information Technology BS
 Math and Computer Science BS
 Network Engineering and Security BS
 User Experience Design BS

GRADUATE

Animation MA/MFA
 Computational Finance MS
 Computer Science Technology JD/MS
 Computer Science MS
 Creative Producing MFA
 Cybersecurity MS
 Data Science MS
 Digital Communication and Media Arts MA
 Documentary MFA
 Experience Design MA
 Film and Television MS/MFA
 Game Design MFA
 Game Programming MS
 Health Informatics MS
 Human-Computer Interaction MS
 Information Systems MS
 IT Project Management MS
 Network Engineering and Security MS
 Product Innovation and Computing MS
 Screenwriting MFA
 Software Engineering MS

PHD

Computer and Information Sciences
 Human Centered Design

CERTIFICATES

Analytics
 Governance, Risk Management,
 and Compliance
 Project Management

*Offered through Institute for Professional
 Development (IPD)*

Advanced Data Science with Python**
 Advanced Python*
 Advanced SQL
 Artificial Intelligence for Enterprise*
 Automated Software Testing*
 Big Data and NoSQL
 Big Data Using Spark
 Cloud Computing Technologies
 Cybersecurity Risk Management
 Data Analytics with Excel
 Data Analytics with Excel and Tableau*
 Data Science for Business
 Data Science: Programming
 with Python
 DevOps
 Fundamentals of R
 Fundamentals of Statistics and
 Machine Learning Using R*
 Incident Response and Digital
 Forensics
 Introduction to SQL
 iOS Developer
 Machine Learning and Deep Learning*
 Modern .NET Web Development
 SQL Server Business Intelligence
 SQL Server Database Administration
 Web Development with JavaScript
 and HTML5

* New in 2019-20
 ** New in 2020-21

BY THE NUMBERS 2019-20

 **130**
full time
faculty

 **214**
adjuncts

 **45**
administrative and
student services staff

 **13**
technical
staff

14
new
full time
faculty



Sean Bush, Instructor in
the School of Computing



Michaël Cadilhac,
Assistant Professor in
the School of Computing



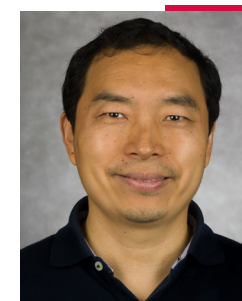
Michael DeAnda,
Professional Lecturer in
the School of Design



Caleb Foss, Professional
Lecturer in the School of
Design



Christina Harrington,
Assistant Professor in
the School of Design



Zhen Huang, Assistant
Professor in the School
of Computing



Wael Kessentini,
Assistant Professor in
the School of Computing



Lawrence Kim, Assistant
Professor in the School
of Cinematic Arts



Jessica King, Instructor
in the School of
Cinematic Arts



Thiru Ramaraj, Assistant
Professor in the School
of Computing



Laura Rossi Garcia,
Professional Lecturer in
the School of Design



Fatou Samba,
Professional Lecturer in
the School of Cinematic
Arts



Roselyne Tchoua,
Assistant Professor in
the School of Computing



Ilyas Ustun, Professional
Lecturer in the School of
Computing



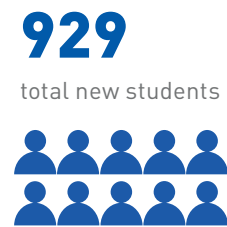
BY THE NUMBERS 2019-20 *CONTINUED*

NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN 2019-20



NEW UNDERGRADUATE DEMOGRAPHICS

	Freshman	Transfer	% of Total
Women	257	69	38%
Men	417	177	62%
Students of Color	285	117	42%
Out-of-state Students	295	43	44%



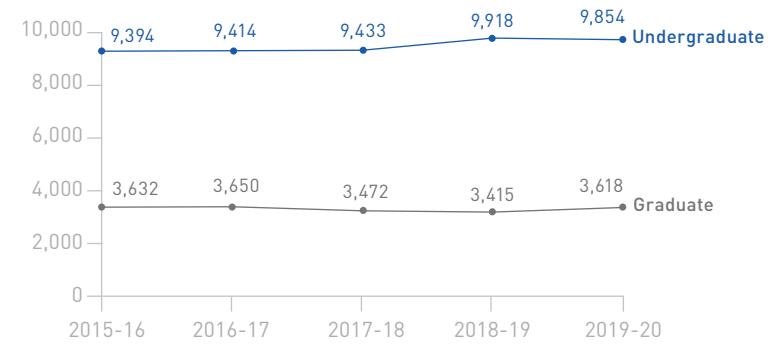
SCHOLARSHIP AND ASSISTANTSHIP FUNDING

\$2,111,841

*includes CDM scholarships, tuition waiver dollars, and stipends

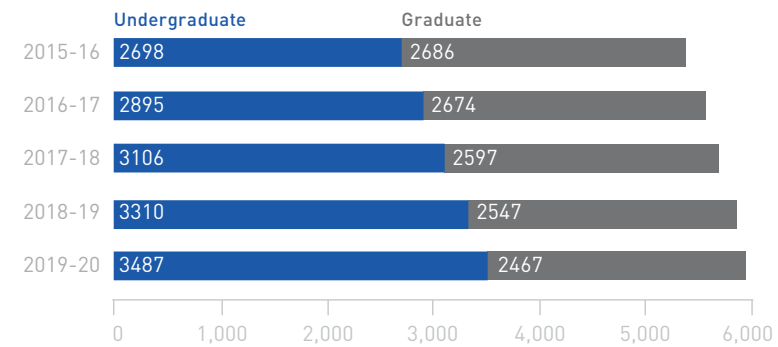
ENROLLMENTS



Total Fall Enrollment



Academic Year	Total Fall Enrollment
2019-20	13,472
2018-19	13,333
2017-18	12,905
2016-17	13,064
2015-16	13,026

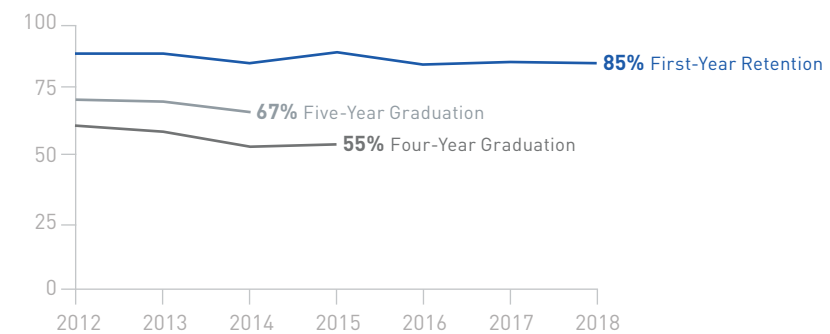
Total Head Count



 **29%** undergraduate
 **10.6%** total head count

RETENTION AND OUTCOMES

Retention and Graduation Rates



Career Success Rate

90% undergraduate
91% graduate

employed, continuing education, or pursuing other goals/not seeking



SCHOOL OF CINEMATIC ARTS



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

This past year the School of Cinematic Arts was faced with unprecedented challenges that no one anticipated when classes began in September. These challenges did not deter our faculty and staff's dedication to providing the best education possible for our students. Our students and alumni's ability to create meaningful work speaks to their talents as filmmakers. As we look back on our accomplishments, we also look toward the future and remain committed to our ongoing mission of training the next generation of visual storytellers.

Gary Novak
gnovak@cim.depaul.edu

PROGRAM RECOGNITION

- *The Hollywood Reporter* ranked DePaul among its top 25 film schools.
- Variety included us on their "Top Film Schools" list for the fourth consecutive year.
- *Animation Career Review* ranked our animation program #22 nationally (#2 in the Midwest).
- DePaul is #12 on No Film School's list of "The 20 Best Film Schools in the USA."

FACULTY RECOGNITION:

- Dean David Miller; full time faculty James Choi, Anuradha Rana, and Steven Jones; alumni/adjuncts Angie Gaffney and Alex Thompson; and adjunct Anthony Kaufman were all included in *Newcity's* "Film 50: Chicago's Screen Gems."
- Meghann Artes's film *Oh Baby!* received the Silver Award for Animation at the 2019 University Film & Video Association conference.
- *Saint Frances*, the SXSW winner directed by alumnus/faculty Alex Thompson and produced by faculty James Choi and Raphael Nash, was picked up by Oscilloscope for distribution. Additionally, *Filmmaker Magazine* selected Thompson as one of the "25 New Faces of Independent Film for 2019."
- Adjunct Erin Rodman's script "Say Something Nice" was selected for the 2019 Black List.
- "Tenure," written by Ron Eltanal and co-created with Alireza Khatami, was selected for the IFP Episodic Lab.
- Documentary faculty Dana Kupper received a DePaul Women of Spirit and Action Award.

