

Noura Howell

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▷ APPOINTMENTS

- 2026 - Associate Professor
Centre for Software Technology in Vejle
Mærsk Mc-Kinney Moeller Institute (MMMI)
University of Southern Denmark
- 2021-25 Tenure-Track Assistant Professor and Director of the Future Feelings Lab
Digital Media in the School of Literature Media & Communication
Georgia Institute of Technology
- 2020-21 Assistant Professor
Department of Communication
North Carolina State University

▷ EDUCATION

- 2020 School of Information, University of California, Berkeley
Ph.D. in Information Management & Systems with a Designated Emphasis in New Media.
- 2012 Olin College of Engineering
B.S. in Engineering with a Concentration in Computing, and the program's emphasis on human-centered design.
- 2007-8 Mississippi State University
Gap year in pure math for fun—graph theory, group theory, topology—and music theory.

▷ PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

- 2026 Into the Makerverse: Communal Tangible Making and Place-Based Futuring with AI
Supratim Pait, Sylvia Janicki, Yuhan Hou, Crystal Byrd Farmer, Lorraine LaGasse Kowalski, Jeremiah Long, Angelina
Thaís Alvarenga Medina, Xingyu Li, Vyshnavi Namani, Lefton Lew, Michael Nitsche, Noura Howell
Tangible, Embedded, Embodied Interaction (TEI) - forthcoming March 2026
- Designing for Defamiliarization with Thermal Painting: Exploring Experiences of Dynamic Warmth in Painters'
Creative Processes
Supratim Pait, Sosuke Ichihashi, Xingyu Li, Haiqing Xu, Noura Howell
Tangible, Embedded, Embodied Interaction (TEI) Extended Abstracts - forthcoming March 2026
- PlayFutures: Imagining Civic Futures with AI and Puppets
Supratim Pait, Sumita Sharma, Ashley Frith, Michael Nitsche, Noura Howell
ACM SIG on Computer Science Education (SIGCSE) Technical Symposium- forthcoming Feb 2026

- 2025 From Regulation to Support: Centering Humans in Technology-Mediated Emotion Intervention in Care Contexts
Jiaying “Lizzy” Liu, Shuer Zhuo, Xingyu Li, Andrew Dillon, Noura Howell, Angela DR Smith, Yan Zhang
Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW)
- Queer Archival Un/Making as Tangible Information Activism
Alexandra Teixeira Riggs, Matthew Mosher, Anne Sullivan, Noura Howell
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)
- Queer/Crip Body Mapping: Expressing Dynamic Bodily Experiences with Data
Alexandra Teixeira Riggs, Sylvia Janicki, Tim Moesgen, Noura Howell, Karen Anne Cochrane
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)
- Designing for Rest: Rethinking Access for / from Chronic Illness
Sylvia Janicki, Julio de Pereda Banda, Lisette A Romero, Sarah R Harris, Xuanyu Guo, Noura Howell, Abigale Stangl
Human Factors in Computing Systems Extended Abstracts (alt.chi)
- Towards Designing for Everyday Thermal Experiences
Sosuke Ichihashi, Kosha Bheda, Noura Howell
Tangible, Embedded, Embodied Interaction (TEI)
- Mold Sounds: Queering Ecologies in Polyphonic Material Explorations
Alexandra Teixeira Riggs, Michael Nitsche, Noura Howell
Tangible, Embedded, Embodied Interaction (TEI)
- Swell by Light: An Approachable Technique for Freeform Raised Textures
Sosuke Ichihashi, Noura Howell, HyunJoo Oh
Tangible, Embedded, Embodied Interaction (TEI)
- 2024 What should we do with Emotion AI? Towards an agenda for the next 30 years
N Andalibi, L Stark, D McDuff, R Picard, J Gratch, N Howell
Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW) Extended Abstracts
- Reflective Design for Informal Participatory Algorithm Auditing: A Case Study with Emotion AI
N Howell, W Hartsoe, J Amin, V Namani
Nordic Human-Computer Interaction Conference (NordiCHI)
- Promoting Criticality with Design Futuring with Young Children
S Sharma, N Howell, L Ventä-Olkkonen, N Iivari, G Eden, H Hartikainen, M Kinnula, E Durall, M Nitsche, J Okkonen,
S Pait, E Rubegni, W Sluis-Thiescheffer, L van der Velden, U S Varanasi
Nordic Human-Computer Interaction Conference (NordiCHI)
- Hydroptical Thermal Feedback: Spatial Thermal Feedback Using Visible Lights and Water
S Ichihashi, M Inami, H-N Ho, N Howell
User Interface Software and Technology (UIST)
- Mapping Futures and Futuring in HCI/Design
T Jenkins, V Tsaknaki, N Howell, L Boer, R Wong, N Campo Woytuk, M L Juul Søndergaard
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Extended Abstracts

