New York City College Of Technology

PDAC Faculty Travel

Book of Abstracts

Fall 2018

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Kimberly R Abrams, MTS, MLS
Assistant Professor
Library and Information Science

Optimizing Library Marketing with Short Links *Library Marketing and Communications Conference Library Marketing*

ABSTRACT

Marketing in libraries is often fraught with frustration that our efforts are wasted. This presentation details the way in which you can use a short link server, such as YOURLS, to track different promotional avenues and determine which marketing approaches work best when promoting e-resources and library services. The presenters will demonstrate the benefits of using a sh01t link server for marketing as well as present their own research utilizing the method of assigning different short links to the same resource. This enables librarians to track the number of clicks each marketing avenue achieves including: social media sites (Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter), LibGuides, mass emails, blogs, and print flyers. Participants will be able to follow the best marketing practices as informed by the study, and they will learn how to optimize library marketing for their own populations.

Alyssa Dana Adomaitis, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Business

Dress, Gender, and Identity: An Inclusion of Many Alyssa Dana Adomaitis and Eleazer Espinosa Jr. The New York City College of Technology, CUNY Diana Saiki, Ball State University Muncie, IN

2018 International Textiles & Apparel Association
Cleveland, OH Re-Imagine the Renewable

Keywords: Dress, Gender, Identity, Inclusion

ABSTRACT

Significance/Innovation of the Concept:
Dress consists of all modifications and supplements added to the human body. Dress includes not only visual changes to the body that can been seen by the eye but changes that involve taste, smell, sound, and touch. Dress supplements are inclusive of hats, shoes, and jewelry. Dressing the body using modifications and supplements hinder and/or facilitate communication (Roach-Higgins & Eicher, 1992). According to Roch-Higgins and Eicher, "dress is a coded sensory system of non-verbal commination that aids in human interaction in space and time" (p. 1). "It is also a definition that is free of personal or social valuing or bias, usable across national and cultural boundaries, and inclusive of all phenomena that can be accurately be designated as dress" (p. 1).
In recent times, there has been a paradigm shift with regards to gender prompting cultural changes not only in conversation, but in many facets of society.

Gender identity is defined as "one's internal, deeply-held sense of one's gender as male, female, or something else entirely." (Encyclopedia Britannica, 2016, p.1). The question being asked is "What is gender?" And "How do we define gender?" Many individuals no longer identify with "he" or "she" or "male" or "female" dichotomies. "Other" or "fill in the blank" no longer suffice; neither do male or female public restrooms. On the New York City's Commission of Human Rights website, readers are not provided with gender identification definitions for further understanding or clarification, but instead there are definitions of gender identity and gender expression. For example, at universities, such as University at California Berkeley, definitions could be found on online. Thirty-one genders are defined including *two-spirit* or an individual who is "Native American who have attributes of men and women, have distinct gender and social roles in their

Nora Almeida, MFA MLIS *Assistant*
Professor, Instruction Librarian
New York City College of Technology

Contested Sites of Critical Library Pedagogy
Critical Librarianship and Pedagogy (#CLAPS) Conference, 2018
University of Arizona, Tucson

ABSTRACT

Critical librarians often examine institutional environments as microcosms of cultural, political, and economic systems with which they are enmeshed. Within library classrooms, situated critical conversations about institutional oppression can be a useful framework for exploring shared and divergent experiences and belief systems. Exchanges in which we articulate and examine "cultural differences," might produce what critical theorist Homi K. Bhabha characterizes as "in between spaces" that can be contested and generative. The library, in particular, might be the appropriate terrain for this kind of dialogue because it is often viewed as a liminal space (in between disciplines and neat hierarchies and traditional classroom power dynamics) within the academy.

However, critical library educators must acknowledge that some students may be less invested in critiquing oppressive institutional environments than in gaining "cultural and social capital they will need for success in the world beyond academia (or inside it)" and that critical conversations can be polarizing in environments where a range of privileged, marginalized, and oppressed identities coexist, often in an uneasy tension with each other. Furthermore, the project of examining institutions is complex since these sites are colored by the values and meanings that we (librarians and students) project upon them. In this presentation we will explore some of the tensions that critical library pedagogy introduces in relation to different physical places and dialogic spaces. We will examine various contested pedagogical sites in and outside the library and present strategies to examine cultural difference inside the classroom and to shift the locus of critique beyond the institution.

Phillip Anzalone, AIA
Assistant Professor
Architectural Technology
NYCCT

Rapidly Deployed and Assembled Tensegrity System: An Augmented Design Approach
Association for Computer aided Design in Architecture ACADIA 2017: MIT Disciplines and Disruptions

ABSTRACT

The Rapidly Deployable and Assembled Tensegrity (RDAT) project enables the efficient automated design and deployment of differential-geometry tensegrity structures through computation-driven design-to-installation workflow. RDAT employs the integration of parametric and solid-modeling methods with production by streamlining computer numerically controlled manufacturing through novel detailing and production techniques to develop an efficient manufacturing and assembly system.
The RDAT project emerges from the Authors' research in academia and professional practice focusing on computationally produced full-scale performative building systems and their innovative uses in the building and construction industry.
The Rapidly Deployable and Assembled Tensegrity (RDAT) system developed from the authors' research focusing on the invention of computationally produced performative full-scale building systems and how they can have innovative uses in the building and construction industry (Anzalone 2014; Anzalone 2016). Currently, RDAT research is at a stage of full-scale production of tensegrity masts and plates with variable geometric configurations, including the necessary design, analysis and production workflow (Clarke and Anzalone 2006). The goal of the RDAT program is to enable rapid design and deployment of a wide variety of differential-geometry tensegrity structures through an augmented design process, engaging machine learning, automation and mixed-reality interfaces to produce a manufacturing and installation workflow at the scale of architectural building systems. The project incorporates the integration of parametric and solid-modeling methods to enable computer numerically controlled (CNC) manufacturing of components and efficient complex system assembly in the field.

