UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA Charlotte | SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE

Updates from the Director

Congratulations- you have made it to the halfway point, with spring break right around the corner. Before you go off for a well-deserved break take time to sort out the rest of your spring calendar. We have a rich mix of seminars, job fairs, and conferences. Coming up right after the break, NASCAR will take a pit stop for our March 11th professional seminar. Women in Data Science (open to <u>all</u>) will be on campus the following week with over 20 free training sessions and workshops. We are also ramping up for summer and fall registration. Graduate students should plan on joining us for a virtual advising session. Undergraduate students, make sure that you have touched base with your advisor.

-Josh

Call for Content: *Have a story to share, an event to highlight, or a job posting? Please feel to share it with us @* ***sds-communications@charlotte.edu***

Important!

TO READ THE ENTIRE NEWSLETTER CLICK "VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE" AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS EMAIL FOR JOB OPPORTUNITIES!

Career Preparation for SUMMER INTERNSHIPS/ JOBS

Students hoping to obtain a summer internship or a job after May 2024 graduation, be sure to start the process now. Our first recommendation is for students to make sure they are using the Career Center! If you have not already done so, join the

Technology/Data/Analytics Career Community where great organization links, resume examples, and jobs are all listed in one location. Students should also plan on **meeting with a professional career counselor** during a scheduled appointment time. Appointments are available both virtual and in-person.

Upcoming Career Fairs: See the full listing of Career Center events **HERE**
- **Part-Time Job Fair** - **Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, Student Union**

Join Our Team! The School of Data Science is Hiring Peer Advisors

The School of Data Science is starting the process of finding some fantastic students to be a part of the team. We are looking for Undergraduate students or Early Entry students who would be interested in assisting with Summer 2024 Orientation as well as the 2024-2025 academic year. **Applications are currently open** and will close on March 12, 2024, at 5 pm. If you are interested and want to know more about the position, please reach out to our current peer advisors, **Shriya Nandimandalam** or **Vidhi Shah**.

Undergraduate Students

Believe it or not registration for the summer and fall 2024 semester is right around the corner. Your academic advisor will be reaching out in the next few weeks to provide additional details about what registration will look like in the School of Data Science.

Some helpful tips to keep in mind as you start planning are:
- The summer schedule of classes at Charlotte is available to view only. If you are looking for a specific course, start looking at your options now. You would sign up for these courses at the same time as your fall 2024 registration.
- All undergraduate students, except for students graduating in May, will have an advising hold on their account. This means you will need to meet with Ms. Rella or a peer advisor to enroll in courses.
- If you are *interested in taking a course at another institution*, please understand that this is more of a process. Students who have received a grade of a D or F in a course at Charlotte MUST repeat the course at Charlotte.
  - Please reference the **Niner Central Transient Study page** for more information!

Graduate Students

Preparing for Summer and Fall 2024 Registration- Graduate Students
The summer course offerings are currently available to view only. On March 4th the Fall 2024 class schedule will also be available for viewing. ***Registration will begin for both Summer and Fall 2024 classes on April 1st.*** In preparation for registration, we will hold several online advising sessions for students in the DSBA and HIA programs. ***You will not be able to for most upper-level courses without prior authorization.*** These virtual advising sessions will cover curriculum updates, new class options, and special topics course offerings, and provide a Q&A forum for continuing graduate students. We will also share a link to ***request pre-authorizations*** so that you are ready on April 1. Please plan to participate in one of the Group Advising sessions to prepare for registration. All sessions are virtual- Zoom links below:

Health Informatics and Analytics
- **Tuesday, March 12, 2024** @4:00 pm. **Zoom link**

Data Science and Business Analytics
- **Session #1 - Wednesday, March 13, 2024** @4:00 pm. **Zoom link**
- **Session #2 - Thursday, March 14, 2024** @4:00 pm. **Zoom link**

Some helpful tips to keep in mind as you start planning are:
- The summer schedule of classes at Charlotte is available to view only. If you're looking for a specific course, you can start looking at your options now. You would sign up for these courses simultaneously with your fall 2024 registration.
- DegreeWorks Audit: Please make sure to log into DegreeWorks to make sure that you are on track to graduate and that all of your courses are counting towards your degree.
- Do you have any Incomplete Grades/ "I's"? Incomplete grades that were assigned in Spring 2023 will default to U's/Unsatisfactory at the end of the Spring 2024 semester. To avoid suspension or termination a final grade must be submitted no later than noon on May 13, 2024.

