

## STUDENT NEWSLETTER

Greetings to all, SDS students, alumni, and faculty- Welcome to the latest edition of the SDS Student Newsletter!

We're excited to share program updates, campus events, and career opportunities for the new semester. This edition highlights two alumni panels: today, Monday, September 15, an undergraduate panel on the main campus, and tomorrow, September 16, a graduate panel at the Dubois Center. Both sessions are open to all —thank you to the alumni joining us! These events are part of the **Career Center's Technology, Data & Analytics Career Community Week.**

Also in this issue: new info sessions for UNC Charlotte's **Ph.D. in Data Science**, upcoming career fairs and recruitment events across campus, and weekly professional seminars with leading industry partners. You'll also find key academic deadlines, student resources, and opportunities to get involved in SDS clubs and activities. Whether you're a student, faculty member, or alum, this newsletter is your go-to source for staying connected with the SDS community.

Have a great and productive week!

**Josh Hertel**

Director, School of Data Science



*Share your SDS story! Have an event, community meet-up, Data competition, job posting, or story idea for the SDS community? Please send your submissions to Lindsay Lennon, SDS Communications and Events Manager.*

# Program Updates

## AND CAMPUS NEWS

### New Ph.D. in Data Science – Info Sessions Coming Soon!

The School of Data Science will host multiple in-person and virtual information sessions this fall and into early January. **New dates are added regularly.** The Ph.D. in Data Science offers two pathways—one for future industry leaders and one for academic careers—covering machine learning, AI, statistics, data ethics, and the social impact of data. Visit the [program website](#) for more information regarding curriculum and funding. Building on our bachelor's and master's programs, the Ph.D. reinforces UNC Charlotte's commitment to advancing data science education.



### Campus Recruitment Events: Internships and Full-time Positions

- **Actuarial Science Career Fair:** Friday, September 26, 2025, 2:00 - 4:00 pm
- **Financial Services Career Fair:** Tuesday, September 30, 2025, 4:00 - 7:00 pm
- **Part Time Job Fair:** Wednesday, October 1, 2025, 11:00 - 2:00 pm



# Important DATES

- **September 18:** Deadline to apply for December 2025 Graduation
- **September 22:** Unsatisfactory Mid-Term Grading available for Fall 2025
- **September 29:** Spring 2026 Schedule of Classes and Student registration appointment times available online
- **September 30:** Master's Thesis Proposal Defense for December 2025 Graduation



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

## School Events

SEMINARS, NETWORKING,  
& WELCOME EVENTS

### Professional Seminars – Every Tuesday @ Dubois Center

Each semester, the SDS is pleased to welcome industry professionals and business partners to meet face-to-face with our students. Seminars are held at the Dubois Center from 4:00 to 5:00 pm on Tuesdays. This semester, we will welcome representatives from Wells Fargo, SAS, Honeywell, McKinsey, and many other notable companies. [Find the full list of seminars and Register Here !](#)

### School of Data Science and CCI Undergraduate Young Alumni Panel

Monday, September 15, 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Woodward 135

Ever wonder what life looks like after graduation with a Computer Science or Data

Science degree? Join us for an engaging panel discussion with recent alumni who are already making waves in the tech world! Get their real-world insights, ask your burning questions, and network with Niners who've been exactly where you are. Don't miss this chance to learn, connect, and jumpstart your career journey! Speakers representing USAA, Moody's, S&P Global, and Hilton will be on the panel. Open to all UG CCI and Data Science majors.

**SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE & COLLEGE OF COMPUTING & INFORMATICS:  
UNDERGRADUATE YOUNG ALUMNI PANEL**

Ever wonder what life looks like after graduation with a Computer Science or Data Science degree? Join us for an engaging panel discussion with recent alumni who are already making waves in the tech world! Get their real-world insights, ask your burning questions, and network with Niners who've been exactly where you are. Don't miss this chance to learn, connect, and jumpstart your career journey!