Nina Bannett
Professor,
English Department

Resisting the Suburbs: "Lauren Groff's 'Ghosts and Empties'" Society for the Study of American Women Writers, Triennial Conference 2018: Resistance and Recovery Across the Americas

ABSTRACT

This paper examines Lauren Groff's 2015 story "Ghosts and Empties" and its depiction of a lone woman walking in the suburbs to resist domesticity. Groff fuses the physical and the psychological facets of walking by depicting a middle- class white woman walking amidst a contemporary wasteland. Told using first- person narration, Groff's unnamed protagonist lives in suburban Florida and takes a series of walks alone at night over winter months. In her nighttime walks,
Groff's narrator is both present and absent, an insider and an outsider, walking with no specific destination. "Ghosts and Empties" portrays a transgressive woman who walks alone to escape loss and societal expectations. Rather than staying home each night to tend to her nuclear family, the narrator resists being contained in what she disdainfully terms "domestic aquariums." On her nightly walks, watching other women who are confined to their roles as wives and mothers, Groff's narrator defies these prescribed roles, at least for a few hours a night. Walking is not only about physical removal but psychological freedom. As Rebecca Solnit asserts in her book *Wanderlust: A History of Walking* (2000): "[w]alking can become a sign of powerlessness or low status, and new urban and suburban design disdains walkers" (253). Groff's story resists this by depicting walking as an act of solitary defiance rather than powerlessness, one that is not dependent on social change. As a contemporary narrative that emphasizes landscape over plot, "Ghosts and Empties" resists what Julia Kristeva has called linear time, emphasizing instead the value of repetition, what Kristeva refers to as cyclical time.[1] In other words, as an act of resistance, circular movement is more important than forward motion, walking itself more important than final destination.

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[1] Julia Kristeva, "Women's Time." *The Kristeva Reader.* Ed. Toril Moi. Columbia UP.

Esteban Beita Solano, PhD
Assistant Professor
Architecture Technology

City Tech's architectural technology and nursing visions for transforming Brownsville maltiparpose health and wellaess ceater to redau ltaltll disparities iD cltildftD.
ICN Regional Conference 2018, Abu .Dhabi- UAE

ABSTRACT

Disparity in Brownsville	Design of the Health and WeUness Center
Uncontrolled Asthma Asthma related hospitalization rate is lOx higher than Borough Park. Housing Quality: Maintenance Defects contribute to respiratory illnesses 73% residents report defects that include water leaks,cracks and holes, inadequate beating, presence of mice or rats, toilet breakdown and peeling	• Center of Excellence in Asthma Treatment: Clinic space and human resources devoted to the delivery of evidenced-based quality care. Every child will have an asthma action pian. which promotEs control of asthma. • Asthma Action Plans will be communicated and coordinated with families and school nurses to remove barriers of asthma control. • Educational space and resources for families to learn bow to control their children's asthma symptoms.
School Absenteeism: 40% elementary school children have missed 20 or more school days per year.This is 2X higher than the Brooklyn and NYC rate. Chronic absenteeism contributes to high school incompletion. 37%inIJi&bSchool graduate on time. 53o/o are US graduates High school incompletion is a	• Decrease asthma related missed days from school with the services offered at the Center of Excellence io Asthma Treatment. • Boys and Girls Club of America: Vocational guidance, educational support/tutoring. foster civic engagement, leadership,and promote social and emotional skills. Support for emotional health and wellness with: screening for Adverse Childhood Experiences, referral to mental health services, mentoring for children and coaches for parents. • DesignS cience labs, media labs, learning
Prevention and Treabnent of Obesity. 32'1(, rate of obesity leads to serious problems such as diabetes and heart disease.	• Evidenced-based obesity and treatment for the entire family. • Oinic space and human resources devoted to the delivery of evidenced-based quality care. • Recreational facilities in climate controlled

Nadia Benakli
Associate Professor
Mathematics

Quantitative Reasoning Course: Resource and Challenges
National Numeracy Network 2018 Conference, October 12-0ctober14

ABSTRACT
The City University of New York (CUNY) implemented a general education Common Core called Pathways across all its colleges in Fall2013. To comply with the requirements of this new system, a Quantitative Reasoning course was created at City Tech. Since then, the course has benefited from a series of initiatives that were taken to better support our students' needs. In this talk we will present some of these initiatives.

I) The Quantitative Reasoning Fellowship program hires graduate students, from different majors, with strong quantitative expertise. The fellows run tutorial workshops for students, and they also work closely with instructors developing projects and modules on information and statistical literacy.

2) In Spring 2018, a couple of instructors experimented with a new textbook that focused on the discovery learning that required students to actively participate in class. The new approach exploited the importance of numeracy and literacy skills in many real-life situations.

Candido Cabo, PhD
Professor
Computer Systems Tech.

Title: Effectiveness of Flowcharting as a Scaffolding Tool to Learn Python
Conference: Frontiers in Education 2018

ABSTRACT

This Research to Practice Full Paper evaluates the effectiveness of flowcharting as a scaffolding tool to learn a programming language like Python in the setting of an urban institution that serves mostly underrepresented minority students. We found that the abilities of students to solve problems using flowcharts is a good predictor of their ability to solve problems with Python (r-squared = 0.68). This means that the majority of students who perform well using flowcharts will perform well in Python. A majority of students found flowcharting easier than Python (63%), and reported that flowcharting helped them understand how to write programs in Python (73%). However, flowcharting is not a magic bullet for learning programming because about 31% of students have difficulty solving problems with a flowcharting tool (and Python). We also found that the ability of students to read code is not highly correlated with their ability to write code in Python. In conclusion: 1) For a majority of students flowcharting is an effective scaffolding tool to learn Python; 2) The ability to read and trace code is not predictive of the ability of students to solve problems and write viable programs in Python.