Mark Your CALENDAR

Important Dates

- **March 4, 2024 -** Fall 2024 available to preview as well as assigned registration times
- **March 4 to March 9, 2024 -Student Spring Recess - No Classes**
- **March 12, 2024 - Data Science Peer Advising Applications Due**
- **March 18, 2024 -** Last Day to Withdraw from a Full Term Course

Below is a list of upcoming campus events for all students and faculty. These are opportunities to learn and network! We hope you can participate and encourage your students to engage.

Monday SDS Seminars

All SDS students are invited to engage in the Monday session. This is your opportunity to connect with companies and industry professionals in person! Sign up and join in the conversation to build your professional networks.

Monday Seminar: How LEGACY Motor Club uses data and technology to create performance in NASCAR Racing
Monday, March 11, 2024 | 4:00 to 5:00 pm | Dubois Center

Abstract:Think NASCAR is just cars going in circles for hours? Think again! The current composition of NASCAR teams includes engineers, computer programmers and data scientists all dedicated to creating speed with the usage of tools and technologies commonly found in other major technology industries.

- Machine Learning tools to help the team strategize when the best time is for a pit stop? YES!
- Cloud-based computing systems and workflows running 25,000+ vehicle setups for optimization? YES!
- Data analytics reporting to evaluate all aspects of the team and the competition? YES!

The team at LEGACY MC would like to walk you through a typical race week preparation and all the data tools and technology that go into a race-winning effort on the track. Register here

Presenters/Titles: Joey Cohen, Vice President Racing Operations, Gene Wachtel, Director, Vehicle Performance Group

Sign Up Here

HIA Seminars: The Informatics Research Seminar Series

UNC Charlotte and the School of Data Science are pleased to participate in Duke University's weekly Health Informatics Seminar. The Informatics Research Seminar Series is part of a collaboration with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (UNC-CH), North Carolina Central University (NCCU, Durham, NC,), University of North Carolina-Charlotte (UNC-C), East Carolina University (ECU, Greenville, NC), and Wake Forest University (WFU, Winston-Salem, NC). This series explores key areas in Health Informatics and includes research results, an overview of programs of research, basic, applied, and evaluative projects, as well as research from varied epistemological stances. The virtual seminars are held on Wednesdays at 4 PM EST. Coming up in the next two weeks:

- **March 20, 2024- Genomics Segmentation and Blockchains in Healthcare Markets,** Presented by Sunil Erevelles, PhD, UNC Charlotte

National Consortium for Data Science (NCDS) Career Panel: "Analyzing Data Science Careers"

March 5th at 5pm

The free virtual event features data science professionals from Elder Research, Fidelity Investments, UNC Health, and SAS will providing insights into diverse data science careers.

REGISTER

Other Events and Workshops

Data Matters: Spring Ahead | March 11 - 15

Data Matters: Spring Ahead is a week-long series of one and two-day courses aimed at students and professionals in business, research, and government. The short course series is sponsored by the Odum Institute for Research in Social Science at UNC-Chapel Hill, the National Consortium for Data Science, and RENCI. **Learn more on their website.**

Axe Hacks - One Day Hackathon on Campus | Mar 16, 2024

On March 16, 2024, Girls that Code will be hosting Axe Hacks on UNC Charlotte's campus. Axe Hacks is a one-day hackathon designed to encourage women and beginner-level students to partake in hackathons. All UNC Charlotte students are invited to register. Registration is open now! Please direct any student questions to the Girls Who Code email: girlswhocodeuncc@gmail.com, or you may contact Ashleigh Sico, Student Organization President of Girls that Code at asico@charlotte.edu.

Alteryx Datathon- New York City

This year's Datathon is called Spark Your Interest: Datathon and is held in conjunction with NYC Open Data Week. The theme is about exploring the different challenges that face New York City – from housing, air quality, SAT scores, water consumption, elections, filming locations; there are so many stories to be told and solutions to be found. The Datathon is open to all students 18 years and over. They don't need prior experience or exposure to data analytics or associated software. The best part is that they get to compete with other learners across the tri-state area, for a chance to win a share in the prize pool totaling $20,000!

