

STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Hello and Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a chance to spend quality time with family and friends, finding moments to relax and recharge as we embark on a new semester together.

For those of you who are new to the School of Data Science, welcome! This newsletter is published twice a month and serves as a collaborative space for SDS faculty, students, alumni, and community partners to share news, events, resources, and exciting job and internship opportunities. We encourage you to ENGAGE in this community—your insights and contributions make a difference!



Here's a pro tip: don't just skim! Experienced readers know to download the full newsletter to access all the valuable content, including job and internship postings tucked away at the very end.

Have feedback, ideas, or suggestions? We'd love to hear from you. Let's make this year one of growth, connection, and opportunity.

Lastly, *for alumni*, we want you to stay engaged! If you have job announcements and ideas, *share them with us!* We would love for you to participate in the WiDS and AFC 2025 conferences. There is more information in the **Alumni section** below on how to become a speaker.

All the best,

Josh Hertel
Director, School of Data Science

**CLICK "VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE" AT THE BOTTOM OF
THIS EMAIL FOR JOB OPENINGS!**

Program Updates
AND CAMPUS NEWS

WiDS Keynote Speaker Announced: Camille Stewart Gloster



The first keynote for the Women in Data Science Conference on March 13th has been chosen! Camille Stewart Gloster is a strategist, attorney, and executive whose crosscutting perspective on complex technology, cyber, national security, and foreign policy issues has landed her in significant roles at leading government and private sector companies including the White House, Department of Homeland Security, Google, and Deloitte.

Registration for WiDS Opens on January 15th!
[Check the WiDS website to register for free.](#)

Reminder: Mandatory Training for Teaching Assistants

As the Spring 2025 semester begins, *all new Teaching Assistants (TAs) are required to complete mandatory online TA Training to comply with UNC-Charlotte's SACS accreditation standards.* This training, hosted on Canvas under "TA Training Spring 2025," is in addition to any program-specific training. TAs must achieve at least 80% overall to fulfill the requirement, with all quizzes due by January 19, 2025. It is the TA's responsibility to complete the training by the deadline, as failure to do so may impact future TA contracts. The training site will remain open throughout the academic year, allowing TAs to revisit the material as needed. New TAs must complete this training before starting their first semester of teaching. More information and resources for TAs can be found [HERE](#).

SDS TA Opportunities– Summer and Fall 2025

The School funds roughly 25-30 graduate TAs and undergraduate graders each semester. These are paid positions, open only to students enrolled in SDS programs. If you are interested in learning more about TA opportunities, please visit your program websites under the "Current Students" tab. You will find detailed information Information about eligibility, how, and when to apply.

Important
DATES

Find the full [SDS Calendar of Events](#) on the SDS website.

- [January 13: DSBA/HIA New Student Orientation](#)
- [January 13: First day of classes](#)
- [January 18: No Saturday classes](#)
- [January 20: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day - University Closed](#)
- [January 21: Last day to add, drop with no grade * Payment Information](#)
- [January 22: Payment Due Date/2nd Cancellation for non-payment](#)
- [January 25: Saturday Classes Begin](#)
- [January 27: Census date for Spring Enrollment](#)
- [January 27: Niner Course Pack Last day to Opt-Out](#)



Find the full [SDS Calendar of Events](#) on the program website.

The **Spring 2025 Graduate Student Welcome Reception** will be held on Thursday, January 16, from 4:00 to 6:00 PM at the Popp Martin Student Union, Room 340 D-I. This event serves as a fantastic introduction for new graduate students and offers a wonderful opportunity to explore campus resources. Attendees can connect with fellow students, Graduate School staff, and campus support teams. There will be food, drinks, music, free giveaways, and more.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

SDS Graduate Student Orientation (HIA and DSBA)

We are excited to welcome you to the **SDS Graduate Student Orientation for the HIA and DSBA programs**. The event will take place on Monday, January 13th, from 4:00 to 5:00 PM, which is also the first day of classes. During the orientation, you will have the opportunity to meet the Graduate Program Directors, ask questions, and get started on the right track for a successful semester. Please see the full details below and RSVP to confirm your attendance. We look forward to meeting you and addressing any questions you may have!