Yu-Wen Chen, PhD
Assistant Professor
Smart Grid, Cloud Computing, Big data
Computer Systems Technology

The awardee's role at the event is attendee and judge for the Student Poster Contest. No formal presentation was given during the conference, but the professional research ideas are exchanged with other researchers. Collaboration and funding opportunities were explored. As a member of multiple subcommittees (i.e., Computing and Analytical Methods Subcommittee, Big Data Analytics
Subcommittee, and Intelligent Systems Applications Subcommittee) the awardee attended meetings and involved in the discussion during the conferences.

Kenneth Conzelmann, AIA, ARA
Assistant Professor
Architecture
Architectural Technology

Spaces & Flows: Ninth International Conference on Urban and ExtraUrban Studies
25-26 October 2018, Heidelberg, Germany

ABSTRACT:

Continuing with my research and engagement with sustainability topics, this conference offered an opportunity to participate with over 100 academics, practitioners and policy makers from around the world. With its broad title, the conference allowed for an array of disciplines and a healthy variety of viewpoints, all with the common focus of making for a cleaner, safer and healthier environment.

My conference presentation was a furtherance of a study, part of a CUNY RF grant, which began in Europe in 2010 and included on-site observations and documentation of passive design. Passive House, a building which consumes nearly zero energy, a building which, in a sense, just lies there, benefits from strategic site orientation, protective vegetation, super insulation and healthful ventilation. But we can take it further. Enter, the Active House: a building which benefits from selected Passive House principles yet is optimized by incorporating technologies of clean renewable energy sources such as geothermal, solar and photovoltaics, wind and bio-mass, producing more energy than the building requires. Utilizing the best of both worlds, the hybrid Passive/Active House proposes that all buildings can in themselves play a vital role as independent local power plants. This can be our future!

I look forward to sharing this most recent conference experience with students, colleagues and professional peers and will continue to infuse these ideas into the practice of architecture and construction, principles which help contribute to a more healthful and responsible built environment, and a fresh ethical approach to living, building and sharing the planet responsibly

Ruth G. Garcia,
Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
English

"I heard all that was saying within": Servant Proximity and the Master-Servant Hierarchy East-Central American Society of 18th Century Studies, 2018
Perfonning the 18th Century

Abstract

James C. Scott in *Domination and the Arts of Resistance: Hidden Transcripts* explains, that there can be multiple meanings to a subordinate's performance of the role prescribed by those in power. He writes, "What may look from above like the extraction of a required performance can easily look from below like the artful manipulation of deference and flattery to achieve its own ends (34). For this reason, in the eighteenth-century those employing domestics felt significant anxiety about the presence of these household figures. The key worry, expressed in a variety of ways, was that servants can use or perform their roles for their own advantage and/or to the detriment of their masters. Of special concern was the proximity household servants had to their masters which afforded them the ability to observe and learn their master's secrets and ways.

This paper examines Maria Edgeworth's *Castle Rackrent* and William Godwin's *Caleb Williams* which depict the servant's privileged position within a family and the way it allows him to witness and have access to information and secrets. I argue that in these novels the servant's place allows him to usurp the master's authority because in each case, the servant's situation allows him to gather and use information to his advantage, attaining a master-like authority. In *Castle Rackrent,* Thady's knowledge and ability to tell his master's story literally shapes parts of the plot and alters the Rackrent family. The unique knowledge that Thady acquires from his servant position below stairs, allows Jason (his son) to take the first step towards becoming a landowner and ultimately towards acquiring the Rackrent estate and thus replacing Sir Condy. In *Caleb Williams* Caleb's position in the home gives him access to his master's secret, giving him power over Falkland because he controls his master's image for the reader. When retelling of the way he attains his masters' secret he also builds a powerful narrative identity for himself. Moreover, Caleb's ability to watch and to report destabilizes the master's authority because it affects Falkland's behavior, forcing the master to acknowledge the servant and the authority of his gaze. In both cases, the ability to imitate the master's class and behavior makes the servant a social threat to the family and master

In both texts, the threat represented by the servant takes on larger implications. As Carolyn Steedman explains, "Domestic servants were a rich resource for thinking about the social order" *(Labour's Lost* 13). Similarly, Julie Nash argues that, "to write about family life and the relationships between employers and employees who live under the same roof was inevitably to address issues of power and politics" *(Servants and Paternalism* 51). This paper proposes to explore the servant in Godwin's and Edgeworth's texts to highlight these authors' contradictory stances on the social order.

George Guida
Professor
English Department

"The Return of Rose Romano" and "Italian American Poets: A Reading Series" The Italian American Studies Association Conference
The Conflicts of Immigration Past and Present: The Position(ing) of Italian and the Diaspora

ABSTRACT

In the 1980s and 1990s, Rose Romano, whose volume of collected poems, *Neither seen nor heard,* appeared in 2016, led the shift in focus of Italian American writing from cultural nostalgia toward the examination of ethnic consciousness. The speakers of her poems present Italian Americans allowing themselves to be separated from their ltalianness and portrayed as mainstream white Americans. They often express shame for Italian Americans' having denied their cultural identities instead of defending them. Romano's poems highlight Italian Americans' struggle against both disparagement as unacceptable others and their own unwillingness to call out such denigration.