- Alteryx New York City Datathon Event - Alteryx Community-This Community post is a high-level overview of the event..
- Alteryx 2024 NYC Datathon Round 1 Details - Alteryx Community- This Community post gives you an overview of Round 1 which is the virtual qualifying round and top 75 competitors move on to Round2.

Spark Your Interest: Datathon Registration

Cultural Competence in Computing (3C) Fellows- *Apply Today*

Applications are being accepted to participate in the AIICE (Alliance for Identity Inclusive Computing Education)/Cultural Competence in Computing (3C) Fellows program. STEM departments face longstanding diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) challenges, yet systemic racism and bias remain unaddressed. The Cultural Competence in Computing (3C) Fellows Program offers professional development for faculty, staff, postdocs, and students to understand and address issues like racism, bias, and discrimination. Participants develop inclusive projects to foster equitable academic cultures. This program is open to faculty, staff, post-doctoral candidates, and graduate students. This is a cohort professional development program that will start in February 2025. Detailed information is here and on the FAQ page. The deadline to apply is March 1st.

Student
RESOURCES

Inspire Inclusion - *An International Women's Day Event*
March 15, 2024 | Student Activity Center (SAC) Salons - UNC Charlotte

- 7:30 - 8:30 am: Registration Breakfast & Networking
- 8:30 - 11:30 am: Mini-conference

Imagine a gender equal world. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and educated. Collectively we can all #InspireInclusion

You will learn:
- Let's talk Inspire Inclusion a fireside chat with a technology leader and Dean Cukic
- How to build an inclusive culture from a C-level panel
- How inclusion impacted career journeys from a technology execs & student panel

Register Here

The **Women in Data Science Conference** will feature a Career Fair during lunchtime on March 21st. Be sure to **register** for this free conference and check out the **list of companies** attending the Career Fair. Note that this list isn't final and we plan to add more!

Save the date! Student tickets for the **Analytics Frontiers Conference** (April 16th at the Convention Center) will be available on March 16th. Student rates are $49. If you would like the opportunity to attend the conference for free, we are recruiting volunteers! Interested students may email **Carly Mahedy** for more information.

Campus Resources

The Reynolds Center for Graduate Life and Learning was created specifically to meet the unique academic and professional needs of Graduate students. Check out the professional development workshops, meet-ups, and social hours. *From this week's CGLL Newsletter!*

- **GRAD 6320/8320 | Personal Career Branding: Identity, Management, and Promotion | 2.0 credits | Dr. Suzanne Voigt-** Learn how to identify meaningful career paths, manage preparation for various careers, and understand how to best promote yourself to future employers. Gain practice and knowledge around your strengths, values, personality, effective communication, and organizational evaluation as it relates to your professional career journey. Develop and practice core career competencies.
- **1:1 Public Speaking Coaching-** Have a presentation coming up? Consider an appointment with the CGLL's Faculty Associate for Communication, Dr. Daryl Kerr. Coaching can assist with audience analysis, secondary research, organizing presentations, visual aids, and delivery. Preparation for and feedback on interviews is also offered. Simply email dlkerr@charlotte.edu to set up a time.

- **Immigration Workshop:** March 11, 2024 - 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM (*Zoom*) With graduation coming up, you'll want to join this immigration webinar with Helen Partlow Esq. and Raju Mahajan Esq. Learn about various immigration routes for students and scholars, including Optional Practical Training (OPT), applying for a Green Card, and everything in between. This informative webinar will also include time for questions. Many thanks to Raju Law for their continued support! Please Register Here

NCHS/ Academy Health Data Visualization Challenge

The 2024 NCHS/AcademyHealth Data Visualization Challenge is open for submissions from graduate students (master's or doctoral level) to create static or interactive data visualizations to address social determinants of health using NCHS public use files with non-NCHS public use data. Apply today for a unique opportunity to explain an important trend or disparity in public health.

Please note: Once the Intent to Apply is submitted, applicants will receive a link to the full application. Applicants must submit a full application to enter the Challenge.