[Orientation Details & RSVP](#)

**SDS Professional Seminars Return on
January 27th, 2025!**

Join us on *Mondays from 4:00 to 5:00 PM at the Dubois Center* for insights from top employers in finance, manufacturing, retail, and healthcare. Connect with industry leaders, explore careers, and tackle real-world data challenges. Don't miss this opportunity to grow your career! View the full spring schedule and register [HERE](#).

- **Monday, January 27th**: Chase Romano, Senior AI/ML Architect at Snowflake, Topic TBD
- **Monday, February 3rd**: Shih-Hsiung Chou, Senior Data Scientist at Advocate Health on "A Step Beyond the Vendor's Promise--Evaluating Vendor Predictive Models".

Infosys Infy Tech Pioneer Program Recruitment: Accepting Applications

Infosys Ltd., in collaboration with Infosys Foundation USA, is offering the 'Infy Tech Pioneer' program through the [Infosys Springboard USA – Digital Academy](#) this winter break. Immerse yourself in Generative AI content, guided by Infosys Ltd. tech experts in weekly virtual sessions. Upon completion, earn a Certificate of Completion. To apply, submit your name, major, year, and contact email to Infy_Tech_Pioneer@infosys.com by January 13th. A kick-off call is scheduled for January 16th, where you'll learn more about the program. Create an account on the Springboard Digital Academy to explore courses in cybersecurity, Generative AI, and IoT. Weekly sessions with Infosys leaders will include interactive prompts and practical problem sets. Selection notifications will be sent on January 14th. Use your winter break to enhance your skills and boost your future career prospects.

Apply Today

STEM Career Fair, Thursday, January 30th from 10 am – 2 pm

Spring semester is a great time to kick off your career development. If you are looking for an internship or job opportunity, please plan to attend the [STEM Career Fair](#) in the Halton Arena. The Career Center offers several opportunities that focus on technology, data, and analytics. We highly recommend attending [these sessions](#) to make sure you are best prepared for that next step in your career.

The Informatics Research Seminar Series Virtual Sessions | Wednesday @ 4:00 pm

The Informatics Research Seminar Series, sponsored by Duke University and collaborating institutions (UNC-Chapel Hill, NCCU, UNC-Charlotte, ECU, and WFU), offers valuable insights into Health Informatics. Join us on Wednesdays at 4 PM EST (resuming in January) to engage with industry leaders and researchers.





From The CCI Weekly Update:

Log In to your Career Community: Technology, Data, Analytics

UNC Charlotte's Career Center has created a hub of resources for both graduate and undergraduate students in the SDS. If you're excited about working in a cutting-edge, innovative field focused on technology and analytics, explore the Technology, Data, & Analytics Career Community. Whether you're interested in problem-solving, inquiry, or applying your tech and analytics skills, you'll find career opportunities across various majors and interests. Access resume examples, workshops, and community events [HERE](#).



From the Reynolds Center for Graduate Life and Learning

The Thomas L. Reynolds Center for Graduate Life and Learning (CGLL) at UNC Charlotte provides graduate students and postdocs with professional development and well-being support in a welcoming, inclusive environment. Named after former Dean Tom Reynolds, the CGLL offers programming across ethics, communication, leadership, cultural engagement, and teaching. Activities include workshops, peer mentoring, fellowships, and experiential learning, along with social events and affinity group meetings to foster community. The CGLL also promotes skills essential for career success, such as intercultural fluency, research ethics, and dynamic teaching techniques, preparing students for diverse professional and academic settings. Find their full calendar of events [HERE](#).