PARTNERSHIPS AND EVENTS

The Chicago Onscreen film festival in Humboldt Park included a curated showcase of films by DePaul animation students and a fireside chat with the filmmakers.

HOMINIDAE

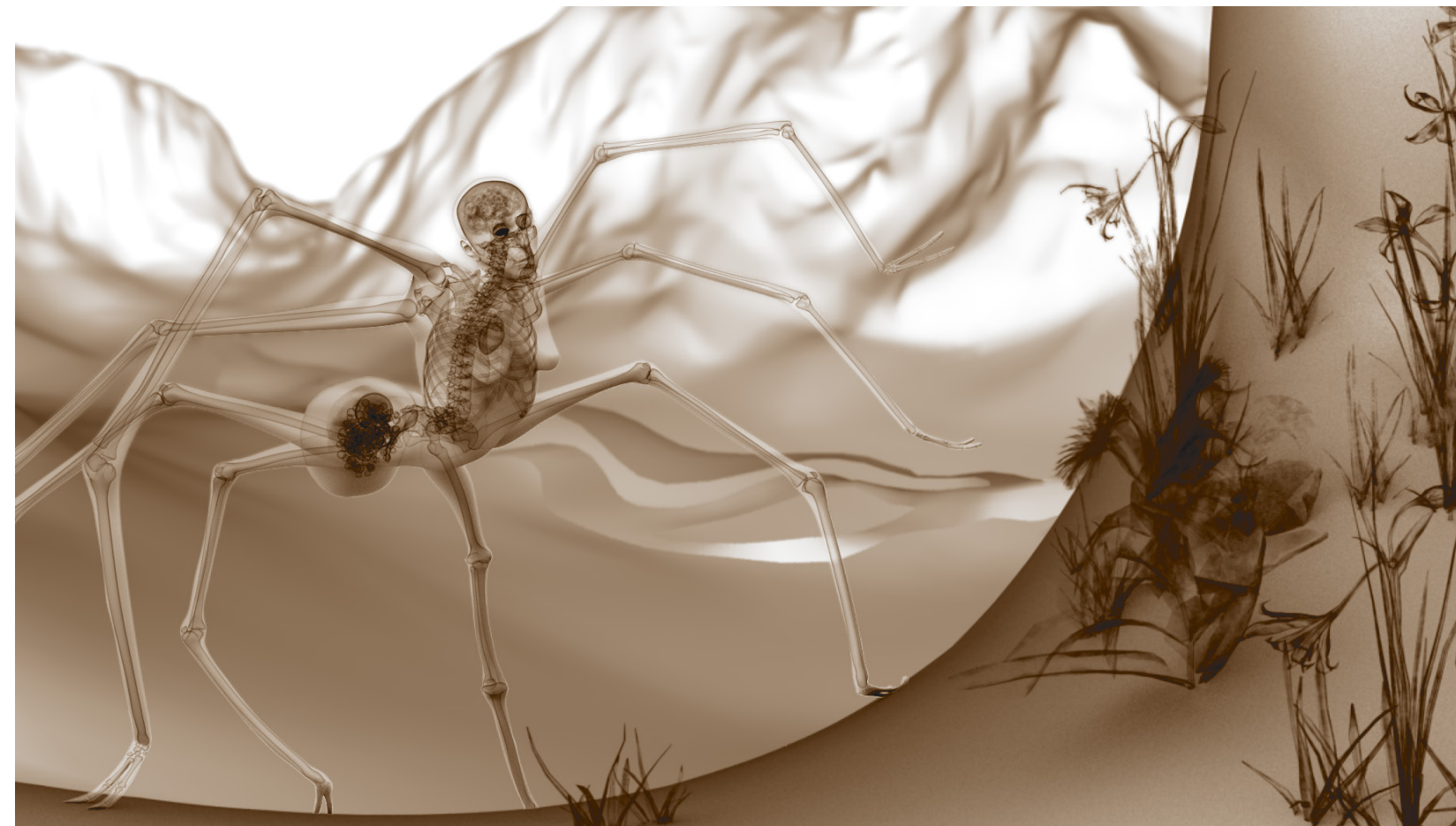
Hominidae, a CG-animated virtual reality film written and produced by assistant professor Brian Andrews, is a collaborative effort between film and animation students as part of our Project Bluelight initiative. It follows the life of an arachnid hominid as she struggles to raise her young in a hostile environment.

The film was selected for a pitch and demonstration at the XR Development Showcase at the Cannes Film Festival, which highlights 21 of the best XR projects, including virtual reality, augmented reality and mix reality.

Hominidae was also an official selection of the 2020 Sundance Film Festival, premiering January 24 as part of the New Frontier Exhibitions category.

The film included a voice cast from The Theatre School, and was recorded in the School of Music.

Learn more at <https://hominidanimation.net>.



SCHOOL OF COMPUTING



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

What a year it has been. Perhaps both the longest and shortest I can ever remember. When we got word that we were going to have to transition from in-class learning to online learning in the week of spring break for the Spring quarter, none of us could believe it. Hundreds of years of academic tradition turned on its head in a week. Worse, despite our years of doing on-line learning, we weren't going to be able to use the classroom technology, and we were going to need to do it from our homes. Everybody was doing it, however, so we dug in. There were some set-backs, but in large part, the School of Computing came out well, and the faculty learned a lot. We each tried different things and talked together about what worked and what didn't, and it's entirely likely that much of what we learned teaching during Covid will remain with us. In fact, it felt much like education as normal: for professors, lecturing, guiding discussion, assigning and grading project and learning about our students. For students: putting up with the remarkable whims of faculty. We're still working our way through, but I am so thankful to have the most amazing students and colleagues that I can possibly imagine.

Jacob Furst
jfurst@cdm.depaul.edu

FACULTY RECOGNITION

- Amber Settle was announced a 2019 Distinguished Member by ACM. The ACM Distinguished Member program recognizes up to 10 percent of ACM worldwide membership based on professional experience as well as significant achievements in the computing field.
- The Fulbright Commission sponsored Rosalee Wolfe's participation in the Women in Tech Summit, held in Warsaw, Poland November 13-14. While there, Dr. Wolfe presented "Bridging the gap between hearing and Deaf communities: The ASL Avatar Project at DePaul University" in the workshop Seminar for Computer Science Researchers.
- Sharief Oteafy has been elected secretary of the IEEE Communications Society Technical Committee on IoT, Ad hoc and Sensor Networks. Oteafy was also elevated to a Senior Member of IEEE.

PARTNERSHIPS AND EVENTS

- DemonHacks, our annual student hackathon hosted by student organization Computer Science Society, took place on October 18-19. Over 170 students from 18 colleges and universities gathered to build a software or hardware project in under 24 hours. Sponsors included JPMorgan Chase, Brooksource, Aquatic, ThoughtWorks, and more.
- UPE hosted their third annual Women in Technology Event. About 100 attendees were able to meet and hear from keynote speaker Betty Shanahan and panelists from Google, Sprout Social, Senior Lifestyle, and ZS Associates.
- Google engineers came to the Loop campus on March 5-6 to host workshops and review resumes.

INNOVATION DEVELOPMENT LAB

CDM's Innovation Development Lab (ID Lab) has enjoyed explosive growth since its start in 2016. Directed by associate professor Olayele Adelakun and staffed by several students, the lab "partners and collaborates with clients to provide excellent service turning innovative ideas into functional and testable prototypes." Those clients include Bosch, Allstate Insurance, Kimberly-Clark, Abbott Laboratories and CDW.

In October, the ID Lab hosted its fourth annual Optimizing Digital Innovation (ODI) conference. Each year, nearly 200 industry professionals from a number of Fortune 500 Companies come together to discuss new ways that their organizations can approach innovation. The 2019 theme was "Innovation in a Dynamic Environment." Also in 2019, the ID Lab partnered with ServiceNow to host a one-week ITSM workshop and hackathon where about 30 students took part in the App Development Fundamentals class and 2-day hackathon.

On March 6th, shortly before the University began remote operations due to the pandemic, the ID Lab celebrated the grand opening of its new office space on the ninth floor of the CDM Building. We were honored to have visitors from 30+ companies including Bosch, Baxter, Abbott Labs, Legal and General, and Discover. Though the team was not able to use their physical space for the rest of the academic year due to COVID-19 restrictions, they remained committed to working safely and remotely through Zoom on several projects with companies throughout Chicago, and planning the 2020 ODI conference.

Learn more at <https://depaulidlab.com>.