MOODY'S | S&P GLOBAL | HILTON | USAA

Monday, Sept. 15 | 4 p.m.  
Woodward 135

[REGISTER](#)

## CCI-SDS Alumni Panel: Alumni Perspectives on Navigating Technology Careers

Tue, Sep 16, 2025 | 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Dubois Center

Three accomplished alumni from UNC Charlotte's College of Computing and Informatics will share their career journeys in technology, from graduation to building successful careers. They will discuss the challenges of entering the job market, the strategies and resources that supported their success, and their perspectives on today's economic climate and career opportunities. Speakers include Vincent Awong-Cole Jr., Ph.D., Senior Product Owner at Duke Energy (Ph.D. Leadership Studies, 2024; M.S. Information Technology, 2019), Tarik Haniff, Lead Information Security Engineer at TIAA (M.S. Cybersecurity, 2021; B.S. Computer Science, 2018), and Anajali Khuslani, Manager in Technology Consulting with Ernst & Young's Financial Services Organization (M.S. Data Science and Business Analytics, 2019; M.S. Health Informatics, 2018).

IN-PERSON EVENT

# TUESDAY SEMINAR SERIES



Vincent Awong-Cole Jr., Ph.D.  
SENIOR PRODUCT OWNER  
DUKE ENERGY CORPORATION



Tarik Haniff  
LEAD INFORMATION SECURITY ENGINEER  
TIAA



Anjali Khushalani  
MANAGER OF DATA & ANALYTICS  
FINANCIAL SERVICES ORGANIZATION (FSO)  
- AI & DATA AT ERNST & YOUNG LLP



CCI-SDS Alumni  
Panel:  
Alumni Perspectives  
on Navigating  
Technology Careers

September 16, 2025

For more information,  
please visit:



Sponsored by:



REGISTER

Dubois Center Resource Fair  
Tuesday, September 23rd from 11am-2pm

# DUBOIS CENTER RESOURCE FAIR

Come check out the Dubois Center Resource Fair! Connect with various units from across the UNC Charlotte campus, enjoy games and prizes, and even get a free flu shot administered by the Center for Health and Wellbeing!

SEPTEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>

11:00 am - 2:00 pm

LOCATION :

Dubois Center

FEATURING :

- Center for Graduate Life
- ISSO (International Student and Scholar Office)
- Niner Finances
- Center for Health and Wellbeing
- UNCC Student Legal Services



MORE INFO

## CCI Student Professional Development Weekly Newsletter



In Your Inbox Every Tuesday!

Welcome to the new academic year and a new resource for your professional

growth! All SDS students are receiving the CCI Student Professional Development Weekly Newsletter, curated by [Jay Skipworth](#) and [Carmalita Govan](#). This new newsletter replaces the CCI Business Partners Newsletter and is packed with professional development opportunities, seminars, job announcements, and networking events. Be sure to add it to your list of must-reads! You can also see details for events on the [CCI Events Calendar](#) (look for CCI Meet-Ups or Events). RSVPs on [Hire-A-Niner](#).

## Selected CCI Employer Events

### [A Day in the Life of a AI/Machine Learning Professional with TIAA](#)

Wednesday, September 17, 4pm-5pm, Woodward 335

Come and learn how Sapan Patel works as a Info Security Vulnerability Assessment Specialist on the Vulnerability Management team. Sapan will speak to his experience in the early talent programs, his final placement role, and how he leverages AI in his current role. [RSVP](#)

### [Peer Tech Talk: Mobile App Development and LLMs](#)

Thursday, September 18, 4pm-5pm, Woodward 335

Come learn from Aakash Shah as he talks about mobile app development along with bridging the community you are a part of as well as how the use of LLMs can also help build projects and ideas faster. [RSVP](#)

## Save the Date– CCI Startup Hackathon

The College of Computing and Informatics at UNC Charlotte is excited to host the CCI Startup Hackathon, a student-led, innovation-driven event taking place **October 17–19, 2025**. Bringing together 300–400 students, this high-impact weekend will feature entrepreneurship, problem-solving, and rapid prototyping across five tracks: FinTech, Next-Gen Engineering, Tech for Good, Cybersecurity, and AI. Meals, mentorship, and industry engagement will be provided.