- **Workshop Summary:** *[It Doesn't Have to Be This Hard! Grad School Resilience and Wellbeing](#)* | Tuesday, January 14, 2025, from 12:00 PM to 1:30 PM | [Atkins Library, Room 146, 410 Library Lane, Charlotte, NC 28223](#)- This interactive workshop aims to help graduate students build resilience and effectively handle academic and life challenges. Led by Dr. Aura Young, participants will learn techniques to strengthen personal resources and enhance their capacity to face adversity, regardless of their experience level in grad school. This session is the first of a three-part series, with the option to attend any or all sessions. **Registration: Required**

Faculty & Staff

NEWS

Welcoming New Faces with the SDS

We are excited to welcome both new and returning faculty members to the School of Data Science as we kick off the spring semester. Our talented team of educators brings a wealth of experience from various sectors, providing students with valuable insights and expertise.

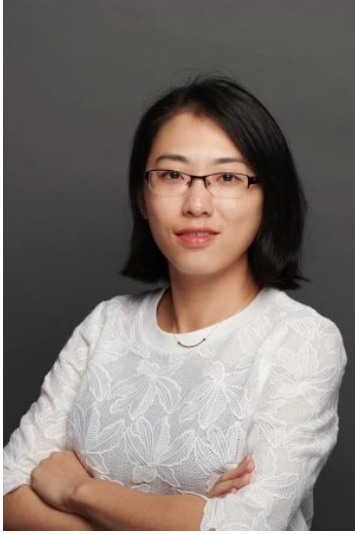


Dr. Zhijun (Zwick) Tang will be teaching *DSBA 6188: Text Mining and Information Retrieval*. Zwick is currently the Vice President of Data Science and Advanced Analytics at Universal Music Group, where he leads efforts to develop data insights and predictive models to enhance fan engagement for music artists. With a Ph.D. in Electrical and Computer Engineering from The Ohio State University, Dr. Tang has held leadership roles in various industries, including financial services, digital media, and marketing. He also serves on the Advisory Board for UNC Charlotte's School of Data Science.

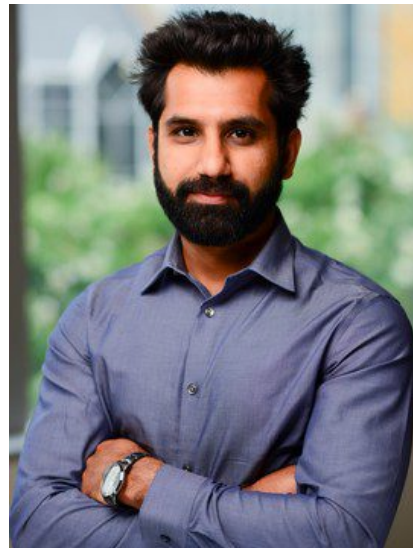
Dr. Michael Schuckers, a newly appointed professor with the SDS, will co-teach *DTSC 2301/2302 – Modeling and Society* alongside Dr. Ilieva Ageenko this spring. Dr. Schuckers is a leader in sports data science, known for his work in ice hockey analytics. He has consulted for MLB and NHL teams and has secured significant research funding from the National Science Foundation and other prominent institutions. Dr. Schuckers' pioneering work in bio-authentication technologies, such as facial recognition, adds a unique dimension to his expertise.



Henan Li joins the School as an adjunct faculty member, teaching *Databases for Data Scientists (DSBA/HCIP 6160)*. Henan brings over 10 years of experience in data analytics and digital transformation. She currently serves as a Resident Consultant at Alteryx, where she supports clients in accelerating their digital transformation efforts. Henan holds dual M.S. degrees in Economics and Statistics from Georgia Institute of Technology and has extensive experience in the banking and financial services industries.



Dr. Archit Parnami, also an adjunct faculty member, will teach *DSBA 6165: Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning*. Dr. Parnami earned his Ph.D. in Computer Science from UNC Charlotte, where he focused on few-shot learning. He is passionate about education and received the UNC Charlotte Graduate School Teaching Fellowship. Dr. Parnami is currently working in quantitative analytics and data science, helping financial institutions detect fraud using machine learning.