Many of her poems are activist poems, correctives to narratives about an ethnic group whose ethnicity may be either summarily dismissed or reduced to offensive shorthand. They respond to external preconceptions and internal conceptions of Italian American ethnicity and to the commodification of ethnic culture in the wake of post-1960s activism. This activism itself grew from the erasure of culture. Her antidote to such erasure and commodification is a complex portrayal of ethnic consciousness. This strategy contests the definition of ethnicity through a symbolic assemblage of artifacts and behaviors; and demands instead that we account for multiple identities within an ethnic group.

A reassessment of Romano·s greatest poems reveals the central place of her poetry in the canon of post-modem Italian American letters, and makes a case for further study of her work and career.

Ezra Halleck
Assistant Professor
Mathematics

SageDays@ICERM: Combinatorics and Representation Theory from July 23 to 27, 2018

Abstract:

SageMath is an open-source mathematical software package based on the Python programming language. As a combinatorialist with an interest in representation theory, I wanted to see how the various presenting researchers have made use of SageMath to advance their agenda. But perhaps more importantly, the math department and now recently the CIS department is moving towards having much of its instruction and student work based on Python. Since the conference, I have made more use of Python in my teaching, in particular for the MAT 2440 Discrete Structures I, taken by both math and CIS students which I taught in spring 2019. In fall 2019, I will teach Discrete Stuctures II for the first time and expect to make even more use of Python as well as some aspects of SageMath. I hope to extend what I use of SageMath this fall to my graph theory research as well.

Carole K. Harris
Professor
English Department

"Black Christ: Maryat Lee and the Stigmata of Race"
2018 *I* Flannery **O'**Connor and Social Activism

Abstract

In April 2018, a retired Georgia College professor, John Sailstrom, pulled out of basement storage at Pine Ridge Baptist Church in Milledgeville a painting by Flannery O'Connor's activist friend Maryat Lee. **It** pictures a suffering black Christ on the cross, with facial features and woolly hair to cue us about race. Christ as a slightly fleshed out stick figure could give a cartoonish effect, but the chaos of the scene adds emotional gravitas. The painting had long been missing. Maryat's niece, Mary Dean Lee, had been hunting for years and shared clues with Sallstrom. His detective work drew on his connections to the African-American community and led him to Pine Ridge Baptist member W. E**.** Walker. A relative of Walker**,** Olivia Thomas, had commissioned Maryat to paint a black Christ on the cross for her church. The painting was displayed only briefly**—** many members of the all-black congregation disliked it**—** before being taken down**,** stored, forgotten.

We can guess that Lee painted the black Christ in 1960 while in Milledgeville due to a painful hysterectomy that she thought marked her as a female amputee. I suggest that Lee displaces the gender opposition she feels acutely within her family, but cannot acknowledge**,** onto African-Americans. In the suffering of the black Christ, Lee sees herself. The painting was part of a pattern of Lee's disruptions of the status quo. Lee's sense of sharing oppression, her unexamined identification with minorities**,** carries an element of racism. Lee remains blind to the power dynamics at work in her relationship to blacks. O'Connor called Lee out on this, but O'Connor herself, in her compliance to a southern code of manners, had an equally problematic relationship to the power dynamics of race.

John Huntington
Professor
Entertainment Technology

International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA) Expo 2018, Orlando, FL, US, Nov. 13 - 16 2018

Abstract

The IAAPA show and conference is an amazing happening that features everything from cotton candy machines to roller coasters, and (the reason I go) from underwater sensors to high-tech animatronic characters. This year, I spent a lot of time discussing with a group of colleagues about cutting-edge timing and synchronization technologies used on shows from the Radio City Christmas Spectacular to Disney's new Star Wars land. These evolving technologies will be the focus of our workshop at this summer's Infocomm get together, and are part of my research for my upcoming fellowship leave and likely an article for a trade publication.

Tina Kao, PhD
Assistant Professor
Psychology
Social Science

Participants Rely on Both Absolute and Relative Position When Making Inferen Lists

59th Annual Meeting Psychonomic Society, November 15-18, 2018
Spatial Memory and Cognition

ABSTRACT

Human participants learned 5 different 5-item lists (A1-B1-C1-D1-E1, A2-B2-C2-D2-E2, etc) using a transitive inference (TI) paradigm in which only adjacent pairs were trained. Participants were then tested with pairs from 5 derived lists, in which only one item from each of the original lists was selected (e.g. A2-B5-C4-D1-E3). Participants exceeded chance in selecting the earlier stimulus for each derived list at the start of testing. This result cannot be explained by TI alone, since test pairs came from distinct lists. In a second experiment, a different group of participants was given the same training, but the ordinal positions of items varied systematically in derived lists (e.g. B3-C1-D2-A4-E5). Participants' accuracy was greater than chance to the extent that an item's original ordinal position was retained. These results show that participants make inferences using knowledge of both absolute and relative ordinal position on derived lists.