Advancing Creative Physical Computing Education: Designing, Sharing, and Taxonomizing Instructional Interventions

D Byrne, K DesPortes, N Howell, M Louw, S Sterman
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Extended Abstracts

“Tuning in and listening to the current”: Understanding Remote Ritual Practice in Sufi Communities

S Kozubaev, N Howell

Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)

In this year, the acceptance rate for papers on this track was 27%

Red [Redacted] Theatre: Queering Puzzle-Based Tangible Interaction Design

A Teixeira Riggs, R Donley, T M Gasque, N Howell, A Sullivan

Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)

Acceptance rate: 23%

Crip Reflections on Designing with Plants: Intersecting Disability Theory, Chronic Illness, and More-than-Human Design

S Janicki, N Parvin, N Howell

Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)

Best Paper Award

Acceptance rate: 27.% of papers submitted to this track were accepted. The Best Paper Award is reserved for the top 1% of accepted papers.

Designing an Archive of Feelings: Queering Tangible Interaction with Button Portraits

A Teixeira Riggs, S Janicki, N Howell, A Sullivan

Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)

Acceptance rate: 26%.

Queering/Crippling Technologies of Productivity

S Janicki, A Teixeira Riggs, N Howell, A Sullivan, A Stangle

Human Factors in Computing Systems Extended Abstracts (alt.chi)

Sensing Bodies: Engaging Postcolonial Histories through More-than-Human Interactions

S Janicki, A Teixeira Riggs, N Howell, A Sullivan, N Parvin

Tangible, Embedded, Embodied Interaction (TEI)

2023 Fabulation as an Approach for Design Futuring

M L Juul Søndergaard, N Campo Woytuk, N Howell, V Tsaknaki, K Helms, T Jenkins, P Sanches

Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)

Acceptance rate: 24%

Designing with Biosignals: Challenges, Opportunities, and Future Directions for Integrating Physiological Signals in Human-Computer Interaction

E R Stepanova, J Desnoyers-Stewart, A Kitson, B E Riecke, A N Antle, A El Ali, J Frey, V Tsaknaki, N Howell

Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Extended Abstracts

Towards Mutual Benefit: Reflecting on Artist Residencies as a Method for Collaboration in DIS

L Devendorf, L Buechley, N Howell, J Jacobs, H-L Kao, M Murer, D Rosner, N Ross, R Soden, J Tso, C Zheng

Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Extended Abstracts

Fabulating Biodata Futures for Flourishing and Vibrant Worlds
T Jenkins, M L Juul Søndergaard, P Sanches, V Tsaknaki, N Campo Woytuk, N Howell, K Helms, L Boer, J Tucker.
Nordic Design Research Society (Nordes) Extended Abstracts

2022 Diffraction-in-Action: Designerly Explorations of Agential Realism Through Lived Data
P Sanches, N Howell, V Tsaknaki, T Jenkins, K Helms
Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)

Honorable Mention Award

In this year, the acceptance rate for this type of submission at this venue was 14%. Honorable Mention is reserved for the top 5% of accepted papers.

Fabulating Biodata Futures for Living and Knowing Together
V Tsaknaki, P Sanches, T Jenkins, N Howell, L Boer, A Bitzouni
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)
Acceptance rate: 30%

Design Futuring for Love, Friendship, and Kinships: Five Perspectives on Intimacy
S Sharma, B F Schulte, R Fatás Arana, N Howell, A Twigger Holroyd, G Eden
Human Factors in Computing Systems Extended Abstracts (alt.chi)

Button Portraits: Embodying Queer History with Interactive Wearable Artifacts
A Teixeira Riggs, N Howell, A Sullivan
International Conference on Interactive Digital Storytelling (ICIDS)

Feeling Air: Exploring Aesthetic and Material Qualities of Architectural Inflatables
N Howell, S Protz, J Byrd, M Castellanos, A Elkins, J Hall, M Holdsworth, L Mallikeshwaran Rajagopal Sambasivan, C Noel, O Osiberu, R Patel, D Scallan, A Uhrich, A Anupam, B Bosley, R Donley, S Milkes Espinosa, M Ramirez, S Nayak, A-T Tran, Y Jia, Y Wang
Nordic Human-Computer Interaction Conference (NordiCHI) Extended Abstracts

2021 Cracks in the Success Narrative: Rethinking Failure in Design Research through a Retrospective Trioethnography
N Howell, A Desjardins, S Fox
ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (TOCHI).