We are also pleased to welcome back **Richard Sheinis** as an adjunct faculty member. Richard will teach *HCIP 6201: Health Information Privacy and Security: Law, Ethics, and Technology*. As a Partner at Hall Booth Smith, P.C., Richard is recognized for his expertise in Data Privacy and Cybersecurity Law. He has led hundreds of data breach investigations and is a certified expert in privacy and security laws, including HIPAA, GDPR, and mobile device security. We look forward to the spring semester and are thrilled to have these exceptional faculty members join us in shaping the future of data science education.

Campus RESOURCES

In each issue, we highlight valuable resources available to the campus community, such as health services, advising, counseling, and more. If you know of a great resource you'd like us to feature in an upcoming issue, please email Lindsay Lennon at lindsay.lennon@charlotte.edu, and we'll include it in the next newsletter!

DataCamp Access for SDS Students



All SDS students (HIA, DSBA Sports Analytics, Data Science) with an active *Ninernet profile*, including newly admitted and currently enrolled students, now have free access to DataCamp through a partnership with the School of Data Science and College of Computing and Informatics. DataCamp offers a wide range of courses covering essential data science skills, with custom tracks in SDS R Bootcamp and SDS Python Bootcamp designed specifically for SDS students.

[Request Access Today!](#)

What is Niner Central?

Niner Central is your one-stop resource for services related to financial aid, billing, registration, transcripts, student accounts, academic records, and more. Access services online anytime at ninercentral.charlotte.edu.

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM EST

Phone: 704-687-8622

Email: ninercentral@charlotte.edu

Free Resources for Students: Altair

Altair provides a wide range of advanced solutions in simulation, artificial intelligence (AI), high-performance computing (HPC), and data analytics. These tools enable organizations to create more efficient, sustainable products and processes, driving future innovations. Altair is at the forefront of computational intelligence, making breakthrough technology accessible without any magic. SDS students have free access to Altair's tools and online workshops- *see below!*

- **RapidMiner Platform** (many tools for data science) - Altair RapidMiner unites data through integration, activates it with business context, and empowers everyone with specialized tools. Seamlessly collaborate and integrate data

into your business fabric ([Video](#))

- **Graph Studio (Anzo)** - Provides understandable, comprehensive organizational context to all enterprise analytics solutions, especially to those that employ generative AI. They map how humans think (and how generative AI models understand the world) to how data is stored and accessed to answer user questions accurately. Automate scalable graph pipelines with Altair® Graph Lakehouse™, a high-performance massively parallel processing (MPP) graph engine that can execute queries and deliver results against large datasets in seconds. Graph Studio offers organizations the straightest line from near complete data immaturity to becoming a truly AI-driven enterprise. ([Video](#))
- **AI Studio** - Make powerful insights accessible to your entire organization. No matter how your team is structured or how mature your data science efforts are, Altair AI Studio is the data science tool anyone can use to design and prototype highly explainable AI and machine learning models that help build trust throughout your organization. This tool offers a visual drag-and-drop workflow designer for non-coding domain experts, automated machine learning (AutoML) tools, support for generative AI, and interactive data prep capabilities. [Introduction to Altair AI Studio and Altair AI Hub 10.2](#)



Join the Honeywell Data Challenge at the ISC AI Summit 2025!

Honeywell

Honeywell invites UNC Charlotte/SDS students to participate in the 2025 ISC AI + Analytics Summit Hackathon. This challenge offers you the opportunity to form a team and tackle real-world AI and analytics problems. Problem statements will be provided in early January, and teams will have until the end of February to work on their projects. You'll then have the chance to showcase your findings at the summit, taking place from March 10-12. Participants can register individually or as a team [here](#). If you register as an individual, please share your skills (e.g., data scientist, Power BI developer, supply chain specialist) to be matched with a team that best fits your expertise. The problem statements for this year's hackathon include challenges such as Computer Vision for Labor Efficiency, Total Inventory Optimization, Factory & Warehouse Transaction Tracking, Weather Forecast Impact Modeling, Improved Lead Time Estimates for Customers, and LangGraph Application for Supply Chain Planning.