Questions about eligibility or application instructions? Please contact AcademyHealth staff at **NCHS@academyhealth.org**.

Full application due Monday, March 11th at 5 pm

Visit our Website

These are stories collected from a variety of newsletters and websites:

From American Medical Informatics Association's (AMIA) **Informatics SmartBrief** Newsletter.
- **Generative AI implementation needs a broad focus for health care-** A Deloitte survey of 60 health care executives implementing generative AI found that most are focused primarily on data availability, reliability, quality, security, and privacy, potentially leaving blind spots when it comes to data governance, patient priorities, and workforce needs. Focusing on consumer and workforce considerations along with data considerations would help healthcare

organizations maximize generative AI to augment healthcare delivery in an unbiased, trustworthy, equitable way, according to the report. **Full Story: Health IT Analytics** (2/1), Healthcare Innovation (1/31)

- **Isaac Kohane discusses the future of AI in healthcare** Isaac Kohane, chair of the Department of Biomedical Informatics and director of the AI in Medicine program at Harvard Medical School, says artificial intelligence skills will be increasingly important as large data companies get more involved in health care and the demand for medical services grows. Specific applications for AI in health care include billing and reimbursement, prior authorization, clinical documentation, and patient communications, while the greatest danger posed by AI "would be AI that's implemented by players that don't necessarily have the patient's best interests at heart," Kohane says. **Full Story: Harvard Political Review (2/10)**

From Data Science Current- A monthly newsletter from the Data Science Council of America

- ***Top 7 Strategies to Mitigate Hallucinations in LLMs*** The introduction of Large Language Models (LLMs) has brought in a significant paradigm shift in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) fields. With their remarkable advancements, LLMs can now generate content on diverse topics, address complex inquiries, and substantially enhance user satisfaction. However, alongside their progression, a new challenge has surfaced: Hallucinations. Analytics Vidhya, FEBRUARY 23, 2024

- ***How Are Conversational and Generative AI Tools Impacting Communication?*** *In this contributed article, Nate MacLeitch, CEO of QuickBlox, believes that communication is good; AI-enhanced communication is great. AI's ability to offer services like tone assistance, quick-answer responses, real-time translation, and audio-to-text conversions facilitates collaborative efforts among professionals, patients, and customers, regardless of their background. (insideBIGDATA, FEBRUARY 16, 2024)*

From American Medical Informatics Association's (AMIA) Informatics SmartBrief Newsletter

- **Design thinking augments mental health policy research** Researchers should incorporate a design approach into their work to better balance knowledge with values, keep the process democratic and ultimately improve mental health services, writes psychologist Sarah Cusworth Walker, who directs the CoLab for Community and Behavioral Health Policy at the University of Washington. Cusworth Walker describes how design thinking has helped Project ASPEN at Rutgers University research solutions to depression in youth through a partnership with the National Alliance on Mental Illness

New Jersey. Full Story: Stanford Social Innovation Review (2/22)

- **AI may need to learn to forget**- A survey found that nearly one-third of workers have input customer information, financial and sales figures, personally identifying information, and other sensitive data into publicly available generative AI tools, posing security and privacy risks. Some training data may also be inaccurate, outdated, biased, or copyrighted, and machine "unlearning" expert Seth Neel says it's possible to add random noise to obscure private or unwanted information, and he is working on using unlearning to make AI models more robust. Full Story: ZDNet (2/22), Harvard Business School Working Knowledge (2/23)

From Data Science Community Newsletter

One more resource to keep in the know for new tools, events, job postings, and developing trends in data science- underline subscribe today. *From the February 22, 2024 Newsletter:*

- **ARE SLMS THE BEST VERSION OF LLMS?** Large Language Models are so big that retraining and fine-tuning them is incredibly computationally intensive, making it all but impossible for smaller companies and universities to run their own. (There are some exceptions.) But Small Language Models may be small enough and powerful enough to become the models of choice for many non-giant tech companies. There are also purported benefits to explainability and transparency with smaller models (though we are still exercising healthy skepticism about just how much more explainable a Small Language Model could be).
- **NEW STUDY SUGGESTS MIDDLE-CLASS JOBS WILL BE MOST IMPACTED BY AI:** A new report by LinkedIn using data from the platform found that about 55% of jobs will be impacted by generative AI, though this doesn't mean all those jobs will be eliminated (summary of report; full report). Jobs in which core competencies involve dealing directly with people are more insulated, but since so many jobs have attributes that involve synthesizing information, many jobs will be impacted in some way. According to the report, "globally, professionals in Technology, Information, and Media (71%), Retail (71%), Wholesale (68%), Financial Services (66%), and Professional Services (64%) are the most likely to see their roles disrupted or augmented by GAI." This is a significant swath of the working population.