Calling for a Plurality of Perspectives on Design Futuring: An Un-Manifesto
N Howell, B F Schulte, A Twigger Holroyd, R Fatás Arana, S Sharma, G Eden
Human Factors in Computing Systems Extended Abstracts (alt.chi)

2020 Expanding Modes of Reflection in Design Futuring
S Kozubaev, C Elsdén, N Howell, M L Juul Søndergaard, N Merrill, B Schulte, R Y Wong
Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
Acceptance rate: 23%

Teachable Machine: Approachable Web-Based Tool for Exploring Machine Learning Classification
M Carney, B Webster, I Alvarado, K Phillips, N Howell, J Griffith, J Jongejan, A Pitaru, A Chen
Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) Extended Abstracts

Challenges and Opportunities for Designing with Biodata as Material
V Tsaknaki, T Jenkins, L Boer, S Homewood, N Howell, P Sanches
Nordic Human-Computer Interaction Conference (NordiCHI) Extended Abstracts

- 2019 Life-Affirming Biosensing in Public: Sounding Heartbeats on a Red Bench
N Howell, G Niemeyer, K Ryokai
Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
Acceptance rate: 24%
- Vivewell: Speculating Near-Future Menstrual Tracking through Current Data Practices
S Fox, N Howell, R Wong, F Spektor
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)
Acceptance rate: 25%
- 2018 Tensions of Data-Driven Reflection: A Case Study of Real-Time Emotional Biosensing
N Howell, L Devendorf, T Vega Gálvez, R Tian, K Ryokai
Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
Acceptance rate: 26%
- Emotional Biosensing: Exploring Critical Alternatives
N Howell, J Chuang, A De Kosnik, G Niemeyer, K Ryokai
Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction (CSCW)
Acceptance rate: 26%
- Capturing, Representing, and Interacting with Laughter
K Ryokai, E Duran, N Howell, J Gillick, D Bamman
Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
Acceptance rate: 26%
- Doodle Daydream: An Interactive Display to Support Playful and Creative Interactions Between Coworkers
S Elvitigala, S W T Chen, N Howell, D J C Matthies, S Nanayakkara
Proceedings of the Symposium on Spatial User Interaction
- 2017 Interrogating Biosensing in Everyday Life
N Merrill, R Wong, N Howell, L Stark, L Leahu, D Nafus
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Extended Abstracts
- Celebrating Laughter: Capturing and Sharing Tangible Representations of Laughter
K Ryokai, E Duran, D Bseiso, N Howell, J W Jun
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Extended Abstracts
Acceptance rate: 22%
- 2016 Biosignals as Social Cues: Ambiguity and Emotional Interpretation in Social Displays of Skin Conductance
N Howell, L Devendorf, R Tian, T Vega Gálvez, N-W Gong, I Poupyrev, E Paulos, K Ryokai
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)
Acceptance rate: 26%
- "I don't want to wear a screen": Probing Perceptions of and Possibilities for Dynamic Displays on Clothing
L Devendorf, J Lo, N Howell, J L Lee, N-W Gong, M E Karagozler, S Fukuhara, I Poupyrev, E Paulos, K Ryokai
Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
- Best Paper Award**
The Best Paper Award is reserved for the top 1% of accepted papers.
- Representation and Interpretation of Biosensing
Noura Howell
Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Extended Abstracts

- 2013 On the L(2,1)-Labelings of Amalgamations of Graphs
S Spence Adams, N Howell, N Karst, D Sakai Troxell, J Zhu
Discrete Applied Mathematics
- 2009 Effect of Microbial Pretreatment on Enzymatic Hydrolysis and Fermentation of Cotton Stalks for Ethanol Production
J Shi, R R Sharma-Shivappa, M Chinn, N Howell
Biomass and Bioenergy

▷ OTHER WRITINGS

- 2024 Reflecting on the Role of Embodiment in Sufi Zikr
Noura Howell, Sandjar Kozubaev
Position paper at workshop Navigating Intersections of Religion/Spirituality and HCI, NordiCHI
- PlayFutures: Imagining Civic Futures with AI and Puppets
S Pait, S Sharma, A Frith, M Nitsche, N Howell
Position paper at workshop on Child-Centred AI Design, CHI 2024
- 2023 Fast-Switching Spatial Thermal Display Using Water and Visible Lights
S Ichihashi, M Inami, N Howell
Position paper at workshop Smell, Taste, and Temperature Interfaces, CHI
- 2022 Comments in response to the Federal Trade Commission’s Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) on a Trade Regulation Rule on Commercial Surveillance and Data Security
R Wong, W Hartsoe, N Howell
Comment ID FTC-2022-0053-1100
- Children are the Future of Emotion AI
N Howell
Position paper at workshop Age Against the Machine: Designing Ethical AI for and with Children, NordiCHI
- Years, Illness, Wildfires, Pandemic: Time and ‘External Factors’ in Design Ideation Processes
N Howell
Position paper at workshop Time and Its Study in Design Ideation Processes, NordiCHI
- Exploring Architectural Inflatables and Emotion AI to Activate Affective Public Space
N Howell
Position paper at workshop Workshop on Tangible Interaction for Wellbeing, CHI
- 2020 Opacity as Stubborn, Resistant Uncertainty
N Howell
Position paper at workshop Embracing Uncertainty in HCI, CHI
- 2019 Heart Sounds as a Means of Giving Form to Critical Alternatives with Biosensory Data
N Howell
Position paper at workshop Doing Things with Research through Design, CHI

- 2018 Reconfiguring Desire & Data
N Howell, G Niemeyer
Position paper at workshop Grand Visions for Post-Capitalist Human-Computer Interaction, CHI
- 2017 Personal Reflection as Creative Practice in Collaboration with Biosensing Machines
N Howell
Position paper at workshop Mixed-Initiative Creative Interfaces, CHI
- 2016 Textiles as On-Body Interactive Surfaces
N Howell
Position paper at workshop Digital Craftsmanship: HCI Takes on Technology as an Expressive Medium, DIS
- 2015 Connecting Two Oakland Neighborhoods: Surveillance and Self-Representation
N Howell
Position paper at workshop Inviting Participation through IoT: Experiments and Performances in Public Spaces, Critical Alternatives Decennial Conference in Aarhus

▷ ART EXHIBITIONS & PERFORMANCES

Heart Sounds Bench, 2024. Atlanta Art Fair. Atlanta, US.

Heart Sounds Bench, 2022. Georgia Tech Library Art Gallery, Atlanta, US.

Embodied Transductions, 2022. New Interfaces for Musical Expression music and performances track.

Infrastructural Membranes, 2022. Ferst Arts Center, Atlanta, US.

Feeling Air: A Psycho-Speculative Inflatable Happening, 2021. Black Mountain College Museum + Arts Center Annual Conference, Asheville, US, with Shawn Protz and students at Georgia Tech and N.C. State University.

Heart Sounds Buckets, 2019. Worth Ryder Art Gallery, Berkeley, US, with Stephanie Tang, Kimiko Ryokai.

Salaam Participatory Peace Sculpture, 2018. Figment Arts Festival, Oakland, US, with Stan Clark, Sahil Mohan.

Ebb Color-Changing Fabric, 2018. Tech Museum of the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society, Berkeley, US, with Laura Devendorf et al.

Salaam Participatory Peace Sculpture, 2017. Islamophobia Conference, Berkeley, US, with Stan Clark, Sahil Mohan.

▷ GRANTS & AWARDS

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|------|----|--------|--|
| 2025 | PI | \$10K | Community-Engaged Environmental Data Displays for Understanding the Environmental Impact of AI
Georgia Institute of Technology: Undergraduate Sustainability Education Innovation with Co-PIs Joe Bozeman and Michael Nitsche, community partner Decatur Makers |
| | PI | \$10K | Sustainable Thermoregulation Strategies for Climate Change Resilience
Georgia Institute of Technology: Institute for Matter and Systems Initiative Lead with Co-PIs Joe Bozeman and Matthew Flavin |
| 2024 | PI | \$656K | Critically Reimagining Emotion AI by Combining AI Literacy & Design Futuring
NSF CAREER (CISE IIS HCC) |