Roman Ya. Kezerashvili
Professor
Physics Department

Exploring the Kuiper Belt with sun-diving solar sails

ABSTRACT

The Kuiper Belt is a disc-shaped region extending ~35-50 AU from the Sun that is populated by volatile-rich objects including the dwarf planet Pluto and >100,000 bodies larger than 100 kilometers across and as many as a trillion smaller comets. After the discovery of Pluto in 1930, the next discovery of a Kuiper Belt Object (KBO) was in 1992. The NASA New Horizons Probe encountered Pluto and its satellites in 2015 and is in route to a second Kuiper Belt destination [1]. It is possible to survey many Kuiper Belt Objects (KBOs) using a single launch. Many wafer-scale spacecraft, each equipped with solar sails, could be unfurled from a single interplanetary bus at the perihelion of that craft's solar orbit. Each wafer-scale spacecraft would carry a scientific payload and would be directed to intersect one or more KBOs. Perihelion temperature effects and trajectory corrections necessary to overcome warped space-time in the Sun's gravity well are calculated follow Refs. [2] and [3], respectively. The proposed scenario is the following: the sails are carried as a payload to a relatively small heliocentric distance (0.1 - 0.2 AU); once at the perihelion, the sails are deployed. Besides electromagnetic propulsion due to the solar radiation, another mechanism could be convenient: thermal desorption, a physical process of mass loss which can provide additional thrust as heating liberates atoms, embedded on the surface of a solar sail [4,5]. Therefore, sails experience additional propulsive force due to the thermal desorption.

Paul King
Professor
Architectural Department

The Mentoring Institute at University of New Mexico

The 11th Annual Mentoring Conference, ***Mentoring, Coaching, and Leadership for Innovation and Entrepreneurship***. This five-day event will take place Monday, October 22, 2018 through Friday, October 26, 2018 at the Student Union Building on UNM's main campus in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Theoretical to practical: a program uses the best practices of formal & informal mentoring

Abstract

Moving from the theoretical to the practical this presentation focuses on the development of a new mentoring program that makes use of the best practices of both Formal and Informal mentoring. The logical next step in a progression of research that has focused on Architecture including; Mentoring in Architecture: It all starts in the classroom (2014), The Solar Decathlon: Mentoring an Urban Population (2016) and Formal or Informal Mentoring: What are the strengths of each approach? (2017)

CityTech's department of Architecture has been approved as a candidate school by the National Architectural Accrediting Board for the creation of a 5 year professional degree program in Architecture. This initiative is significant as it provides access to a professional degree for an underserved and urban minority population. The first cohort of students entered the program in the fall of 2017 and are set to graduate in the spring of 2022.

As our typical student is often the first member of their family to attend college the support and guidance provided by a mentoring program is particularly valuable. Challenges to our success include how to achieve both faculty/mentor and student/mentee buy-in and how to maintain strong and positive relationships in a commuter based population.

The design of this mentoring program is fast track, meaning its implementation has begun before all of the pieces are in place and it will evolve - side by side with new coursework. This presentation will define our goals, clarify our strategy and report on our progress to date.

Hong Li
Professor
Computer Systems Technology Department

Short Term Load Forecasting by Adaptive Neural Network

2018 2nd International Conference on Aerospace Technology, Communications and Energy Systems (ATCES 2018) Sept. 15-17, 2018 Shanghai , China

ABSTRACT

The Generation and load balance is required in economic scheduling of the generating units and in electricity market trades. Energy forecasting became very important to mitigate some of the challenges that arise from the uncertainty in the resource. The paper presents a structure of artificial neural network with an adaptive learning algorithm used for a short-term forecasting of hourly electric power load. Historical data are sourced from Global Energy Forecasting Competition 2017 (GEFCom2017) including forecasting in the domains of electric load, weather, wind power, solar power, and electricity prices. An adaptive learning algorithm is derived from analysis of system stability to ensure convergence of training process. A simplified condition of learning factor is driven for use of computer simulation. An upper bound of learning factors is derived from the theory of convergence. At iteration of network training, a learning factor is defined to satisfy the convergence condition. The simulations with different initial state of network structure demonstrate that training error steadily decrease with an adaptive learning factor starting at different initial values whereas errors behave volatile with constant learning factors. The comparison demonstrated that a learning factor arbitrarily chosen out of the predefined stability domain leads to an unstable identification of the considered system; however, an adaptive learning factor satisfying the conditions chosen for this study ensures the stability of the identification system.

D. Robert MacDougall, PhD
Assistant Professor
Philosophy
Social Science

How Artificial Would AI Ethics Advice Be? How Intelligent? Exploring the Future of AI in Clinical Ethics

American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Conference 2018
The Future is Now: Bioethics and Humanities Reimagine an Uncertain World

As AI technologies become more powerful and find broader applications, they might have a role in clinical ethics consultations, such as using natural language algorithms to define or clarify ethical questions from clinical notes or spoken conversations. The frontiers of AI are murky. Will it ever be possible for non-human intelligence to reason? If so, could a machine "reason" through difficult ethical terrain? Could it identify ethical issues that clinicians have failed to see, or is it limited to questions posed to it? The prospect of AI integration into the clinical world also raises important questions about the nature of clinical ethics consultation and the role of the clinical ethicist. Are ethicists advocates? Impartial interpreters of moral theory? Practitioners of conflict resolution? Answering these questions is crucial for evaluating AI's potential. The first panelist will address AI capacities both in the present and the foreseeable future. The second panelist will address issues of moral authority and how AI might affect the normative status of ethics consultations of a variety of kinds. The third panelist will discuss how AI inclusion could affect members of minority ethical communities and potentially improve cultural competency. The fourth panelist will offer a perspective critical of the possibility that AI can "reason" adequately or perform the type of moral analysis necessary for ethics consultation. AI technology is in its infancy, but the commentators on this panel agree that now is the ideal time to begin evaluating its application in the future of ethics consultation.

