

## SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE | September 15, 2021

A midweek update from the SCS Dean's Office | [FACIAL COVERINGS](#) | [VACCINE DATABASE](#)

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### ON CAMPUS? MASK UP!

Everyone – vaccinated or unvaccinated – must [wear facial coverings](#) sufficient to cover your nose and mouth when on campus. Exceptions are only while eating or drinking or when alone in an office, assigned residence hall room or enclosed vehicle. When outdoors, facial coverings are expected to be worn if physical distancing of six feet or more cannot be maintained.

### VACCINATION REQUIREMENT

Faculty and staff: upload confirmation of your vaccination status to the [COVID-19 Vaccine Database](#) before September 30. [Schedule an appointment](#) during CMU's [free vaccine clinics](#) on September 17 or 24, 1 - 4 p.m.

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### “BRINGING AI TO THE WORLD”

What role have CMU faculty and alumni played in bringing AI to the world? On Tuesday, September 21, at 1 p.m., join senior AI major Simran Kaur when she kicks off a one-hour discussion with Reid Simmons, research professor and director of SCS's undergraduate AI major; alumnus Monte Zweben, CEO of Controlrooms.ai; and Cade Metz, emerging technology correspondent for The New York Times and author of “[Genius Makers](#): The Mavericks Who Brought AI to Google, Facebook and the World,” for a discussion of the history and future of AI. [RSVP to receive event details](#) including the Zoom link.

### 2021 CYLAB ANNUAL PARTNERS CONFERENCE (virtual)

SCS faculty and staff are invited on October 5 and 6 to learn more about CyLab research via 10-minute talks by more than 35 faculty, researchers and students. This conference will also be live-streamed 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. ET both days. Check out the [agenda](#). If you'd like to attend, complete the [registration form](#) and select the 'CyLab/CMU Faculty and Staff' option. Contact [Jamie Scanlon](#) with questions.

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### SCS NEWS & AWARDS

— Congratulations to all of us! SCS maintained its #1 overall ranking for undergraduate education in computer science and [claimed five #1 rankings](#) in undergraduate education specialty areas in the [U.S. News and World Report's 2022 Best Colleges rankings](#). We ranked first in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, game/simulation development, programming languages and software engineering. This is the first year SCS held the top spots in game/simulation development and programming languages.

— Good luck to [Team Explorer](#), the [DARPA Subterranean Challenge](#) entry from CMU and Oregon State University, as [the team and its fleet of robots compete](#) next week inside the Mega Caverns complex in Louisville, Kentucky. After placing first in Round 1 and second in Round 2, the team aims to repeat as top performers in the finals to take home a share of the \$5 million in prize money.

— A team led by Huan Zhang, a postdoc researcher in the Computer Science Department, [won the 2021 International Verification of Neural Networks Competition](#) with an open-source tool that can provide a guarantee of the behavior of deep neural networks, a critical part of modern artificial intelligence. Because deep neural networks are complex and unpredictable, verification is critical for areas where safety is paramount, like autonomous driving and aircraft autopiloting.

— [Congratulations to Alon Lavie](#), consulting professor in the Language Technologies Institute (LTI), who received the 2021 Makoto Nagao Award of Honor from the International Association for Machine Translation (IAMT) for his outstanding contributions to machine translation. The award is given every two years and is named for the late Makoto Nagao, a pioneer in computational linguistics and machine learning.

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Until next week,

---- Martial

### **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 [FAQs](#)

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