	PI	\$70K	Applying Generative AI for STEAM Education: Supporting AI literacy and community engagement with marginalized youth Georgia Institute of Technology: IDEAS – Institute for Data Engineering and Science with Co-PI Michael Nitsche, community partner Decatur Makers
	PI	\$10K	Microscale Thermal Tech for Sustainability: Integrating Multidisciplinary Perspectives with Design Futuring Scenarios Georgia Institute of Technology: Institute for Matter and Systems Initiative Lead with Co-PI Joe Bozeman
	Co-PI	\$10K	Community-Engaged and Visceral Art Components for Smart and Sustainable Cities Georgia Institute of Technology Undergraduate Sustainability Education Innovation Grant with PI Joe Bozeman
	PI	\$5K	Generating Queer Histories: Prompting Critical Reflections on Generative AI in the Archives Atlanta Interdisciplinary AI Network with PhD Candidate Alexandra Teixeira Riggs
2023	PI	\$5K	FuturesAtlanta: Creative Engagement with Generative AI Art as a Method for Designing Local Community Futures with Children in Atlanta Atlanta Interdisciplinary AI Network with PhD Student Supratim Pait
	PI	\$10K	High-Resolution, Fast-Switching, Non-Contact Thermal Interfaces Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Award
	PI	\$6K	Novel Thermal Interfaces Georgia Institute of Technology COVID Faculty Relief Fund
	PI	\$4.7K	Towards Ethical, Inclusive Emotion AI Futures Georgia Institute of Technology Small Grant for Research
2022	PI	\$8.8K	PREMIER: Performance Residencies in Electronic Music for Interdisciplinary Education Research Georgia Institute of Technology GVU/IPaT Community Engagement Grant with Co-PI Alex Cohen
	Co-PI	\$50K	Computational Craft Community Team Building Georgia Institute of Technology Provost Funding with PI Anne Sullivan, Co-PIs Vernelle Noel, Michael Nitsche, Sabetta Matsumoto
	PI	\$5K	Exploring the Promise and Peril of Emotion AI Georgia Institute of Technology Small Grant for Research
	PI	\$6.5K	Emotion AI - Novel Facial Recognition Tech that Predicts Emotions - Investigating Sociotechnical Implications of Emotion AI Georgia Institute of Technology COVID Faculty Relief Fund

2021	PI	\$10K	Engaging Diverse Students and Public Audiences with TensorFlow Emotion ML and Inflatable Architectural Immersive Environments with Co-PI Shawn Protz Google TensorFlow Faculty Award
2020	Co-R*	\$4K	An Alternate Lexicon for AI with collaborators Noopur Raval and Co-PI Morgan Ames Berkeley Center for Technology, Society, & Policy and Algorithmic Fairness & Opacity Group
2019	R*	\$25K	Speculating ‘Smart City’ Cybersecurity with the Heart Sounds Bench: Détourning Data and Surveillance in Public Space with mentor Kimiko Ryokai Berkeley Center for Long Term Cybersecurity
	Co-R*	\$5K	Engaging Expert Stakeholders about the Future of Menstrual Biosensing Technology with collaborators Sarah Fox, Richmond Wong, and Franchesca Spektor Berkeley Center for Technology, Society, & Policy and Center for Long Term Cybersecurity
	R*	\$1.5K	The Heart Sounds Bench with mentee Stephanie Tang Berkeley New Media Undergraduate Research Mentorship Award
2018	R*	\$4K	Re-Centering the Body in Technological Utopias with mentee Franchesca Spektor and mentor John Chuang Berkeley Tech for Social Good
	R*	\$2K	BaBench: Exploring Speculative Futures for Biosensing in Public Space Berkeley Jacobs Innovation Center
	R*	-	Berkeley Arts Research Center Fellowship with mentor Greg Niemeyer
	Co-R*	\$5K	Menstrual Biosensing Survival Guide with collaborators Richmond Wong and Sarah Fox Berkeley Center for Technology, Society, & Policy and Center for Long Term Cybersecurity
	R*	\$1.5K	The Heart Sounds Bench with mentee Victor Iancu Berkeley New Media Undergraduate Research Mentorship Award
	R*	-	Feeler Crawler Octopoets with mentee Wenny Miao and mentor Greg Niemeyer Berkeley New Media Summer Research Award
	R*	\$4K	Berkeley Graduate Division Summer Grant
2017		-	Berkeley Outstanding Student Instructor Award
2014		\$21K	Berkeley Cota Robles Fellowship

*As a PhD student at the time, I could not officially PI grants, but I planned the research, wrote the grant proposals and budgets, did the research, wrote the research publications, and worked with finance admin. These grants came out of my research agenda, while faculty mentors signed off and gave high level advice.