SCHOOL OF DESIGN



NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

In an academic year like no other, students and faculty in School of Design made the shift to remote teaching and learning amid a global pandemic and a national moment of racial reckoning. As designers of objects, technologies, systems, and experiences which shape society, we recognize the immense responsibility we have to work towards equity and justice. We are re-thinking curriculum, building new partnerships, and organizing events and initiatives to develop students to have the skills, mindsets, ethics, and experiences they need to make a positive impact in the world today and in their future careers.

Denise Nacu
dnacu@cdm.depaul.edu

PROGRAM RECOGNITION

- *GDUSA* recognized us as a Top Graphic Design School of 2020.
- *Animation Career Review* ranked our game design program #10 nationally (#1 in the Midwest).
- The Princeton Review included both our undergraduate (#45) and graduate (#21) game programs on their 2020 Top Schools to Study Game Design lists.

CURRICULUM UPDATE

- A new BFA in Industrial Design was approved to begin in Fall 2020.

FACULTY RECOGNITION

- Assistant Professor Christina Harrington was announced an Encore Public Voices Fellow for The OpEd project.
- Heather Quinn's work *Transparency: Past/Present/Future*, an experimental publication of interactive design fiction and speculative design, won a Society of Typographic Arts Award (STA100).
- Jessica Westbrook was accepted into the 2020 Critical Code Studies Working Group. CCSWG is the major think tank for Critical Code Studies, a hub of dialogue and collaborative inquiry that generates major thrust in the reading of code.
- Adjunct David Sieren was included in *Newcity's* "Design 50 Who Shapes Chicago 2020."

PARTNERSHIPS AND EVENTS

- LINK Unlimited Scholars partnered with IDEO to present a 4-day design camp for high school students, which was held in the IRL and facilitated in part by alumna Ovetta Sampson.

EXPERIENCE DESIGN AND THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Students in Collaboration Studio, a graduate course in the Experience Design program, worked with the City of Chicago's Design department on the redesign of the city's website, chicago.gov. Students were tasked with reviewing the site and offering recommendations for making the user experience and site architecture more efficient.

Jason Kunesh (CDM '06), the city's director of design, reached out to associate professor Sheena Erete, one of the course's instructors. Erete then facilitated the project with students who divided into teams to focus on different project goals, streamlining pathways for users coming to the website to pay fines, seek employment and request services. Teams did usability testing, which included collecting feedback from students across the university who were asked to perform tasks on the website. They studied how other governments had improved content and information architecture after website redesigns and used search keywords provided by Kunesh to gauge search engine optimization.

Besides compiling all their data-driven findings in a massive implementation guide, they designed additional assets that plugged holes in the new design system created by Kunesh and other project partners.



WHAT WE'RE DOING



RESPONDING TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Following the closure of the University in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, colleges were tasked with moving all of their courses to a remote format for the spring quarter. Less than two weeks later, CDM moved about 500 courses online. This could not have been done without our faculty, staff, and instructional design team, who worked diligently to move us online—and so quickly.

In addition to delivering high-quality courses online, CDM responded to the pandemic by rallying to create PPE for healthcare workers, collaborating with the City of Chicago on COVID-19 data, through funded research, and more.

RESPONDING TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC *CONTINUED*



SUPPLYING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

At the start of the pandemic, healthcare workers treating COVID-19 patients were facing a critical shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE). DePaul mobilized its Idea Realization Lab (IRL) makerspace network to contribute to PPE efforts. CDM and College of Science and Health (CSH) faculty and staff moved 3D printers, sewing machines, and other equipment from the labs into the homes of students and faculty. Using medically approved design plans, they 3D-printed face shields and plastic covers for N95 face masks from their home. It was “a great opportunity for us to put the skills we learned in DePaul’s makerspaces to good use,” said Michael Koenig, a CDM student who helped produce the face masks at home.

Despite their efforts, it became obvious fairly quickly that the production was not meeting the demand. So, makerspace director and CDM instructor Jay Margalus grew the efforts into the IL PPE Network with the help of friends in the maker community, including teachers and librarians. Industry partners like Bosch and Coca-Cola donated labor and supplies. And, several generous donors contributed to the efforts, with over \$100,000 made in donations through Inspire DePaul, the University’s fundraising site.

CONTRIBUTING TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF COVID-19: RESEARCH INITIATIVE

In response to the global pandemic, DePaul called on its scientific community to address challenges in several areas. Proposals from two CDM faculty, Bamshad Mobasher and Enid Montague, were among the six projects approved by the new “Contributing to the Understanding of COVID-19” initiative.

Associate professor in the School of Computing (SoC) Enid Montague, PhD candidate Ashley Loomis, and graduate student Amal Almansour’s research project explores inclusive human centered automation of health systems to improve patient access and safety, as well as to reduce physician burnout. “The pandemic motivated me to pursue this work sooner rather than later because we need design guidelines to reduce the burden on exhausted workers, while simultaneously increasing quality for marginalized patients,” Montague notes.

SoC Professor Mobasher’s project aims to develop automatic methods for misinformation detection on social media in a crisis context. His team will use natural language processing and other machine learning methods to extract salient features from social media posts related to COVID-19 and perform a detailed analysis. They will then train and evaluate machine learning models that classify posts containing misinformation to ultimately provide tools necessary to effectively counteract the impact of misinformation in this crisis.

DEPAUL/CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH COVID-19 DATA COLLABORATION

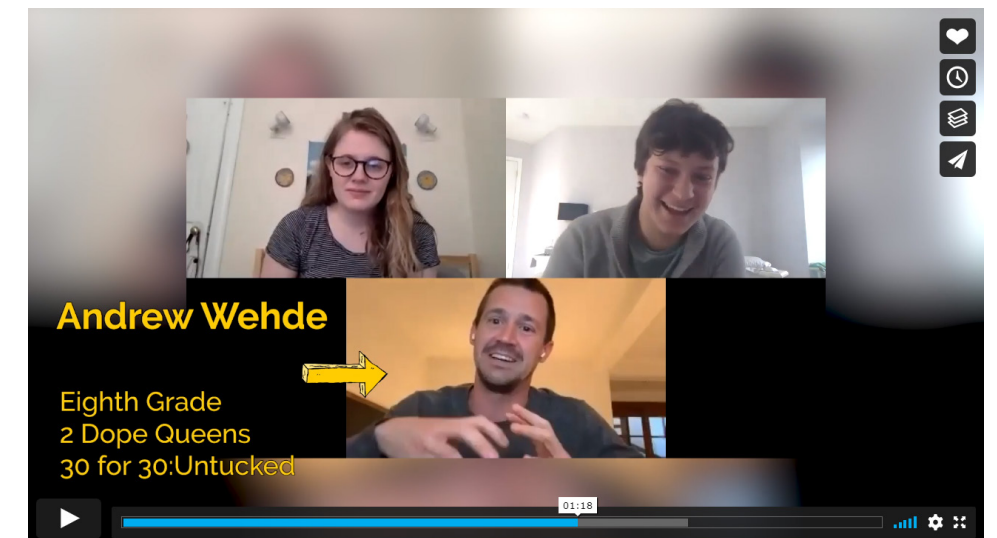
Thousands of people are being tested for COVID19 each day, but collecting complete demographic information, including race and ethnicity, has proven difficult. Data science researchers at DePaul are collaborating with the Chicago Department of Public Health to fill in this missing information. Professor Daniela Stan Raicu and her research team at CDM’s Center for Data Science, including graduate students Hao Wu and Ian Wang and faculty member Ilyas Ustun, used an algorithm to analyze U.S. census data and available demographic information. The team also developed a mobile application that allows city officials to easily and securely input the data with missing values. The project narrowed the “unknown” race data gap in COVID-19 tests from 47% to 11%.

COVID-WON’T-STOP-US

CDM’s Research and Scholarship Committee hosted a remote COVID-Won’t-Stop-U’s research and collaboration festival on June 5th to share computing and digital media-related research and scholarship faculty have been working on. The event included poster presentations and Q&A sessions. There were approximately 30 faculty from six schools in attendance.

CDM STUDENTS GO REMOTE

Spring Quarter 2020 was unlike any other. Under difficult circumstances, CDM students rose to the challenge of learning, serving, and thriving remotely. We documented some of their stories and activities in short videos. Watch them at tinyurl.com/cdmdepaulathome.



SUPPORTING THE MISSION

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM DEPAUL

School of Cinematic Arts faculty Meghann Artes and Devin Bell and approximately 30 of their animation students created the stop-motion film *Merry Christmas from DePaul*. The film, part of our Project Bluelight program, was created over the span of 3 quarters. *Merry Christmas from DePaul* was created in collaboration with the Division of Mission and Ministry.