- [Location](#): UNC Charlotte — College of Computing and Informatics
- [Meals Provided](#): Friday dinner, Saturday brunch + dinner, Sunday brunch
- [Registration information coming soon.](#)

## [From The Career Center: Explore Careers in Technology, Data & Analytics – Happening Now](#)

UNC Charlotte's Technology, Data & Analytics Career Community Week (Sept. 15–19, 2025) gives students the chance to explore career paths, connect with alumni,

and gain insider insights. If you're interested in tech, data, or analytics, don't miss this opportunity to learn, network, and jumpstart your career.

### Event Highlights:

#### Mon, Sept. 15

- *Internship Search Strategies | 11–11:45 a.m. | Virtual*
- *Undergraduate Young Alumni Panel (USAA, Moody's, S&P Global, Hilton) | 4–5 p.m. | Woodward 335*

#### Tue, Sept. 16

- *Coffee Chats with Nielsen Sports & Brooksource | 9:30–11:30 a.m. | Career Center*
- *Alumni Panel: Navigating Tech Careers (Duke Energy, TIAA, EY) | 4–5 p.m. | Dubois Center 604*

#### Wed, Sept. 17

- *Engineering the Binge: Software at Netflix with alum Raymond Ferrell | 4–5 p.m. | Zoom*

#### Thu, Sept. 18

- *Healthcare Tech Impact with Epic featuring alum Will Papathanassiou | 12:15–1 p.m. | Zoom*



[COMPLETE LIST](#)

## *About Career Communities:*

Career Communities connect students with peers and professionals in related industries, offering events, career coaching, networking, and tailored resources. Other communities include: Arts, Media & Design; Business, Financial Services & Logistics; Engineering, Manufacturing & Energy; Healthcare, Science & Research; Social Impact, Education & Nonprofit.

## Community Events– Meet-Ups, Hackathons, Conferences, etc.

[Fleurix- Celebrate women+ in technology - October 13, 2025, Fort Mill, SC](#)

Fleurix is a community-driven initiative dedicated to increasing the number of women+ thriving in tech careers by providing accessible resources, inclusive events,

and a strong sense of belonging.

[Register to Attend](#)

## Developing Tech Talent Through Experiential Learning

Triangle, October 02, 2025

Join NC TECH and MetLife for a dynamic panel discussion, "Developing Tech Talent Through Experiential Learning." Leaders from the NC Community College System, UNC Charlotte College of Computing and Informatics, and Code the Dream will explore how apprenticeships, on-the-job training, internships, and other work-based learning experiences are critical to shaping the next generation of technology professionals.



## SDS Resources

[Free Access to DataCamp!](#)

The School of Data Science and the College of Computing and Informatics have partnered with DataCamp to offer free access to all SDS students, faculty, and staff. DataCamp is an online platform that helps you build essential skills in Statistics, Python, and R while keeping you updated on the latest tools and techniques in data science. To gain access for free, create a DataCamp account with your @charlotte.edu email and then submit [this form](#).

Campus  
RESOURCES

# Student Assistance and Support Services (SASS)

College can sometimes throw unexpected challenges your way—whether personal, financial, or academic. SASS is here to help you navigate those obstacles and connect you with the right resources. From absence verification and emergency funds to withdrawal guidance and housing support, their team works with you to find solutions and keep you on track.

Explore More

## Need help with math? The Math Learning Center has your back

Located in Fretwell 330, the Math Learning Center provides free, in-person, drop-in tutoring for *any* enrolled student—no matter your major or where you are in your studies. Whether you're working through algebra, statistics, pre-calculus, calculus, or higher-level math, the friendly tutors are ready to help you sharpen your understanding, catch up, or get ahead. Hours are Monday-Thursday 10:00 AM–6:00 PM, and Fridays 10:00 AM–2:00 PM. Need help outside those times? Just check their site for updates.