▷ TEACHING

Computer as Expressive Medium

Lead instructor, Georgia Tech, 2022, 2024. Creative coding in p5.js for interactive media art, plus critical analysis of digital art.

Principles of Interaction Design

Lead instructor, Georgia Tech, 2022-5. Designing and evaluating screen-based interfaces. Contextual inquiry, task analysis, accessibility audit, heuristic evaluations.

Critical Making with Emotion AI

Lead instructor, Georgia Tech, 2021. Designing and building interactive art installations that use emotion AI to analyze facial imagery to classify emotion, to prompt critical reflect on social impacts of emotion AI.

Creative Programming & Electronics

Teaching assistant, UC Berkeley, 2018. Hands-on Arduino, p5.js, circuits, and soldering.

Biosensing Technologies in Everyday Life

Lead instructor, NC State University, 2021. Readings, discussion, and student-driven projects on sociotechnical implications of biosensing technologies such as algorithmic oppression, surveillance, and emotional biosensing.

Critical Making & Design Futuring

Lead instructor, NC State University, 2020, 2021. Readings, discussion, and student-driven design futuring projects on topics such as algorithmic oppression, facial recognition, biometric surveillance, content moderation, etc.

Theory & Practice of Tangible User Interfaces

Teaching assistant, UC Berkeley, 2016, 2017, 2018. Curriculum development, leading labs on embodied interaction, design theory, Arduino, circuits, soldering. Design critique and project mentorship.

Creative Code Immersive

Teaching assistant, Gray Area Foundation for the Arts, 2014. Night class for artists. Arduino, Processing, circuits, and JavaScript.

Deconstructing Data Science

Teaching assistant, UC Berkeley, 2016. Machine learning methods with critical social analysis of assumptions and bias embedded in algorithms and how these can reinforce inequality. Python tutoring, project advising.

▷ ADVISING

PhD Advisor

Supratim Pait

Xingyu Li

Alexandra Teixeira Riggs, “Designing with Ephemera: Queering Tangible Interaction Design in Archival Experiences,” anticipated graduation 2026

Sylvia Janicki, “Feeling Environmental Entanglements: A Crip Posthuman Approach on Designing within Precarious Worlds,” 2025

Sosuke Ichihashi, “Resonant Atmospheres: Prototyping Embodied Perception Interactions,” 2026

PhD Committee

Sara Milkes Espinosa, “Death Piles, Dead labor and Dead White Man’s Clothes: A Study Of Platform Labor In US-based Online Secondhand Markets,” 2025

Yuchen Zhao, “BioXR: Enhancing Engagement Experience with Biosensing and Immersive Media”, 2026

Shubhangi Gupta, “Good Enough Explanations: How Can Local Publics Understand and Explain Civic AI,” 2024

Erin Truesdell, “Designing Controllers for Collaborative Play,” graduated 2023

Rachel Donley

Inha Cha

Chengzhi Zhang

MFA Committee

Cheyenne Hendrickson, “Auscultation,” 2025, Georgia State University

PhD External Evaluator / Censor

- Yann Seznec, “Play/Destroy: Sonic Interactions for a Dying World,” 2026, KTH Stockholm, Sweden
- Chiara di Lodovico, “Undefined Self: Designing with and for Ambiguity in Self-Tracking Wearables and Data Representation,” 2024, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Gabriele Barzilai, “Aesthetic Interactions: Raising Ethical Awareness through Multisensory Systems,” 2024, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Vipula Dissanayake, “Multimodal Emotion Recognition in the Wild using Unsupervised Representation Learning Techniques,” 2022, University of Auckland, New Zealand

▷ ACADEMIC SERVICE

Track Chair

- 2025 Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Pictorials
- 2023 Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) Workshops

Subcommittee Chair

- 2025 Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) Papers Design Subcommittee

Associate Chair

- 2022-24 Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
- 2019-24 Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)
- 2023 Tangible, Embedded, and Embodied Interaction (TEI)
- 2023 Academic Mindtrek Papers

Reviewer

- 2024 NordiCHI (Nordic Conference on Computer-Human Interaction)
- 2017-23 Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)
- 2016-22 Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
- 2021-22 Transactions on Human-Computer Interaction (ToCHI)
- 2018-22 Tangible Embedded Embodied Interactions (TEI)
- 2018-22 NordiCHI
- 2022 India HCI
- 2019-21 Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)
- 2021 National Science Foundation of the US (NSF)
- 2021 Journal of Textile Design Research and Practice
- 2020 ACM Group
- 2017 Design Issues

University Committees

- 2024-26 PhD Committee, Georgia Tech Dept. of Digital Media
- 2024-25 Hiring Committee, Georgia Tech Dept. of Digital Media, for two tenure-track open rank positions
- 2023-26 Institute Graduate Curriculum Committee, Georgia Tech
- 2023-24 Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, Computational Media Program, Georgia Tech
- 2023-24 Community Committee, Georgia Tech Dept. of Digital Media
- 2022-23 Executive Committee, Georgia Tech School of Literature, Media, & Communication
- 2020-21 Grants Committee, NC State Dept. of Communication
- 2020-21 Peer Teaching Evaluations Standards & Scheduling, NC State Dept. of Communication
- 2019 Office Redesign Committee, UC Berkeley School of Information
- 2015-16 PhD Student Representative to the Faculty, UC Berkeley School of Information

▷ WORK EXPERIENCE & INDUSTRY COLLABORATIONS

North Carolina State University
Assistant professor, Communication Dept., 2020 - 2021

Google ATAP Project Jacquard
Research collaborator, e-textile data display, 2016

Intel Labs
Software developer for Galileo IoT programming kit UI design and code, multi client sync protocol, 2014

Augmented Human Lab
Visiting researcher with Suranga Nanayakkara at Singapore University of Technology & Design, 2017

The Echo Nest, later startup bought by Spotify
Software developer. Data viz, full stack web, dashboard, parallelization for SiriusXM, 2012 - 2013

Army Corps of Engineers
Parallelized 10K+ line FORTRAN model with OpenMP, 2007

▷ INVITED TALKS & PANELS

Applying Generative AI for STEAM Education: Supporting AI Literacy and Community Engagement with Marginalized Youth. Generative AI Summit, Georgia Tech Institute for Data Engineering and Science, Atlanta, US, 2024.

Reimagining Creativity: a Conversation about AI, Data, and Robotics in Art. Panelist with Jason Freeman, Bojana Ginn, Sam Thurman. Moderator Birney Robert. Georgia Tech, Atlanta, US, 2024.

PlayFutures: Reimagining Community Futures with Children and AI. Atlanta Interdisciplinary AI Network Kickoff Meeting, Atlanta, US, 2024.

AI, Ethics, & Community Futures. Decatur Makers Members Meeting, Atlanta, US, 2024.

Panelist for The Role of Generative AI in Teaching and Research in LMC. Panelist with Richmond Wong, Ida Yoshinaga, Brian Magerko, Zita Hüsing, Mark Leibert, Andrew Nance. Organizers Jay Bolter and Yeqing Kong. Georgia Tech, Atlanta, US, 2024.

Critical AI Literacy for Children with Schools in India, Finland, and the USA. Grace Hopper Conference for Women in Computing. With Co-Presenter Sumita Sharma. Orlando, FL, US, 2023.

Emotion AI and Fabulation: Seeking Biopolitical Futures of Respectful Care. Guest lecture and workshop facilitator in the course Biosensory Computing in the School of Information at UC Berkeley, course instructor John Chuang. 2023.

Emotion AI and Fabulation: Seeking Biopolitical Futures of Respectful Care. Keynote speaker at workshop by Nordic Fabulation Network. Umeå, Sweden, 2023.

Introduction to Collaborative Autoethnography. Invited talk in Querying Experience workshop, Novel Interfaces for Musical Expression (NIME) conference. Online and Mexico City, 2023.

ChatGPT, ethics, and education for K12 teachers. Talk for GoSTEAM conference. With Sumita Sharma. CEISMC, Georgia Tech, Atlanta, US, 2023.

STEM for Enacting Ethical Change lecture with Finland high school students. Online to Oulu, Finland, 2023.

Full Radius Dance film screening of Extension of Self: a dance between human and digital. Panelist. Georgia Tech University, 2023.

Emotional Robots and Digital Hormones: Japanese Perspectives on Human-Robot Coexistence, Jennifer Robertson book talk respondent. In the talk series Emerging Technologies and the Future of the Humanities. Emory University, US, 2023.

Toward an Affirmative Biopolitics: Reimagining Biodata with Feeling and Fabulation. Talk with Women in Music Technology. Georgia Tech, US, 2023.