Careers in Data Science:

Rock Your LinkedIn Profile

January 29, 2025, from 12:00 - 1:00 PM EST

Join Becky Brown for this session, you'll learn how to build an authentic LinkedIn profile, define your personal brand, and create a strategy that connects with your target audience. This workshop will help you make meaningful connections and enhance your professional presence online. Becky brings nearly 40 years of experience in sales, marketing, and coaching. She currently serves as Senior Sales Enablement Program Manager at a leading software company and is a certified LinkedIn and career coach.



The image shows a digital event registration card. At the top left, it says 'ncds | CAREERS IN DATA SCIENCE'. Below that, the event title 'Rock Your LinkedIn Profile' is displayed in a red box, with the subtitle 'Articulate an authentic personal brand' underneath. To the right, a calendar icon indicates the date 'Wednesday January 29' and time '12 PM ET'. A circular profile picture of Becky Brown is shown, with her name 'Becky Brown' and company 'SAS' listed next to it. Her title is 'Senior Sales Enablement Specialist - Global Social Selling Program Manager'. At the bottom, there is a red link icon and the URL 'https://bit.ly/NCDS_CIDS_RockYourLinkedIn'.

Register!

6th National Big Data Health Science Conference

Columbia, SC | February 13 - 14, 2025

The University of South Carolina Big Data Health Science Center hosts this annual conference to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and advance Big Data health science research. It serves as a multidisciplinary forum for sharing innovative concepts, methods, and findings across industry, academia, and government. Delegates engage in open discussions on critical topics and emerging methods shaping the future of healthcare and Big Data health sciences. Learn more [HERE](#).

*Data Science and
Health Analytics In The*
NEWS

Imaging startup CEO sees potential in AI czar appointment

President-elect Donald Trump has appointed David Sacks as the first White House czar for AI and cryptocurrency, a move expected to lead to looser regulations. Ryan Tarzy, CEO of Avandra Imaging, supports the appointment, believing it will accelerate healthcare innovation and improve patient outcomes. Tarzy notes that the US healthcare system is behind technologically and sees Sacks' influence as a potential catalyst for a "golden age" of medical AI.



Full Story

Featured

JOBS AND INTERNSHIPS



Below is a current listing of postings shared with the SDS team or posted on the Career Center's Hire-a-Niner site. If you are interested in sharing a position posting, you can email the information directly to Joshua Hertel (jhertel@charlotte.edu) or access the full UNC Charlotte community through the Career Center- See Below.

Featured Jobs, Internships, & Assistantships

Summer Internships with E15/Compass

Group-E15 is a division within Compass Group dedicated to improving food service operations, sustainability, and customer experiences at premier sports and entertainment venues worldwide. E15 applies an entrepreneurial approach and a strategy/analytics mindset to address real-world hospitality challenges across various sectors, including sports and entertainment, education, healthcare, and business.

- [Levy Analytics Summer Sports Internship](#)
- [Levy Analytics Convention Centers Summer Internship](#)

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Internship & Training Opportunities

Explore internship and training opportunities at Los Alamos National Laboratory in Data Science, Cybersecurity, and more! Other internships can also be found at <https://lanl.jobs>.

- [Data Science at Scale School](#): Deadline to Apply: February 5th
- [Cyber Security School](#): Deadline to Apply: March 31st

- [Quantum Computing School](#): Deadline to Apply: January 19th
- [Computational Physics Workshop](#): Deadline to Apply: January 15th
- [Parallel Computing Research Internship](#): Deadline to Apply: N/A

**Summer Research Internship in Biomedical Informatics, Vanderbilt University
Medical Center|Nashville, TN|Applications due: February 15**

This program offers students from diverse backgrounds a hands-on research experience in Biomedical Informatics, encouraging them to explore PhD and research career paths. Biomedical Informatics integrates principles from computer, information, cognitive, social, and engineering sciences with clinical and biological sciences to analyze and manage biomedical data. Students from any of these disciplines are welcome to apply.