Learn More

## Jamil Niner Student Pantry



The Jamil Niner Food Pantry was established to combat food insecurity on campus. It is a resource available to all UNC Charlotte students and staff. Located at 1224 John Kirk Drive, those in need can schedule a visit through the Food Pantry Request forms. The pantry is in need of volunteers and donations. Sign up on [Niner Engage](#) for weekly volunteer shifts. Donations of food or money are also accepted. A list of suggested items and a link to donate can be found [here](#).

Faculty & Staff  
NEWS

Dr. Marco Scipioni, Associate Professor of Data Science, along with Dr. David Pugalee

(Director of the STEM Education Center at UNC Charlotte) and Dr. Chris Gordon (Lenoir-Rhyne University), co-authored an article that was presented at the International Symposium on Elementary Mathematics Teaching (SEMT 2025) in Prague and published in the conference proceedings.



# Student Government

## NEWS

### Association of Data Science

#### Build a Real-Time Dashboard Workshop

Learn how to bring machine learning to life in this workshop! Participants will build a real-time ML dashboard, explore live predictions, and deploy their app online for free. No prior dashboard experience required—just Python basics. Join us on September 22 at 6:00 PM in Woodward 254!

#### ADS T-shirts are now available!

Don't miss out on our official club t-shirt! Use the link below to pay your dues and snag your shirt today.

Grab your T-shirt today!

### SDS Graduate Student Council

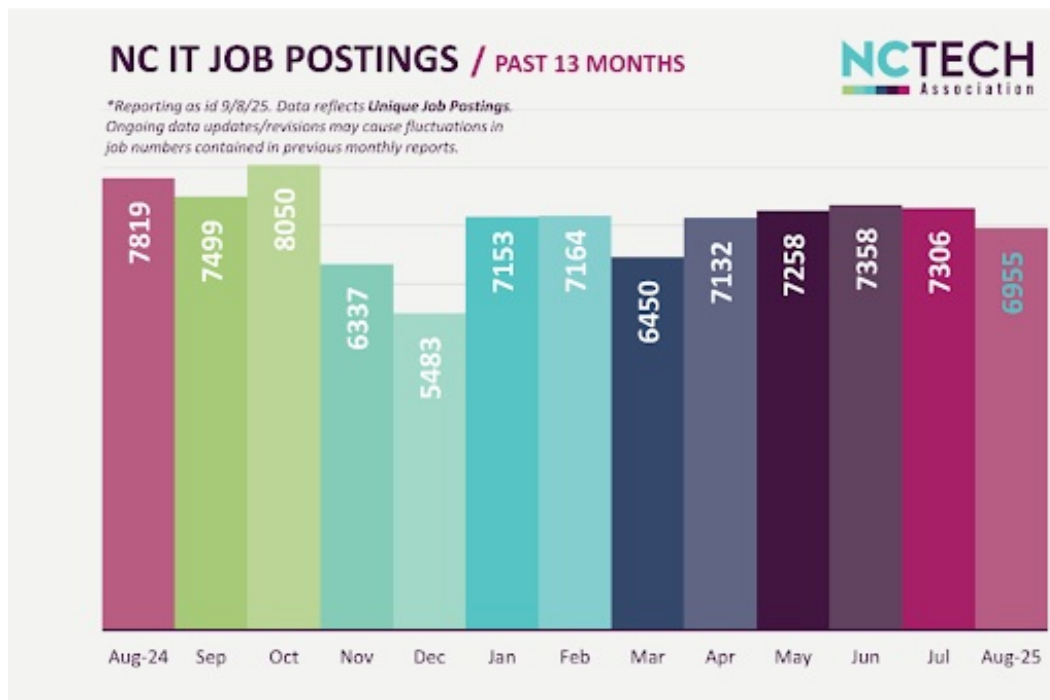
Interested in the 2025 NASA Space Apps Challenge? The 2025 NASA Space Apps Challenge Hackathon is coming soon, and we want to know if you're interested in joining! Space Apps is the world's largest annual hackathon, where participants from around the globe come together to solve challenges using NASA's open data. There are projects for all skill levels, from beginners to experienced coders and analysts. This is a fun challenge for teams of up to 6 people and is a great project for your resume! Registration for the event closes October 5th so apply soon!