Artists-in-Residence Panel for artists of PREMIER, Media Arts, and Library Artists-in-Residence programs. Moderator. Georgia Tech, US, 2023.

Exploring Emotion AI Ethics by Designing Tangible, Embodied, Social, Emotional Experiences with Biodata. Ethics & Coffee talk series. Georgia Tech, US, 2023.

Artists-in-Residence of PREMIER, Media Arts, and Library Artists-in-Residence programs. Panelist for Meet the Artists Reception. Georgia Tech, US, 2023.

Think Tank on Artist Residencies. Moderator for IPaT Tuesday Think Tank. Georgia Tech, US, 2022.

Design Futuring. Led a two-day invited workshop at University of Oulu, Finland, 2022.

Towards an Affirmative Biopolitics: Reimagining Biodata with Feeling and Fabulation. Invited lecture at Aalto University, as part of the Critical AI & Crisis Interrogatives Seminar. Aalto University, Finland, 2022.

Women in AI Finland invited talk with middle schoolers on AI and AI careers. International School in Oulu, Finland, 2022.

Community Conversation: Impact, Arts, and Technology. Invited panelist alongside Gabriel Kahane and Felipe Barral. Hosted by the Atlanta Opera and Georgia Tech Arts. Atlanta, US, 2022.

Designing for Emotional Meaning-Making with Data. Invited lecture at The Scholars' Lab, University of Virginia, US, 2022.

Exploring the Promise and Peril of Emotion AI, Designing for Emotional Meaning-Making with Data, and Imagining an Affirmative Biopolitics with Data. Invited lecture at the GVVU Seminar Series, Georgia Tech, US, 2021.

Designing for Emotional Meaning-Making with Data: Imagining an Affirmative Biopolitics. Invited lecture at the Coffee & Viz Research Exchange, North Carolina State University, US, 2021.

Beyond Big Tech: Careers in Social Impact, Tech for Good, and Research. Panelist, UC Berkeley, 2021.

Diversity Admissions Panel, UC Berkeley, 2020.

Reimagining Cybersecurity through the Design of the Heart Sounds Bench, talk at Center for Long-Term Cybersecurity Research Exchange, Berkeley, US, 2019.

Emotional Biosensing, talk at InfoCamp Conference, Berkeley, US, 2019.

Emotional Biosensing, talk at Bay Area Signal Hackers, Pandora, Oakland, US, 2019.

A Case Study of Emotional Biosensing: Tensions of Data-Driven Reflection, for the Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S), Boston, US, 2017.

Design Thinking: From Idea to Innovation, workshop facilitator for tech industry executives with the Augmented Human Lab, Colombo, Sri Lanka, 2017.

Emotional Biosensing, guest lecture for the class Mind-Reading and Telepathy for Beginners and Intermediates at UC Berkeley, 2017.

Machine Learning Introduction, guest lecture for the class City Planning 101 at UC Berkeley, 2017.

Information vs. Interaction: A Case Study of Affective Computing, lecture for the class Deconstructing Data Science at UC Berkeley, 2016.

Rethinking Data with Emotion and Materiality, guest lecture for the class Sensors, Humans, Data, Apps at UC Berkeley, 2016.

Rethinking Data with Emotion and Materiality, lecture for the class Tangible User Interfaces at UC Berkeley, 2016.

▷ PRESS COVERAGE

Podcast *Fields in Flux* guest, host Mike Filler, with collaborator Joe Bozeman, about sustainable thermoregulation strategies for climate change resilience, 2025.

“Spreading Awareness of Emotion AI.” Dean’s Report, Ivan Allen College, Georgia Institute of Technology, 2025.

“Georgia Tech Researchers Aim to Increase Awareness of Emotion AI — By Letting People Try It.” Article by Stephanie Kadel for Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts at Georgia Institute of Technology, 2025.

“Reshaping the Future of Emotion AI.” Article by Neema Tavakolian for Tech Square ATL, 2025.

“Noura Howell Receives NSF CAREER Award to Study Emotion AI.” Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts at Georgia Institute of Technology, 2024.

“New Research Embodies Queer History Through Artifacts.” Article by Tess Malone for Georgia Institute of Technology, 2023.

Radio interview with NPR City Lights, host Lois Reitzes, with curator Birney Robert, about my work the Heart Sounds Bench exhibited in *Extension of Self*, 2022.