The film was part of a Christmas window display on DePaul's Loop Campus, a new annual tradition reminiscent of the fabled Christmas windows that once lined State Street. Production design faculty and students utilized state-of-the-art technology to build an imaginative, 3-D experience rooted in the message and vision "Christmas at DePaul"—designed to touch our humanity, evoke a sense of communal joy, celebrate DePaul's Catholic identity, and share the magic of Christmas.

MAGIC WHEELCHAIR

A group of School of Design students and alums led by LeAnne Wagner created an adaptive Halloween costume for 8-year old Jojo, in partnership with Magic Wheelchair.

BIG SHOULDERS INTERNATIONAL STUDENT FILM FESTIVAL

The School of Cinematic Arts held their third annual Big Shoulders International Student Film Festival on February 7-8. On the first day there was a screening of *The Tomorrow Man* followed by a conversation with writer/director Noble Jones at the CDM Theater, and on the second day, official selections from students across the globe were screened at The Davis Theater. The festival's mission is to promote diversity and inclusion by showcasing the work of emerging young voices and unique

ways of storytelling. Big Shoulders is co-sponsored by the Division of Mission and Ministry.

CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY

We continued our youth programs with the *Chicago Housing Authority*, giving youth in public housing the chance to learn skills in documentary filmmaking, screenwriting, and photography from our faculty (see more on p. 23).

SCHOOL OF DESIGN TALKS

Our School of Design Talks series, now in its fourth year, invites leading designers to campus to speak and run workshops, and prepares students to imagine, develop, and deploy cutting-edge visual and interactive designs that positively impact individuals and communities using emerging social practices and technologies. This year's theme was "worldbuilding" (see more on p. 24).

SEEDS OF THE MISSION

Zoe Pham (BFA Animation '20) is the animator behind "Seeds of the Mission," a poetic and symbolic animation commissioned by DePaul's Division of Mission & Ministry. The animation depicts the heart and hope of our Vincentian mission to educate, to care, to serve, and to advocate for the human dignity of all. Watch the video at tinyurl.com/dpuseeds.

PROVIDING PPE

At the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, health care workers treating patients across the nation faced a critical shortage of personal protection equipment (PPE). DePaul faculty and students answered the call by using medically-approved design plans and 3D printers to manufacture much-needed supplies for hospitals in Illinois, including face shields and plastic covers for N95 face masks (see more on pgs.17-18).

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT



Scandinavia

STUDY ABROAD 2019-20

■ **Design, Landscape, and Society in Scandinavia:** Offered for the first time in December 2019, this program offers new perspectives on designers' relationships to society and the natural world. Through visits to design studios, design centers, museums, and galleries in Norway, Sweden, and Denmark, students examine unique relationships among Scandinavian society, landscape, and culture with a focus on how they have affected the development of modern design in Scandinavia.

■ **Atlantis Dual-Degree Program:** Since 2007, the full-year Atlantis program has allowed CDM juniors to take business courses in École de Commerce Européenne in Lyon, France and Linköping University in Sweden. The student is awarded a standard 3-year European bachelor's degree before returning to the U.S., and then, after completing their senior year at CDM, a second bachelor's degree from DePaul.

■ **Ottawa International Film Festival:** This annual program allows undergraduate and graduate animation students to travel to Ottawa, Canada and attend the Ottawa International Film Festival, the largest and most

prestigious animation festival in North America. Students attend screenings, industry events, panels and talks, and meet with animators, critics, and directors from around the world.

■ **Documentary Filmmaking in India:** This "Beyond Bollywood" program is offered every other December intersession. In the fall, students take FILM 390/490 to learn documentary techniques and prepare themselves for the intensive cultural immersion and hands-on workshop. For 3 weeks, students collaborate with an NGO under the guidance of filmmakers located in the heart of Bollywood, and create an original visual media project while exploring the Taj Mahal, palaces and forts of Jaipur, and the abandoned city of Fatehpur Sikri.

SCHEDULED FOR 2020-21 OR 2021-22

■ **Austria and Switzerland: Critical Foundations in Modern Design:** During this two-week trip to Vienna, Zurich and Basel, students will visit graphic design companies, branding studios, type foundries, print shops, museums, architectural sites, cultural sites, and historical sites. The objective for this program is for students to develop a more complete understanding of modernism and how it has impacted visual culture and design.

■ **Computer Games and Animation in Japan:** Students in this two-week study abroad program, offered every other December intersession, visit other December intersession, visit Tokyo, Kyoto, and Nagoya to learn about the processes of crafting culturally significant Japanese entertainment. Students examine how Japanese games/animation/motion graphics have influenced Japanese culture and will visit museums, galleries, cultural

centers and other sites to foster meaningful experiences and gather research for their personal projects.

■ **Film in Paris:** Students in this program study at the Alliance Française and the CEA Paris Center, improving their French and also experiencing the rich culture of life in Paris. They intern at the world-renown Champs-Élysées Film Festival or a French film production company. The film students also attend the world-famous Cannes Film Festival.

GLOBAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Global Learning Experience (GLE) is a collaborative online learning experience in which students gain international experience from their classroom in Chicago by interacting with other students across the globe. This year spring, CDM participated in two GLE programs: Introduction to Robotics, led by Isuru Godage, and Scoring for Film and Video, led by Rob Steel.

In Introduction to Robotics, students from Chicago and Sao Paulo collaborated over synchronous zoom meetings culminating in a competition—a robot sumo math where each robot had to find the opponent robot in a ring and attempt to push it out. As part of Scoring for Film and Video students from DePaul and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) completed city photo romans of Chicago and Melbourne. The collaboration involved teams of students from each school completing various elements of the film; DePaul students scored the photo romans and the RMIT students completed the sound design and final mix.



Merry Christmas from DePaul. photo: Jeff Carrion



"Seeds of the Mission." Animator Zoe Pham.



Magic Wheelchair



Digital Divas

ENGAGING AND EDUCATING YOUTH

THE CHICAGO ALLIANCE FOR EQUITY IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

The Chicago Alliance for Equity in Computer Science (CAFÉCS) is a researcher-practitioner partnership between DePaul, Chicago Public Schools (CPS), Loyola University, University of Illinois at Chicago, and The Learning Partnership that supports the Computer Science for All Initiative (CS4All) at CPS. The goal of CS4All is to ensure that all CPS high school students take at least one relevant and compelling CS course, and that middle and elementary school children are exposed to computational thinking integrated in other disciplines.

The Principal Investigator (PI) for the project, which is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), is CDM Associate Dean Lucia Dettori. Dr. Dettori is also the PI on two related NSF projects to integrate computational thinking in math and science high school courses, and to develop a hybrid online version of the CS course to support credit recovery. NSF has awarded Dr. Dettori over \$2 million between the three grants.

In June 2020 the first cohort of approximately 15,500 high school students graduated having fulfilled the requirement of taking at least a year of computer science. In addition, over 2000 students, 60% of whom from traditionally underrepresented groups,

took at least one AP Computer Science course, a threefold increase since 2017. The project supports the development of a cadre of CPS computer science high school teacher through workshops and coaching. An additional 80 teachers were trained this year.

CHICAGO FIRST ROBOTICS

Our Idea Realization Lab hosted the FIRST Robotics FTC kickoff in September, welcoming over 80 high school students.

CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY

Since 2016, we have partnered with the Chicago Housing Authority to offer youth in public housing valuable skills in film and media through six-week summer intensives. This year's programs ran in a remote-hybrid model. Students were able to hear from industry professionals in Zoom meetings, learn from our faculty and graduate student mentors, and go on safe and socially-distanced outings to hone their skills. This was the fifth year for the documentary filmmaking program—which introduces teen girls to basic theory, aesthetic, and technical skills required to create a documentary—and the third year for Movie & TV Scripts—a program in that provides students the skills to write screenplays designed for television and streaming platforms. Due to constraints running the game design program during the pandemic, a photography program was offered in its place.

DIGITAL DIVAS

In January, as part of the NSF-funded Digital Youth Divas project (CDM faculty Sheena Erete and Denise Nacu in collaboration with Northwestern), about 40-50 Black and Brown fourth and fifth grade girls and their families toured CDM and worked on STEAM projects in the Idea Realization Lab.

GAME, CINEMA, AND ANIMATION SUMMER ACADEMY

Our twelfth annual Game, Cinema, and Animation Summer Academy took place in July. During this program, high school students interested in film/TV, screenwriting, animation, or gaming learn from our accomplished faculty. For the first time, this program took place entirely online with a restructured curriculum to adapt to live online participation for the five tracks: film and TV production, game development, hand-drawn character animation, 3D modeling and animation, and screenwriting.