Other Newsletters and Resources:

Medium- Medium is an open-source online publishing platform where anyone can publish and share insightful perspectives and useful knowledge. It has a wide-ranging offering of topics including: Programming, Data Science, Technology, Self Improvement, Machine Learning, etc. In addition to their website, they also publish a daily e-newsletter.

The monthly newsletter contains a listing of news, events, and opportunities in data science, analytics, engineering, and policy. A selection of stories and announcements are below. Subscribe to their Listserv.

ADSA
**Data Science
Community
Newsletter**

Featured Job OPPORTUNITIES

Looking for more internships and job postings? Log into Hire-a-Niner or use their convenient School of Data Science aggregator.

Below you will find a current listing of postings that have been shared with the SDS team or posted on the **Career Center's Hire-a-Niner site**. We encourage you not only to apply for specific postings but also to explore and familiarize yourself with the companies and organizations actively recruiting UNC Charlotte and SDS students. In addition to these postings, we strongly encourage you to build your professional network through the Monday SDS Professional Seminars, CCI Business Partner's Program, and various networking events scheduled throughout the semester.

Featured INTERNSHIPS

Novo Nordisk Summer 2024 Internship/Clinical Data Science- Remote/Virtual

Novo Nordisk is a healthcare company, founded in 1923 with its global headquarters located just outside Copenhagen, Denmark. They employ more than 64,000 people in 80 offices around the world, This summer their Clinical Data Science team is seeking two UNC Charlotte SDS students enrolled in either the

HIAN or DSBA graduate programs for a summer research project.

Basic required qualifications for candidates:
- Advanced R (dplyr/dbplyr database manipulations) or equivalent SQL skills
- Familiarity with analysis of large relational databases
- Good understanding of data visualization techniques
- Knowledge of R-markdown

The SDS will host a virtual information session on Tuesday, February 27th. You can find the session and register on the SDS calendar **here.**

More Info

Internships

- **Data Science Intern - Johnson & Johnson** | Titusville, NJ- Remote
- **Data Science Internship, Coalition, Inc.** | United States | Remote
- **Data Scientist - Intern- Faire** | Remote
- **Data Scientist Intern** | Greenville, SC
- **Summer 2024 Data Science Internship** | Remote

Featured

JOBS

Sr. Data Analyst - Store Inventory, Charlotte, NC

Are you a Data Junkie? Do you have high data quality standards? Do you know how to implement and follow processes that produce reliable, incisive insights and reports? The Lowe's team is looking for a Sr Data Analyst to INVENT and SIMPLIFY the way they manage Store Inventory, protect our in-store assets (people and products) and build connected Smart Stores, all to make life better for hundreds of thousands of Store Associates and millions of Customers. If you're interested in that and the perks of our new Tech Hub in Charlotte and consistent SVP-level visibility, let's go!

Senior Data Scientist - Surgical Services - Charlotte, NC

Conducts research using advanced statistical and computational methods to improve quality, cost, and the overall experience of care provided. Expertise in statistical methodology, computation, research, healthcare, and communication.

Requires regular and frequent exercise of independent judgment and decision-making in sensitive situations. More information can be found **HERE.**

Jobs

- **MLB Data Scientist, Swish Analytics** · United States | Remote
- **Healthcare Data Scientist, Fractal |** Remote
- **Data Scientist I, Cotiviti |** Remote
- **Data Scientist, Dropbox |** Remote

Full Job List

GET CONNECTED with SDS!
Feel free to join the School of Data Science GroupMe and Slack Channel for regular updates.

GROUPME   **SLACK CHANNEL**

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA **CHARLOTTE** | SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE