

SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE | March 31, 2021

A mid-week update from the SCS Dean's Office | [SCS NEWS](#) | [SCS EVENTS](#)

Earlier this week, another act of racial violence made national news – this time against a Filipino woman in New York City. Throughout the course of this pandemic, there has been an increase in racism and violence toward Asian, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander communities. At CMU and in SCS, we once again denounce such acts of racism and xenophobia.

Watch for more in this Friday's SCS DEI Update. In the meantime, if you have any suggestions for a program or event that you believe may be helpful if hosted for SCS audiences, please share it with a [DEI committee member](#) from your department or send email to SCS-DEI@cs.cmu.edu.

COVID-19 vaccinations are happening at a more rapid pace, but it is important to stay vigilant with CMU's testing and mitigation measures: participate in weekly [Tartan Testing](#), wear face masks when not in your residence, keep your distance, wash your hands and take CMU's [daily self-assessment survey](#).

While learning and working remotely, together we've worked hard during the past year to get where we are. But the better we are now with testing and mitigation measures, the sooner we'll be able to return to some version of pre-pandemic operations.

TAKE THE [SYMPTOM SURVEY](#) DAILY | TAKE THE [TARTAN TEST](#) WEEKLY

All of us share [A Tartan's Responsibility](#). As members of the CMU community we must do our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

SCS NEWS - AWARDS

— The [IEEE Computer Society has honored Computer Science Department professor Guy Blelloch](#) with the 2021 [Charles Babbage Award](#) for his contributions to parallel programming, parallel algorithms and the interface between them. Join me in congratulating Guy on a deserved honor!

— To adjust to teaching virtually during the pandemic, CSD associate professor David Woodruff let his students set the pace. That meant sticking around on Zoom for an extra 20 minutes at the end of lectures, longer office hours, cutting one lecture from his courses to slow the pace – and now [being honored by students for his dedication](#) with this year's [Herbert Simon Award for Teaching Excellence in Computer Science](#). Congratulations, David!

— Congratulations also to five SCS faculty members who recently earned National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER) awards – the foundation's most prestigious award for early-career faculty. These CAREER [awards total \\$2.84 million and will fund research projects](#) ranging from algorithms to robotics. Award recipients are assistant professors in SCS including [Lining Yao](#) in the Human-Computer Interaction Institute; [David Held](#) and [Ioannis Gkioulekas](#) in the Robotics Institute; [Ameet Talwalkar](#) in the Machine Learning Department; and [Pravesh Kothari](#) in the Computer Science Department.

TODAY...

— [ENAiBLE Speaker Series](#), 1:30 p.m. – Join the “ENAiBLing Innovation in Retail and Services” conversation with [Sean Ammirati](#), Distinguished Service Professor of Entrepreneurship in the Tepper School of Business and [Paul Pangaro](#), Professor of Practice in the HCII. [Register now!](#)

EVENTS TOMORROW

— Thursday, April 1, 4 p.m. – The SCS New Faculty Intro Series continues. Meet two new SCS faculty members, assistant professor from the HCII Motahhare Eslami and assistant professor from ML and the ISR Hoda Heidari and learn more about their research. [Register here](#).

— Thursday, April 1, 4:30 p.m. – Founder and CEO of [Black Tech Nation](#), Kelauni Jasmyn, will kick off the SCS DEI Seminar Series. Visit the [seminar page](#) for more information and for dates of future seminars.

— Thursday, April 1, 6 p.m. – the annual April Fools' Day multi-disciplinary CS conference, SIGBOVIK 2021, returns for its 15th year. [Check here](#) tomorrow for the link to the conference stream.

GRAD STUDENTS AND POSTDOCS: APPLY BY APRIL 5

— Graduate students and postdocs are encouraged to apply to 3M's RISE (Raising Influence in Science and Engineering) conference, to be hosted virtually June 23-25. RISE introduces emerging female and underrepresented doctoral/postdoctoral students in science and engineering to a wide range of rewarding careers in research and development at 3M. Ideal applicants are expected to complete their graduate degree or postdoctoral appointment within 18 months of the RISE conference. [Learn more and apply here](#) by April 5.

SCS@HOME

— Be sure to catch the current episode of [SCS@home](#) (Episode 20), where we check in with students – in many locations during this semester – and get their answers to a few more thought-provoking questions.

NEXT WEEK

— Thursday, April 8, 4 p.m. – The SCS New Faculty Intro Series continues. Meet two new SCS faculty members, assistant professors from the HCII Sarah Fox and Ken Holstein and learn more about their research. Be sure to [register and plan to attend](#).

TO THE MOON

— This fall, more than 200 CMU students past and present will hold their collective breath as a boxy robot named [Iris](#) heads to the moon. If all goes as planned, the lunar rover will boast a lot of firsts: first American rover and first nanorover on the moon, and the first rover designed and built by students. As the students prepare to launch, you can [learn more or offer support here](#).

Until next week,
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REMEMBER YOUR RESOURCES

Connect with a [Dean's Advisory Committee](#) if you have questions or concerns you want to share.

Connect with a representative leader from [SCS Council](#) if you'd like to submit a topic for Council to consider.

Coronavirus [Updates & Information](#) and [FAQ](#) | CMU [Health Services](#), 412-268-2157

[SCS Alerts & Resources](#) | [For Students](#) | [For Staff](#) | [For Faculty](#) | [For Researchers](#)