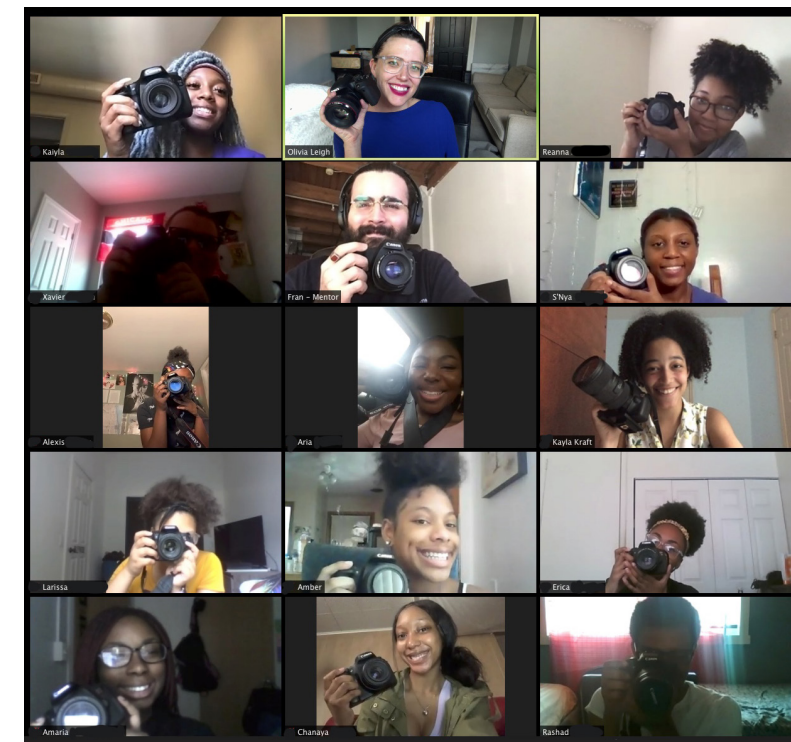
MY CHI. MY FUTURE.

In partnership with the Chicago Mayor's Office for My CHI. My Future, a city-wide initiative aimed at connecting youth across Chicago to meaningful out-of-school experiences, community-based participatory design experts at CDM, including School of Design faculty Sheena Erete and undergraduate and graduate student researchers, are engaging with Chicago residents

to co-design technological tools and social practices to create an equitable out-of-school learning ecosystem. They are documenting the process, analyzing the impact of the initiative, and creating a framework that supports data-informed and community driven conversations among program providers about their local learning infrastructure and how to transform it to be more equitable.

VIRTUAL CYBERSECURITY WORKSHOP

In May, Associate Dean Lucia Dettori and Cybersecurity faculty Filippo Sharevski, along with Lindblom High School teacher Jesus Duran, ran a virtual Cybersecurity workshop and competition for CPS students and teachers. Fifteen high school students and five teachers participated in event that included an introduction to cybersecurity, a talk from a current cybersecurity student, a presentation on our degrees and a Capture the Flag cybersecurity challenge for the students.



Chicago Housing Authority Youth Program

VISITING SPEAKER SERIES

CDM hosts three guest speaker series: Visiting Artists Series, School of Design Talks, and Research Colloquium. We bring innovative practitioners, breakthrough researchers, and industry professionals to campus for presentations, panels, workshops, and discussions. The events are open to the public and allow both students and visitors the opportunity to have direct and meaningful contact with leaders in their field.

Although the pandemic forced us to cancel some events, we still had an amazing roster of guests throughout the year, including Oscar-nominated screenwriters, the design director for a popular political campaign, and scientists from Argonne National Lab, to name just a few.

Visiting Artists Series Guests

<http://cdm.depaul.edu/vas>

COURIER 12 SCREENWRITING CONFERENCE

- “Sharknados, Zombies & Doomsday” with David Michael Latt, Co-Founder of The Asylum
- “Webseries and Intersectional Television” with Stephanie Jeter, Head of Production at OTV
- “Breaking Down the Current State of Comedy” with Trevor Albert, Producer of Groundhog Day; Michael McCarthy, Second City/SNL; and Fawzia Mirza, Co-Writer/Producer of *Signature Move*
- “Breaking Into the Writers Room” with Michael Gemballa, Writer for *SWAT* and Theresa Huang, Writer for SEAL Team
- “From Spec Script to Oscars” with David Rabinowitz and Charlie Wachtel, Screenwriters of *BlacKkKlansmen*

VERITÉ DOCUMENTARY CONFERENCE

- Screening of *One Child Nation* followed by a conversation with director Nanfu Wang
- Masterclass with director Nanfu Wang

Christian Hill, director, and Jennifer Washington, producer

A screening of *God Said Give 'Em Drum Machines* followed by an on-stage conversation

Trey Edward Shults, Director, and Starr Kelvin Harrison Jr., Actor

Advance screening of *Waves* followed by an on-stage conversation

Donna Lee, Story Artist at Walt Disney Animation Studios

An Inside Look at *Frozen 2*

Big Shoulders International Film Festival

Screening of *The Tomorrow Man* followed by an on-stage conversation with writer-director Noble Jones

Stewart Lyons, Producer

An on-stage conversation with co-executive producer of *Breaking Bad* and *Better Call Saul*

Kelsey Mann, Pixar Animation Studios

An Inside Look at *Onward* with the Head of Story

Kirill Mikhanovsky, Director, and Alice Austen, Co-Writer/Producer

Screening of *Give Me Liberty* followed by an on-stage conversation

Jennifer Reeder, Director

Screening of *Knives and Skin* followed by an on-stage conversation

School of Design Talks Guests

<http://cdm.depaul.edu/designtalks>

Antionette Carroll, Founder/President/CEO, Creative Reaction Lab

Talk: The Future of Design Leadership Workshop: Equity by Design: Dismantling Power Constructs for Inclusive Co-Creation

Cennydd Bowles, Designer and Futurist

Talk: Building Better Worlds

Scott Starrett, Co-Founder and Design Director, Tandem

Talk: Branding for AOC: The Emerging Importance of Technology & Design in Democracy Workshop: Activate Your Cause: Action Building Kit

Lesley-Ann Noel, Professor and Associate Director at the Taylor Center for Social Innovation, Tulane University

Panel: Design Thinking and Speculative Futures (with students/faculty from DePaul and the Illinois IIT Institute of Design) Workshop: Empathetically Designing Difficult Conversations: Using Design-Thinking and Empathy to Talk about Equity

Research Colloquium Guests

<https://colloquium.cdm.depaul.edu>

Dr. Oshani Seneviratne, Director of Health Data Research, Institute for Data Exploration and Applications (IDEA), Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute | *Smart Contracts Augmented with Learning and Semantics*

Dr. Filipo Sharevski, Assistant Professor, DePaul University | *Social Engineering Beyond Phishing: Ambient Tactical Deception (ADT)*

Dr. Myunghee Kim, Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago | *Human-Robot Team: Computational and Experimental Approach to Design Assistive Methods Using Wearable Devices*

Dr. Bridget Tenner, Professor, DePaul University | *Combinatorics of Patterns*

Dr. Zhi Zhang, Assistant Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology | *Human-Machine Interaction for Mental Healthcare*

Dr. Baudouin Saintyves, Artist in Residence, High Concept Laboratories NFP and Research Staff Scientist, University of Chicago | *Shapes of Emergence: Experimental Physics and New Media Art*

Dr. Erica Jung, Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago | *High-speed neural imaging with a genetically encoded voltage sensor and all-optical neuroprosthesis using the voltage sensor in zebrafish*

Dr. Yayue Pan, University of Illinois at Chicago | *Multi-functional Additive Manufacturing of Smart Materials and Devices*

Dr. Moustafa Youssef, Professor, Alexandria University and Founder/Director, Wireless Research Center of Excellence | *Sensor-less Sensing: The Future of Ubiquitous Context-Awareness*

Dr. Ivo Jimenez, Research Scientist, University of California at Santa Cruz | *Reproducible Distributed Systems Benchmarking With Container-native Workflows*

Brandon Meng and Jiahao Deng, PhD Candidates, DePaul University | *Path Planning for Continuum Arms*

Dr. Filipo Sharevski, Assistant Professor, DePaul University | *Meet Malexa, Alexa's Malicious Twin: Ambient Tactical Deception Attacks on Intelligent Voice Assistants*

Dr. Scott Dawson, Assistant Professor, Illinois Institute of Technology | *Accurate and efficient methods for reduced-complexity modeling in fluid mechanics*

Dr. Olayele Adelakun, Associate Professor, DePaul University | *Tactical Approach to Global Virtual Software Teams Challenges*

Dr. Mehdi Bagherzadeh, Oakland University | *Going Big: A Large-Scale Study on What Big Data Developers Ask*

Dr. Umer Huzaifa, Visiting Assistant Professor, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology | *Walk this Way: Robots Walking with Styles*

Dr. Nezh Altay, Professor, DePaul University | *Digitization in Humanitarian Supply Chains: A Rough Review of Research Needs*

Adel Yazdanmehr, Assistant Professor, Baruch College-City University of New York | *Can Peers Reduce Employees' Violation of Information Security Policies?*

Dr. Hamed Qahri Saremi, Assistant Professor, DePaul University | *Factors Affecting the Adoption of an Electronic Word of Mouth Message: A Meta-Analytic Structural Equation Modeling Study*

Dr. Alexander Rasin, Associate Professor, DePaul University | *Abstracting Database Memory to Describe Runtime Operations*
Dr. Iyad Kanj, Professor, DePaul University | *Clustering Incomplete Data*

Dr. Jianer Chen, Professor, Texas A&M University | *The Arts of Satisfiability: Algorithms and Complexity*

Yifan Zhu, Graduate Student, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign | *Data-driven Simulation of Deformable Contacts*

Dr. Chaitanya Kaligotla, Computational Social Scientist, Argonne National Lab | *Model Exploration of an Information-based Healthcare Intervention using Parallelization and Active Learning*

Dr. Ioan Raicu, Associate Professor, Illinois Institute of Technology | *Systems Research on the Mystic Programmable Testbed*

Yuta Nakamura, PhD Candidate, DePaul University | *Efficiently distributing containerized applications*

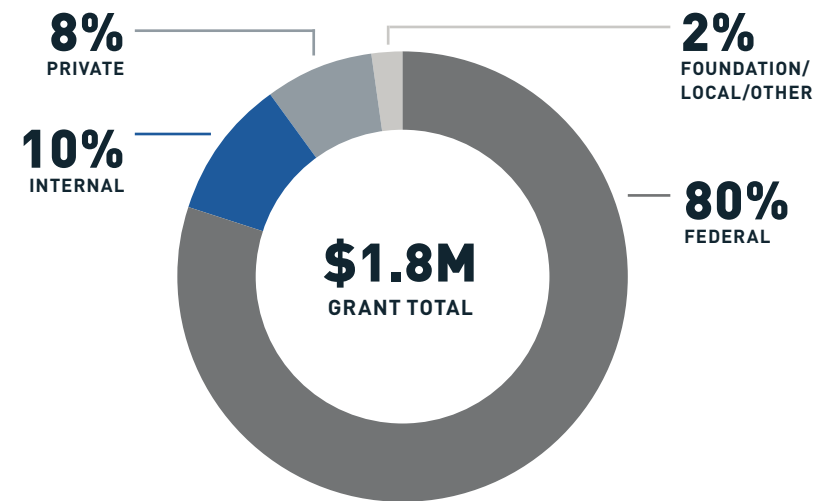
Dr. Xingfu Wu, Staff Scientist, Argonne National Lab | *Performance, Energy, and Scalability Analysis and Improvement of Parallel Cancer Deep Learning CANDLE Benchmarks*

Dr. Matthew Walter, Assistant Professor, Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago | *Natural Language Learning for Human-Robot Collaboration*

Dr. Michaël Cadilhac, Assistant Professor, DePaul University | *Automatic parallelization of simple models of computation*

Yiyang Wang, PhD Candidate, DePaul University | *Deep Learning for Explainable Computer-Aided Diagnosis*

FACULTY GRANT FUNDING



EXTERNAL GRANT FUNDING

Chatbot II: AWS Database
Legal and General Investment Management
PI: Olayele Adelakun

My Baxter Portal
Baxter Healthcare Corporation
PI: Olayele Adelakun

Proof of Concept for Lifestyle Application
Kimberly Clark Corporation
PI: Olayele Adelakun

DeSports
CME Group Foundation
PI: Lucia Dettori, Co-PIs: Betty Shanahan, Christopher Keys

Cultivating a Smart Equity-Driven Policymaking
Infrastructure to Improve Youth Learning Opportunities
National Science Foundation
PI: Sheena Erete

Next Level Photography
Chicago Housing Authority
PI: Michael Flores

EarthCube Data Capabilities: Collaborative Research:
Integration of Reproducibility into Community
CyberInfrastructure
National Science Foundation
PI: Tanu Malik

Collaborative Research: ABI Innovation: Biofilm Resource
National Science Foundation
PI: Thiruvarangan Ramaraj

Collaborative Research: Innovation: Pioneering New
Approaches to Explore Pangenomic Space at Scale
National Science Foundation
PI: Thiruvarangan Ramaraj

Sequence Resources for Cotton, A Model System for
Allopolyploid Crops
National Science Foundation
PI: Thiruvarangan Ramaraj

DB-Toolkit: Tools for Database Analysis and Intrusion Detection
National Science Foundation
PI: Alexander Rasin, Senior Personnel: Karen Heart

Next Generation Fine-Grain Access Control Over Database
Queries
National Institute for Standards and Tech
PI: Alexander Rasin

Security Assessment of Zebra RFID Products
Zebra Technologies Corporation
PI: Filipo Sharevski

MEDIX: Medical Informatics Experiences in Undergraduate
Research
National Science Foundation
PI: Daniela Stan Raicu, Co-PI: Jacob Furst

MEDIX: Participant Support
National Science Foundation
PI: Daniela Stan Raicu, Co-PI: Jacob Furst

MEDIX: Principal Investigators Workshop 2020
National Science Foundation
PI: Daniela Stan Raicu, Co-PI: Jacob Furst

MEDIX: REU Site PI Meeting
National Science Foundation
PI: Daniela Stan Raicu, Co-PI: Jacob Furst

INTERNAL GRANT FUNDING

Design and Culture in Japan
DePaul University Quality of Instruction Council
PI: Shiro Akiyoshi

Hominidae Virtual Reality Film
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Brian Andrews

Short Film Finishing Funds and Festival Fee Support
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Shayna Connelly

Recognition of External Funding
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Lucia Dettori

Recognition of External Funding
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Sheena Erete

Big Shoulders International Student Film Festival
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Michael Flores

The Killing of David (docuseries)
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Michael Flores

Synthesize and Validate Locomotion Gaits for Soft Robots
DePaul University Academic Initiative Grant
PI: Isuru Godage

Reducing Foreign Language Anxiety Using an
E-Learning System
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Peter Hastings

The Pool
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Anna Hozian

Clustering Incomplete Data
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Iyad Kanj

Painting 3D Objects with Continuum Arms
DePaul University Academic Initiative Grant
PI: Iyad Kanj

Adding New Features to Existing Software Programs
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Wael Kessentini

Recognition of External Funding
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Tanu Malik

Design, Landscape, and Society
DePaul University Quality of Instruction Council
PI: Nathan Matteson

Designing the Next Generation of Personalized Recommenders
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Bamshad Mobasher

Power of the Few: Analyzing the Impact of Influential Users
DePaul University Academic Initiative Grant
PI: Bamshad Mobasher

Using Machine Learning to Battle the Infodemic of
Misinformation in the Age of COVID-19
DePaul University Academic Growth Innovation Fund
PI: Bamshad Mobasher

Inclusive Human Centered Automation of Health Systems
To Improve Patient Access, Patient Safety And Reduce
Physician Burnout
DePaul University Academic Growth Innovation Fund
PI: Enid Montague

Using Participatory Design to Identify Sociotechnical,
Cognitive and Design Needs for Cannabis Medicine
DePaul University Research Council
**PI: Enid Montague, Co-PIs: Olayele Adelakun, Douglas
Bruce, Elissa Foster**

Promoting Children as Critical Users and Creators of
Technologies: Adapting and Expanding Pilot Work
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Cynthia Putnam

Language of Opportunity
DePaul University Academic Initiative Grant
PI: Anuradha Rana

Pegged: A Short Film
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Brad Riddell

Seeing the Phylogenetic Forest AND the Trees
DePaul University Research Council
PI: John Rogers

Investigating Debugging by Novice Programmers
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Amber Settle

Election Interference Beyond Social Media Trolling
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Filipo Sharevski

ENFOLD
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Steve Socki

Collaboration with Sign Language Research Centers in the E.U.
DePaul University Research Council
PI: Rosalee Wolfe

Scouting Trip for Critical Foundations in Modern Design
DePaul University Quality of Instruction Council
PI: Lee Zelenak

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

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FACULTY FILM SCREENINGS AND RECOGNITION

**A SELECTION OF THE
RECOGNITION AND
SCREENINGS FACULTY FILMS
RECEIVED IN 2019-20**

147 Pianos
Dolores Wilbur (Director/Producer)
– Official Selection (2019), Film Fest Tucson

Anchor Baby (script)
Anna Hozian (Writer)
– Competitor (2020), The Pitch at Industry Days, Chicago International Film Festival
– “At the Table” Series (2020), SAG/AFTRA and IFP