Job Posting M&M Technology Inc.: Java Web Developer

M&M Technology Inc. is seeking a Java Web Developer to join our team in Indian Trail, NC. In this role, you will develop both front-end and back-end services, manage database updates, and work closely with a collaborative team to design and build applications. Your responsibilities will include writing reusable Java code, troubleshooting issues, and optimizing application performance. The ideal candidate will have strong proficiency in Java, object-oriented programming, MVC, JDBC, and RESTful services. Experience with Java Server Faces (JSF), Primefaces, MySQL, and web frameworks is required. You should have a solid understanding of scalable application design, database schemas, and automated testing platforms. Familiarity with SVN, Ant, Maven, Gradle, and Payara Server is a plus. A positive attitude and willingness to learn new technologies is essential. To apply, please send your resume and cover letter to Christian Salazar at christian@mandm-tech.com. For more information, visit [M&M Technology Inc.](#)

Student Planning & Outreach Specialist at Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

The Student Planning & Outreach Specialist analyzes land use for enrollment forecasting, manages school choice programs, and implements district policies under the Director. Candidates with GIS experience/knowledge are encouraged to apply!



Internships

- [Intern the Otsuka Way 2025, Data Scientist Intern](#) - Remote
- [Growth & Operations Intern, The Variable](#) - Greensboro--Winston-Salem--High Point Area
- [Project Specialist \(Intern\) United States, Cisco](#) - North Carolina, United States
- [Data Science Intern, Thomson Reuters](#) - Hartford, CT (Remote)
- [Data Science Intern, Thermo Fisher Scientific](#) - Frederick, MD (On-site)
- [Data Visualization Engineer Intern, Summer 2025, Netflix](#) - Los Angeles, CA

Jobs

- [Data Scientist I, Bank of America](#) - New York, New York; Charlotte, North Carolina
- [Special Agent: Mathematics/Data Expertise, Federal Bureau of Investigation \(FBI\)](#) - Charlotte Metro (On-site)
- [Client Quantitative Analyst I, Bank of America](#) - Charlotte, NC
- [Senior Analyst, HR Workforce Analytics \(Business\), Ally](#) - Charlotte, NC
- [Data Analyst III, Brooksource](#) - Charlotte, NC

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



Alumni Engagement at SDS Conferences

Call for speaker proposals at WiDS and AFC: Give back to the UNC Charlotte community by sharing your knowledge and experience at the [Women in Data Science Conference](#) (March 13) and the [Analytics Frontiers Conference](#) (April 3). We're seeking engaging alumni speakers to present on Best Practices for Scaling Generative AI in Organizations, Ethics and Security in Generative AI, Career Development, and more. Submit your proposal for WiDS by January 10th and to AFC by January 15th and inspire the next generation of leaders!

Alumni Recruitment: UNC Charlotte's Career Center

Interested in recruiting talented UNC Charlotte students and graduates? We remind you that as an alumni, Hire-A-Niner is still available to you- as an employer. Here's what you can do:

- **Post jobs and internships:** Reach a wide range of students, or target specifically by major (like Data Science) or program level (graduate/undergraduate).
- **Get featured in the School of Data Science (SDS) newsletter:** Let us know when you post a relevant job, and we'll promote it to SDS students. Email Josh Hertel - at jhertel@charlotte.edu to share postings.

Ready to get started? Visit <https://hireaniner.charlotte.edu/> to set up your free Hire-A-Niner employer account. It's a quick and easy process. **Questions?** Contact our

Employer Engagement Team at recruit@uncc.edu in the Career Center. We're happy to help and discuss other recruitment opportunities.



UNC Charlotte's School of Data Science | 9105 University Rd | Charlotte, NC 28223 US

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