Bridget Maley, PhD
Assistant Professor
Nursing Department

A WRITING ASSIGNMENT TO ADDRESS NURSING CURRICULUM GAPS ON LGBT+ HEALTH ISSUES

GLMA Nursing Summit/GLMA Conference 2018

ABSTRACT

LGBT+ populations account for 4% of the US population, yet health disparities persist, which are considered a priority in health care systems. In nursing education programs, the allotment in time to cover LGBT+ health content is not mandated thus ranges from zero to several hours total in nursing curricula. Therefore, nursing students' education regarding LGBT+ health issues remains minimal and inconsistent throughout the nation's nursing programs. The aim of the study was to provide associate degree nursing students with exposure to the health disparities in LGBT+ populations through a reflective writing assignment. Using a retrospective content analysis approach, the essays from 61 associate degree nursing students were read and re-read by both authors. Similar statements were grouped together, and themes emerged for both authors. The content analysis from the students' essays, which exposed the students to LGBT+ health issues, yielded intriguing and encouraging data. Four themes regarding LGBT+ health emerged from the students' essays: 1) communication, 2) advocacy, 3) increased knowledge and awareness, and 4) empathy development. Such results suggested that a reflective writing assignment was beneficial for nursing students and exposed and familiarized them with the disparities of LGBT+ populations. Through analysis of the students' essay contents, the two faculty researchers were able to identify improved knowledge and awareness from the writing assignment.

PDAC Abstract Formatting Guidelines

Awardees should follow this format. These abstracts may be presented to the college community unless you indicate otherwise.

Benito Mendoza-Garcia
Assistant Professor
Computer Engineering Technology

Attending the Deep Learning Submit, Boston, MA, May 23 -24, 2019

ABSTRACT

I just attended the conference. However, I took the opportunity to keep myself updated with current developments and industrial applications of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning, and Deep Learning in Particular. The keynote speakers were phenomenal. It is always exciting and inspiring to meet distinguished scholars, entrepreneurs, data scientist, and industry leaders who share how they are contributing to solve some of the biggest problems in the world and how they are solving issues in their institutions. One interesting topic discussed during this conference was the use of artificial intelligence and augmented reality. I think these technologies will play an essential role in revolutionizing our society and lifestyle, including education. Besides of attending several interesting talks, I have started conversations with people from iRobot, Cellartiy (health care), PartnerOnAI (ethics in AI) for collaborating on developing a practical content for the curriculum of my CET4973: Intro Artificial Intelligence course.

June 14, 2019
Office of the Provost

Diana Mincyte
Associate Professor
Sociology
Social Science

Practicing Ecological Citizenship on Urban Farms: Fragmented Care and the Politics of Participation in lithuania

Rural Sociological Society annual meeting and conference
Portland, OR, July 26-29, 2018

ABSTRACT

While the concept of ecological citizenship has been embraced by scholars studying alternative agro-food networks, most of this work tends to focus on consumption and lifestyle politics, often overlooking production as a site for practicing (post)cosmopolitan politics (e.g. Seyfang 2006, cf. Lockie 2009). The purpose of this paper is to focus on a particular form of agricultural work— urban fanning— to examine how farmers negotiate global environmental concerns with specific acts of work and care for the land. Empirically, we examine urban farming initiatives in Vilnius, Lithuania, where urban agriculture is a relatively new practice and has to be negotiated with locally existing self-provisioning schemes. We take a comparative-historical perspective to track the implementation of the ecological citizenship project in global peripheries. Based on ethnographic fieldwork spanning seven months, participant observations, and 18 semi-structured interviews, our research shows that urban fanners are less committed to the plants or land plots than ideas and identities of being global citizens. To conceptualize these practices, we introduce the term of "fragmented care." By "fragmented;' we build on Zygmunt Bauman's analysis of modernization to track the shift from material concerns over plants, soil or water to the focus on the efforts to grapple with global issues such as climate change, overconsumption or pollution. More importantly, such care has a different temporal organization, as it no longer relies on routines, but on special occasions and events during which the work is performed. What is lost in the process of such fragmentation of care is the intimacy of relationships tying human and non-human worlds in specific places. On the other hand, the farmers find new ways to care for and embrace their moral commitment to a shared global future. Our paper concludes with a discussion about diverging forms of care in ecological citizenship and a reflection on how important care for specific plants and land is, as we face planetary challenges.

Marissa J. Moran, JD
Associate Professor
Law and Paralegal Studies Department

Solo Panelist: *Who Speaks for the Paralegal Studies Student?*
American Association. For Paralegal Education National Conference 2018
Newport, Rhode Island
October 31, 2018 through November 3, 2018

ABSTRACT

In teaching the legal studies student about forensic science as it relates to the law, the instructor has a wealth of criminology and other similar scientific textbooks from which to draw upon for their lectures and class discussions. Much of what is contained in these resources is written from the viewpoint of someone working in the science disciplines with a focus on how law enforcement makes use of particular aspects of science to investigate crimes along with a peppering of condensed case studies. In order to assist the legal studies students in realizing the significance of and recognizing the connection with forensic science towards improving and refining their skills in the legal realm, in essence the legal aspects of forensic science, an instructor essentially must improvise these materials. The gap in the legal studies curriculum, particularly in this blended subject area of law and science needs to be bridged for those students who choose to study law and who choose to work in the legal environment. This paper will examine alternate methods which forensic science & the legal process can be taught to maximize the potential for the legal studies student so that they may utilize this specialized knowledge and acquired skills from the course to deftly assist attorneys in the workforce.

> *..Wherever he steps, wherever he touches, whatever he leaves, even without consciousness, will serve as a silent witness against him. Not only his fingerprints or his footprints, but his hair, the fibers from his clothes, the glass he breaks. the too/ mark he leaves. the paint he scratches, the blood or semen he deposits or collects. All of these and more, bear mute witness against him. This is evidence that does no/ forget. It is not confused by the excitement of the moment. It is not absent because human witnesses are. It is factual evidence. Physical evidence cannot be wrong, it cannot perjure itself, it cannot be wholly absent. Only human failure to find it, study and understand it,can diminish its value.*
>
> Paul L. Kirk, 1953 Crime Investigation: physical evidence and the police laboratory. lnterscience Publishers, Inc. New York.