Artist Statement
Shayna Connelly (Director)
– Official Selection (2019), Best of Chicago Underground Film Festival
– Nominee: Best Documentary (2019), Pennsylvania Indie Shorts
– Official Selection (2019), San Diego Underground Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Gimli Film Festival

Banana Season
James Choi (Producer), Raphael Nash (Producer)
– Official Selection (2019), Windy City International Film Festival

Bananas Girl
Shayna Connelly (Director), Savvas Paritsis (Colorist)
– Semi-Finalist Best Documentary (2020), Splice Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Brooklyn Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Kansas City Film Festival

Bernadette
John Psathas (Producer/Writer), Patrick Wimp (Producer/Writer/Director of Photography)
– Opening Night Feature Film (2019), Tallahassee Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Maryland International Film Festival

Brothers from the Suburbs
Patrick Wimp (Writer/Director), John Psathas (Writing Consultant/Assistant Director)
– Jury and Audience Awards: Best Digital Series (2019), Austin Film Festival
– Best Web Original (2019), HBO/BET Urbanworld Festival
– Best Direction: Digital Short Series (2019), SeriesFest Season 5
– Official Selection (2019), Atlanta Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Midwest Film Festival

Burnt
Devin Bell (Writer/Director/Producer)
– Official Selection (2019), Thessaloniki Animation Festival

Catatonic
Brian Zahm (Writer/Director/Cinematographer/Editor)
– Best Self-Funded Film (2020), Cine Pobre Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Athens International Film + Video Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Boston Underground Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Chattanooga Film Festival

counter//balance
Anuradha Rana (Director), B Rich (Producer/Cinematographer)
– Best Documentary Short (2020), OZ Indie Film Festival
– Short Documentary (2020), New Delhi Film Festival

Different This Year
Meghann Artes (Director), Anna Hozian (Writer), Eric Liberacki (Director of Photography)
– Best Short Film (2019), Focus International Film Festival
– Best Micro-Short (2019), Red Dirt Film Festival

Distant Learners
Brad Riddell (Co-Writer/Director/Producer)
– Official Selection (2020), Sicily Web Fest
– Official Selection (2020), Baltimore New Media Web Festival

Engage Earth
James Choi (Director/Editor/Producer), Brian Andrews (Visual Effects Artist)
– Semi-Finalist (2020), Buenos Aires International Film Festival
– Semi-Finalist (2020), Dumbo Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Museum of Modern Art in Sao Paolo
– Official Selection (2020), Beloit International Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Ethnografilms

Ephemeral Orphanage
Lisa Barcy (Director)
– Semi-Finalist (2020), New York Animation Film Awards
– Official Selection (2020), Montreal International Animated Film Festival

Este Es Tu Cuba
Dan Klein (Writer)
– HBO Ibero-American Short Film Award (2019), Miami International Film Festival
– Best Drama (2019), College Television Awards
– Audience Award (2019), Newport Film Festival
– BAFTA Shortlist (2019), British Academy of Film and Television Arts
– Official Selection (2020), Cleveland International Film Festival

Every Ghost Has Its Orchestra
Shayna Connelly (Director)
– Official Selection (2019), International Free Thought Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Changing Face International Film Festival (Sydney, Australia)

*F*ck Yes*
Jessica King (Writer)
– Official Selection (2019), SECS Fest

*F*cked Up Point Blank*
Shayna Connelly (Director)
– Official Selection (2020), Darkroom Underground Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Melbourne Underground Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Antimatter
– Honorable Mention (2019), LA Underground Film Forum

FÔRET
Lisa Barcy (Director)
– Official Selection (2020), Manchester Experimental Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), New York City Independent Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Black Maria Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Chicago Underground Film Festival

Gardening at Night
Shayna Connelly (Director)
– Official Selection (2019), Autobahn Tour by STUFF MX

Hallowstide
Steve Socki (Director)
– Best Animation (2020), BridgeFest
– Best Experimental Film (2020), Stop Motion Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Experimental Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), FlickFair
– Official Selection (2020), Retro Avant Garde Film Festival

Hominidae
Brian Andrews (Writer/Director/Producer), Brian Ferguson (Animation Supervisor), Robert Steel (Composer)
– Finalist (2020), Kaleidoscope XR Showcase, South by Southwest
– Official Selection (2020), Sundance Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Cleveland International Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Virtual Reality & Arts Festival in Hamburg (VRHAM)
– Official Selection (2020), Taipei Film Festival

Inferno
Wendy Roderweiss (Director)
– Official Selection (2019), SeriesFest

Jessica
Amy Lockhart (Director)
– Official Selection (2020), Graffix Festival

The Kaleidoscope Guy at the Market
Michael Flores (Editor)
– Best Artistic Production (2019), Docutah International Film Festival
– Best Documentary Short (2019), Undo Divergent Film Awards
– Best Short Documentary (2020), Blow-up International Art House Film Festival
– Best Short Documentary (2020), Flathead Lake International Cinemafest
– Best Short Documentary (2020), Florence Film Awards

FACULTY FILM SCREENINGS AND RECOGNITION *CONTINUED*

Language of Opportunity

Anuradha Rana (Director), B Rich (Producer/Cinematographer)
– Awardee (2020), Tribeca Film Institute Network

Lipstick

Brian Zahm (Writer/Director), Brian Andrews (Visual Effects Artist)
– Best Gore and Horror Film (2019), Erotic Bizarre Art Film Festival

Make it a Great Day

Josh Jones (Director/Producer)
– Official Selection/10-Year Retrospective for Best Animated Short (2020), Albany Film Festival

Marquee

Brian Zahm (Writer/Director/Cinematographer/Editor)
– Official Selection (2020), Sound of Silence Film Festival Best of 15 Years

Motherland

Fatou Samba (Writer)
– Second Rounder: Drama Teleplay Plot (2019), Austin Film Festival

Oh Baby!

Meghann Artes (Director/Animator), Rob Steel (Composer), Brian Andrews (Visual Effects Supervisor), Chris Kalis (Title Sequence Designer)
– Best Experimental Film (2020), USA Film Festival
– Best Film (2020), Freedom Shorts
– Best Feel Good Film Award (2019), Grenada Afterglow Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), LA Shorts Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Festival du Nouveau Cinema

Pondlife

Amy Lockhart (Director)
– Official Selection (2019), Malt Adult #13
– Official Selection (2019), Columbus College of Art and Design
– Official Selection (2019), Skylab
– Official Selection (2019), Weird Things Gallery

Quiver

Shayna Connelly (Director), Brian Andrews (Visual Effects Supervisor)
– Best Director of a Short Film (2019), Southampton International Film Festival: Quiver
– Nighttime Thrills Award (2019), Chicago Southland International Film Festival
– Nominee: Best Short Film (2019), Reels of the Dead
– Official Selection by Invitation (2020), Phillip K. Dick Festival

Saint Frances

Alex Thompson (Director), James Choi (Producer), Raphael Nash (Producer)
– Official Selection (2019), Traverse City Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Calgary International Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Nashville International Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Tessalonika International Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), American Film Festival (Poland)
– Official Selection (2019), Cork Film Festival (Ireland)

Sparrow Duet

Steve Socki (Director)
– Best Animation (2020), BridgeFest

Stage Four

Wendy Roderweiss (Director)
– Official Selection (2020), Women in Comedy Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Windy City International Film Festival
– Official Selection (2019), Elgin Fringe Film Festival

Stan

Brian Zahm (Cinematographer/Colorist)
– Best Experimental Film (2020), ReelHE Art Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Athens International Film + Video Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Big Sky Documentary Festival
– Official Selection (2020), London Film Festival
– Official Selection (2020), Queens World Film Festival

Sun King

James Choi (Executive Producer)
– Official Selection (2020), Beloit International Film Festival

Those Shoes

Amy Lockhart (Director)
– Official Selection (2019), Giraf Festival



Memento Mori, Roadside Edition. Lisa Barcy. Collage in relief, with sewing patterns and found images, on Masonite. 18 x 24 in.

FACULTY EXHIBITIONS

Akiyoshi, Shiro. *Nuclear Club #2.* Itoya, Fukuoka, Japan. (2019)

Barcy, Lisa. *Memento Mori, Roadside Edition.* Women Made Gallery, Chicago, IL. (2019)

Barcy, Lisa. Series of pieces. Starlight Gallery, Harvard, IL. (2019)

Foss, Caleb. *The Annals of Hell.* Zakaib, Chicago, IL. (2019)

Foss, Caleb. *Exquisite Control.* Laboratory, Spokane WA. (2019)

Lockhart, Amy. *The Collegeist.* Collage in Motion and Cut Up or Shut Up, Albuquerque, NM. (2020)

Quinn, Heather. *Culture is their Fig Leaf: The Proletarian Hacking of High Capitalist Real Estate.* Project Anywhere. (2019)

Quinn, Heather. *The Fictional Nations of Fohn, Delta and Afterlife.* Typeforce 11, Chicago, IL. (2020).