Apply Now

# Data Science and Health Analytics IN THE NEWS

## NC IT Job Postings Show Fluctuations Over the Past Year

NC TECH's August IT Job Trends Dashboard reports a 4.8% dip in NC tech postings, compared to a 10% national decline. Despite the slowdown, NC continues to outperform national trends, with insights on regions, roles, skills, wages, and top employers shaping the state's tech workforce. Explore the full dashboard [here](#).



# Jobs, Fellowships, 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](mailto:jhertel@charlotte.edu)) or access the full UNC Charlotte community through the Career Center- See Below.

## School of Data Science Resume Book for Spring 2026– Submit Yours Today!

The SDS Resume book is OPEN. The SDS is collecting resumes from SDS students for spring 2026 to share with industry and community partners with available internships and full-time roles. Eligible students include December 2025 graduates seeking jobs and those qualified for Spring 2026 internships. Submit your resume (PDF), LinkedIn, and optional website/GitHub via the [SDS Resume Upload link](#). Visit your program site or the Career Center for resources and advising.



## Featured Jobs, Internships, and Assistantships

### Financial Rate Specialist, Parker Poe - Charlotte

The role involves analyzing large and complex datasets to determine appropriate rate levels and pricing structures, while maintaining accurate and up-to-date records within financial systems to ensure consistency and reliability. The position supports strategic pricing decisions by benchmarking against market trends and internal performance, generating reports and visualizations using tools like Excel, SQL, or BI platforms to guide stakeholders. Collaboration with cross-functional teams—including finance, sales, marketing, and legal—is essential to align pricing strategies with broader organizational goals. [Read more and Apply Here.](#)

### McKinsey & Company is Recruiting- Attention SDS Alumni and Soon-to-Be Grads:

McKinsey & Company is a global management consulting firm that helps businesses, governments, and organizations solve complex problems, improve performance, and drive strategic growth.

- [QB Data Scientist](#)
- [QB Data Scientist - Critical Industries](#)
- [Software Engineer](#)

**Mecklenburg County** is seeking a Graduate Data Science Intern to join the team in Charlotte, NC. This is a 6-month, in-person, part-time opportunity with the potential for renewal. Interested candidates should submit a resume, brief cover letter, and any relevant project samples or portfolio links to

**NC TECH Job Board:** NC TECH is North Carolina's leading technology trade association, providing advocacy, research, and networking to support and advance the state's tech industry. In addition to their monthly IT Job Trends Report, they also host a jobs board. CCI and the School of Data Science are members, and students have access to the reports and job postings.



**From the NC TECH Job Board:**

- [Senior Azure Data Engineer](#), MetLife
- [Principal AI Engineer](#), MetLife
- [DevOps / MLOps Engineer](#) - Asst VP, Deutsche Bank
- [Google Cloud Platform \(GCP\) DevOps Engineer](#), Deutsche Bank
- [Cyber Security Analyst I](#), Rapidscale

[Full Listing](#)

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**Meet the Employers: NC TECH Virtual Events**

Join NC TECH's virtual *Meet the Employers* series and connect directly with hiring managers, team leads, and tech professionals. Hear about open roles with [RapidScale](#) and [Deutsche Bank](#) skill requirements, workplace culture, and what makes a strong candidate.