Serdar Ozlek
Assistant Professor
Mechanical Engineering
Mechanical Engineering Technology

Finite Element Education Program Improves Mechanical Engineering Technology Student Performance in The Finite Element Class

ASME 2018 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition
Conference November 9-15

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to develop Graphical User Interfaces (GUI) in MATLAB's Finite Element educational program and describe how MATLAB GUI programs have been used as educational tools to train Engineering Technology students and improve the success of the students in the Finite Element course.
The complexity of FE analysis forces most of the course to focus on the theoretical aspects of generating FEA models, rather than the application of this analysis tool to solve real world problems. New tools are needed to improve the teaching of Finite Element due to the complexity of FE analysis. FEA can be performed by many commercial difficult FEA software with very specific data entry requirements available in the market. Engineering Technology students improve their learning when the coursework is less theoretical, and more application. Hence, a graphical user interface (GUI) application can provide an additional tool to help teach Engineering technology students. The Finite Element Educational Program has been developed to make the course more challenging to increase the interest in the finite element course of the students and overcome the difficulties of complex software.
I have developed a Finite Element Educational Program using a MATLAB GUI for spring, bar, truss and beam elements to improve student learning of difficult engineering concepts, along with gaining essential knowledge of finite element analysis and design content knowledge. For example, the total stiffness matrix and reduced matrix for the given problem are calculated in the designed program, and these calculated values are not available in any commercial FEA software because these programs are not aimed at education. For over five years, The Finite Element Educational Program results show improvement in student knowledge of difficult engineering concepts and has made finite element lessons easier for students to learn and understand

Kat Roberts, MA
Substitute Lecturer
Business and Technology of Fashion
Business Department

The Collaborative Quilting Project
A Parisian Salon, July 14-28
The Soul of Fashion

ABSTRACT

The Collaborative Quilting Project, an ongoing and inclusive body of work, was born out of a desire to foster a creative dialogue, while acting as a visual representation of the complex issues surrounding fashion, used fashion objects that have served their purpose, and the act of making itself.

Quilt squares were intentionally selected as the vehicle for this project, as many of them are integral to the creation of a whole quilt. Having a variety of artists involved in the making of the quilt is symbolic of the many hands through which a garment passes in its lifecycle. Some of them known to us, some are anonymous laborers a world away, but all are essential. Despite the unifying medium of worn denim, all artists were encouraged to create the 10" x 10" square in any way they preferred, some choosing to include statements about the piece's production, or personal significance of the components involved. In a world where individuals are being made to feel that speeding up is not only desirable, but essential, the objective of this project is to encourage slowing down, consideration, all while considering the concept of "what is valued/what is without value" through an individualized creative practice. All of which is antithetical to a fast fashion mentality. The particular focus on jeans is based on the fact that they are one of the most ubiquitous pieces of clothing in the world. This wardrobe staple transcends age, race, and class, occupying a unique iconic status that has made them invulnerable to trends or ever seeming old-fashioned. Jeans occupy a privileged position among garments. While most clothing in this country is tossed out at the first signs of wear-and-tear, many wearers feel that jeans are made more desirable for their signs of having been lived in.

Satyanand Singh, PhD
Associate Professor
Number Theory
Mathematics

Extensions of the Calkin Wilf Tree

Integers Conference 2018
Combinatorics and Number Theory

ABSTRACT

In this presentation we consider a refinement of the Calkin Wilf tree due to Nathanson. In particular we study the properties of such trees associated with the matrices, **Lu=[1 u; 0 1], Rv=ll 0; v 1],** where 11 and *v* are nonnegative integers. We extend several known results of the original Calkin-Wilf tree, including symmetry, numerator-denominator, and successor formulas to this new setting. The talk will culminate with recent results on collision free bounds of the BSV Hash function. This is based on joint work with Sandie Han, Ariane M. Masuda and Johann Thiel.

Annette J. Saddik
Professor
English

2018 Provincetown Tennessee Williams Festival

Abstract:

During the 2018 Provincetown Tennessee Williams Festival, I conducted a panel presentation on Williams's 1950 play, *The Rose Tattoo,* starring Irene Gleznos and directed by Dana Greenfield, in conjunction with the world premiere of Williams's one-act 1937, *Talisman Roses*, starring Amanda Plummer and directed by Marsha Mason. I spoke about the plays' themes and histories and interviewed those involved with their production. I also saw a production of *Will Mr. Merriwether Return from Memphis?* (1969), a play I had edited for publication in 2008 and advised on. I saw a total of 6 plays, including *Some Problems for the Moose Lodge* (1980), which I have written about, but have never seen before.

Maura A. Smale, PhD MLIS
Professor
Library

Save the Time of the Reader: Narratives of Undergraduate Course Reading
Association of College & Research Libraries Conference 2019
Recasting the Narrative

ABSTRACT

Learn about research into academic reading habits that examines why undergraduates may not complete their required course reading. Interviews with students at a large, urban, public, commuter university explored students' course reading access and practices, and the impact on their use of time. Students described multiple ways to acquire and engage with course materials, and shared challenges including prior knowledge, reading proficiency, and institutional support. Results from this study enable librarians to consider their role in supporting undergraduates in completing their course readings, and to encourage students' success in college.