Roberts, Scott D. Chicago Art Book Fair, Chicago IL. (2019).

Zahm, Brian. *Papi.* Single Channel Video Installation, Berlin Collective

STUDENT AND ALUMNI RECOGNITION & ACCOMPLISHMENTS



STUDENTS

- BS Computer Science student Tyler Nass is one of Chicago Inno's "25 under 25" most promising and accomplished innovators in Chicago's tech and startup scene.
- Graphic design student Claire Rosas's project "The Online Egg Community," which she made as part of two SoD courses, was announced an award winner for *Communication Arts* 10th Annual Typography Competition. Claire's work was one of 131 final selections (of over 1200 submissions) and among only 12 other student winners.
- CDM's Security Daemons team won the Midwest regionals of the Collegiate Cyber Defense Competition (CCDC) and placed fourth nationally.
- MFA Game Design students Monica Fan and Jess Reed were accepted into the HASTAC Scholars Program.
- PhD students Redar Ismail and Badar al Lawati were awarded Student Entrepreneurs of Year by the Coleman Center.
- Sun King*, a film crewed entirely by undergraduate film and television students and created as part of the SCA Indie Studio initiative, premiered at the Beloit Film Festival.
- Games developed by CDM student/alums were showcased at the 2019 Bit Bash, Chicago's largest games festival, held at the Museum of Science and Industry. The games included *Overtime and Sashimi Slammers* as well as games created during an IGDA Retro Game Jam held at CDM. Faculty Anna Anthropy's *All My Exes are in MechSuits* was also showcased.
- Graphic Design students Jeremy Rieger and Claire Rosas were included in GDUSA's "2020 Students to Watch."
- The Security Daemons also placed fourth in the Department of Energy CyberForce competition at Argonne. More than 100 teams from schools across the country competed.

ALUMNI

- Last Believer*, a documentary co-directed, co-produced, shot, edited, and scored by Travis Chandler (BA '08), debuted on WTTW.
- First-ever-CDM-MFA-graduate (and now adjunct) Patrick Wimp ('09) won the award for Best Scripted Digital Series at Austin Film Festival for *Brothers from the Suburbs*.
- Hayley Anderson (BA '12) was included in Forbes' "30 under 30" class of 2020. Hayley is the chief creative officer and cofounder of soona, a fast-casual photo and video service that empowers customers to get professional quality content for less than the price of stock.
- Alumnus Will Wright's (BFA '19) work *The Nation of Föhn: A Public Brand Manifesto* won a Society of Typographic Arts Award (STA100).
- Alexander Koester (BFA '19) was nominated for a Visual Effects Society award for his work on the commercial "I am Hunger in America."
- Producer/director Zanah Thirus (MS '17) was named to the Reel Chicago Black List.
- Dan Willis's short film *Wednesday* is licensed and available to watch on HBO.
- Chaz Bottoms (BFA '17) was on the animation team behind Lil Nas X's *Panini (remix)* music video, which was displayed during the Grammys. He also directed a new animated miniseries, *Dear John*, with John Legend.
- Gregory Dixon's (MFA '18) thesis film, *Olympia*, premiered on Aspire TV and is also available now through Amazon Prime.
- Saudi Arabian filmmaker Kamel Altamimi's (MFA '18) *Starting Point* won first place at the Elgin Film Festival.



Security Daemons

CDM IN THE NEWS

Highlighted news and media items featuring CDM programs, faculty and students, July 2019-June 2020

July 5 | India West

"DePaul University Indian American Computer Scientist Tanu Malik Receives NSF CAREER Grant"
Tanu Malik

July 16 | Chicago Reader

"DePaul Students Show Off the Future of Video Games" **Anna Anthropy, Will Meyers**, DePaul game program

July 18 | OZY

"How AI is Set to Make Online Shopping Even More Tempting" **Jacob Furst**

August 6 | Chicago Reader

"Through the Play Tangles & Plaques and a Series of Workshops, the Neo-Futurists Demystify Memory Loss"
Jen Ellison

August 22 | Comcast Newsmakers

"Increasing Access to the Film Industry" **Liliane Calfee**, DePaul/CHA Program

August 26 | Block Club Chicago

"Humboldt Park to Host 3-Day Film Festival as Part of Citywide Showcase"
DePaul animation program

September 4 | Gamasutra

"Getting the Best from Your Audio Department" **Elliot Callighan**

October 10 | Eagle Times

"Danielle Cherry Directs Two Films in her Hometown of Newport"
Danielle Cherry

November 5 | Block Club Chicago

"Christmas Window Already Going Up on State Street with Art from DePaul Students" **Meghann Artes**, animation students

November 8 | ABC Chicago

"DePaul Animation Students' Stop-Motion Christmas Film to Play in Loop Campus Window through Holiday Season" **Meghann Artes, Devin Bell, Thomas Newsome**

November 14 | CNBC

"How a 27-year-old Making \$112,000 Outside of Chicago Spends Her Money"
Gabriela Ariza

November 30 | Rock Paper Shotgun

"Priceless Play" *Cooking with Cat* (DePaul game students)

January 6 | US News & World Report

"Digital Solutions Can Address Problems of Student Mental Health"
Enid Montague

January 16 | The Hill

"Dangers of Artificial Intelligence in Medicine" **Enid Montague**

January 22 | ReelChicago

"Chicago-made X-Ray Spider Mutant Creeps into Sundance" **Brian Andrews**

January 30 | WBEZ

"Folded Map Participants Challenge Common Advice: Don't Go to the South or West Side" **Christina Harrington**

March 18 | Morning Consult

"Digital Access Has Now Become a Public Health Concern" **Christina Harrington**

March 24 | Scientific American

"Electronic Records Need an Ethical Tune-Up" **Enid Montague**

March 26 | Dice

"E-Commerce Web Designers: Rising Demand During COVID-19?"
Xiaowen Fang

April 20 | Make Magazine

"Chicago Shield" **Jay Margalus**, Illinois PPE Network

April 24 | Chicago SunTimes

"Need a Laugh Amid Coronavirus Blues? We've enlisted these Chicago comics to give you one" **Kevin Bozeman**

May 18 | WBEZ

"These DePaul Students are Tackling Grief—and Graduation—with Humor"
Courtney Hull, Emma Rosenthal

May 20 | WBEZ

"A DePaul Professor Uses 3D Printers to Make Face Shields for First Responders" **Jay Margalus**

May 23 | Office of the Mayor

"Mayor Lightfoot and First Lady Eshleman Launch Their Hallmark Citywide Youth Initiative – My Chi. My Future" **DePaul/School of Design**

May 28 | Screen Magazine

"Big Break for Chicago Pilot as SeriesFest Selects INFERNO"
Wendy Roderweiss, Project Blueprint

June 15 | Deaf News Today

"On this Day: First Deaf Computer PhD"
Karen Alkoby

WHERE WE'RE GOING

2020-21 PREVIEW

DESPORTS

The DeSports program is a new initiative funded by a grant from CME Group Foundation that involves CDM, DePaul's Department of Psychology and Orr Academy High School and George Washington High School, both in the CPS system. CDM Associate Dean Lucia Detorri is a PI on the grant, along with DePaul AVP Betty Shanahan and Professor Emeritus of Psychology Christopher Keys.

The program is scheduled to launch in the fall of 2020-21. Students will meet after school (virtually, for now) and develop strategies, resolve conflicts, and more. DePaul's gaming and computer science students serve as mentors, and faculty arrange for speakers from the gaming community and local technology companies to connect with the students and talk about career options. A group in the Department of Psychology that studies online gaming communities will conduct research associated with this initiative.

NEW MS IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

A new master's degree in artificial intelligence will begin in January 2021. Students will gain advanced technical skills and a deep understanding of concepts and techniques in artificial intelligence and machine learning to build and support AI empowered systems.

NEW BFA IN INDUSTRIAL DESIGN

Beginning in the fall 2020 quarter, a new bachelor's of fine arts in industrial design will be offered. The degree will appeal to hands-on, tangible learners who will complete the program with a significant portfolio that reflects their potential. Studio format courses will cover specific materials, processes, and fabrication techniques. A substantial number of technical courses in science and math plus computer-aided design/manufacturing/engineering (CAD/CAM/CAE) develop skills to draw, create, and interact with objects. Traditional art and design-allied fields are represented with courses in drawing, graphic design, and experience design. A unique aspect of this program is its emphasis on designing embedded objects, requiring the student to also study computer hardware and software.

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