Upcoming sessions:

- RapidScale – Oct. 1 | 1–1:45 p.m.
  - [Register Here](#)
  
- Deutsche Bank – Oct. 2 | 3–3:45 p.m.
  - [Register Here](#)

Whether you're an experienced pro, recent grad, or considering a career move into tech, this is your chance to have direct conversations with employers actively hiring. *(Note: registration is separate for each session.)*

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**Tech Careers at MetLife**

MetLife's Global Technology Hub in Cary, NC employs more than 2,600 individuals, all working in inviting, collaborative spaces to unite technology, operations, and customer service team members who are driving digital transformation for the organization. [Join the MetLife Talent Community.](#)

- See All [Open Roles at MetLife Global Technology Hub](#), Cary, NC



## More Internships

- [2026 Internship Consumer Banking \(Data and Analytics\), Ally](#) Charlotte, NC
- [Global Quantitative Data Summer 2026 Analyst Program, Bank of America](#)
- [Financial Analyst I Intern, Cisco](#) - Research Triangle Park, NC
- [2026 Summer Intern: Data Science, Spectrum](#) - Charlotte, NC
- [Statistical Science Intern\(PhD\), Thermo Fisher](#) - Morrisville, NC
- [Data Science/Health Informatics Intern, Siemens Healthineers](#) 5 locations nationwide

## Jobs

- [Data Scientist, Met Life](#) - Cary, NC
- [Director of Rentals Data Science, Zillow](#) - Remote
- [Data Scientist, Ford Motors](#) - Remote
- [Data Scientist Promotional Media, Emerging Experiences, Netflix](#) - Remote
- [Bioinformatics Data Scientist](#) - Astrix California

## CHECK HIRE-A-NINER FOR ADDITIONAL LISTINGS!

Hire-A-Niner is UNC Charlotte's online career platform managed by the [University Career Center](#). It connects students and alumni with job postings, internships, on-campus employment, career fairs, and interview opportunities. Students access it by logging in with their NinerNET credentials, setting up their profile, and uploading documents, such as a resume. Once active, they can search and apply for positions directly through the system. Newly admitted students gain access a few days after admission, although with limited job options initially.

### [Join the Technology | Data | Analytics Community :](#)

The Technology, Data, & Analytics Career Community Week will be held **September 15-19, 2025**.

## Job Search Resources

### [Kind Reminder:](#)

Make sure to check the company career pages regularly – it's one of the best ways to catch new opportunities as soon as they're posted. Charlotte is home to many well-known employers across various industries, including financial services companies such as [Bank of America](#), [Truist](#), and [Ally Financial](#); healthcare providers like Atrium Health and [Novant Health](#); and energy and technology companies like [Duke Energy](#) and [Honeywell](#).



CHECK HIRE-A-NINER FOR  
ADDITIONAL LISTINGS

# Alumni

## CORNER

## Alumni Recruitment: Share Your Opportunities with SDS Students

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.

**NOW  
HIRING!**

Here's what you can do:

- **Feature Your Job in the SDS Student Newsletter:**  
Have a job or internship opening? Send it to **Josh Hertel at [jhertel@charlotte.edu](mailto:jhertel@charlotte.edu)**, and we'll include it in the next SDS Student Newsletter, reaching over 800 current undergraduates and graduate students, plus 1,000+ SDS alumni.
- **Post Through Hire-A-Niner:** As an alumni, you can [use UNC Charlotte's Hire-A-Niner platform](#) as an employer, completely free. Post jobs and internships, Target specific majors or program levels (like Data Science, undergrad, or grad).

*Let us know when your post is live, and we'll promote it to SDS students via our newsletter. Questions? Contact the Career Center's Employer Engagement Team at [recruit@charlotte.edu](mailto:recruit@charlotte.edu).*

## Update Alumni Information

Keep your contact information current, you'll be sure to receive the latest information on SDS alumni events, news, announcements, and more. With more than 100,000 UNC Charlotte alumni and 500 (and growing) from the School of Data Science, you can connect with other fellow graduates around the globe. [Click here to update your contact and/or professional information.](#)



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