PDAC Abstract

Johann Thiel, PhD
Assistant Professor
Mathematics

Maximal and Average Behavior of Elements in (u, v)-Calkin-Wilf Trees
Joint Mathematics Meetings – Jan. 16-19, 2019

ABSTRACT
The Calkin-Wilf tree is an infinite binary tree enumerating the positive rationals that has many interesting properties. In particular, one can compute the maximal and average values of elements of a fixed depth in the tree. In this talk we will extend these results to a generalization, due to Nathanson, of the Calkin-Wilf tree referred to as the (u, v) Calkin-Wilf tree for positive integers u and v.

Junior Tidal
Associate Professor
Library Science
Library

Optimizing Library Marketing with Short Links
Library Marketing and Communications Conference 2018

Abstract

Marketing in libraries is often fraught with frustration that our efforts are wasted. This presentation details the way in which you can use a short link server, such as YOURLS, to track different promotional
avenues and determine which marketing approaches work best when promoting e-resources and library services. The presenters will demonstrate the benefits of using a short link server for marketing as well as present their own research utilizing the method of assigning different short links to the same resource. This enables librarians to track the number of clicks each marketing avenue achieves including: social media sites (Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter), LibGuides, mass emails, blogs, and print flyers. Participants will be able to follow the best marketing practices as informed by the study, and they will learn how to optimize library marketing for their own populations.

Melanie Villatoro
Assistant Professor
Civil Engineering
Civil Engineering and Construction
Management Technology

Women of Color in STEM Award Educational Leadership - College-Level Promotion of Education
23rd Women of Color STEM Conference
Detroit, October 11-13, 2018
Press for Progress: It's Our Time

ABSTRACT – Award Introduction and Speech

Introduction
Our first honoree, Melanie Villatoro, is committed to the success of her students and is actively engaged in increasing the number of underrepresented minority groups studying civil engineering.

She is exceptionally deserving for this award because of her passion and compassion to raise leaders in STEM fields, to increase the STEM workforce with technically-savvy and exceedingly qualified graduates, and to create a seamless pipeline for K-12 students to consider STEM as a possible career, particularly underrepresented minorities.

She is always seeking new opportunities to increase STEM exposure in the community and implement activities to assist her students on their path to graduation and beyond. I am proud to present Melanie Villatoro.

Acceptance Speech
My parents moved here from Guatemala when I was 10 months old to provide better opportunities for my siblings and me. I have strived to make them proud and ensure their American Dream came true through my success. They gave me confidence and encouraged me throughout my academic and professional career. I recognize the importance of a support network for the success of first generation college students, females in particular, and coordinate initiatives to make this possible. It is my responsibility to be a role model and provide opportunities in STEM to populations that remain highly underrepresented in the field. Thank you.

Laura Westengard, PhD
Associate Professor
English

"What about the Human?" Humans, Monsters, Waste

American Studies Association Conference 2018
Conference Theme: Emergence
Panel: "What about the Human?" Humans, Monsters, Waste
Chair: Laura Westengard

ABSTRACT

This panel brought together scholars from across the country whose work addresses the cultural and literary functions of the concept of humanity, specifically as it relates to the non-human or dehumanized. Anthony Bayani Rodriguez from St. John's University presented "Sylvia Wynter's Michigan Lectures, 1972-73." Khanh Vo from the College of William and Mary presented "The Lives and Afterlives of Julia Pastrana: Emerging Challenges to the Discourse of Life and Death." Michael Stokes from the Michigan State University presented "Monstrous Figures: Implications of the Emergence of Disability as Centerpiece to American Horror Cinema," and Sarah Diane Buckner from the University of California, Riverside presented "Configuring the Alternative: Theorizing Blackness through Excrement *inSula."* As chair, I set the tone for the panel, moderated questions and answers, and provided commentary following the paper presentations.

Angran Xiao, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Engineering Design and Manufacturing
Department of Mechanical Engineering Technology

ASME 2018 International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition
Pittsburgh, PA, November 9–15, 2018

Assessing the Educational Effectiveness of a System Engineering Software in Capstone Design Projects

Abstract:

The increasing complexity of engineering and technology requires that students master an increasing amount of abstract knowledge to remain competitive in today's job market. However, today's students find it difficult to create mental images of abstract concepts, due to lack of real world experience. This problem is more evident in advanced design classes teaching product design concepts and methodologies. In this paper, we introduce a system engineering software package that is used in our capstone design class, with which students are able to create their own framework of product development activities, control information flows, and manage tools and engineering models in each activity. This allows them to plan out and manage their projects using the design methodologies that they learned in class. We assessed student learning in the capstone design class for the last 7 semesters. Independent Samples t-Test and factorial ANOVA are used to analyze the student performance before and after using the software package. We have observed that in the design classes, the system engineering software enables students to practice design methodologies by visualizing and managing product development processes. This helps students not only understand the abstract design methodologies, but also apply the methodologies to their projects and accomplish them more efficiently.

Keywords: Capstone Design, Design Methodology, System Engineering, Product Lifecycle Management

Zheng Zhu
Assistant Professor
Humanities Department

Title: Re-constructing "China" in a Transnational Context

Abstract

This study critically examines two Chinese newspapers' representation of China as a "nation" and "culture." Prior studies have deeply and broadly explored various ways through which China, Chinese culture, and nationalism were constructed in popular media forums. What has been missing is a continued exploration of these constructions offered by Chinese media sources that are published outside the dominant Chinese cultural, national, and political contexts. Using *World Journal* and *Sing Tao Daily*, two major Chinese newspapers published and circulated in Chinese-speaking communities that are outside Chinese-speaking countries, as the texts for analysis, this study produces important findings that demonstrate how China is constructed as a contested, contextual, multilayered, and divided cultural and national "concept." Based on the study's result, future inquiries can continue to analyze the representation of China across multiple media and linguistic platforms.

Key words: China; Newspapers; Nation; Nationalism; Culture.