



**The Sentinel: April 19, 2021**

**News and events happening in the [Computer Science Department](#)**

**CS Tea Talks - Spring Term:**

Tea Talks take place via Zoom on most Thursdays during the academic year. To receive the zoom link signup for the [cs-interest mailinglist](#) then join us **via Zoom 4:00-4:45pm**. Watch for emails from Professor Rafferty highlighting details about our talks and the Zoom link; also check for details on the CS department [website](#)

**April 22: [CS Tea: Professor Beth Trushkowsky](#)** (Harvey Mudd College) will be speaking about her research. In this talk, we'll learn about how to meld the power of databases with the power of human computation, leading to powerful systems that leverage strengths of both people and computers. **Talk Details:** Micro-task crowdsourcing platforms like Amazon's Mechanical Turk provide a programmatic interface to recruit workers for human computation tasks. The availability of these platforms has led to the development of applications and systems that directly incorporate human knowledge, experience, and perception. My work investigates using this crowdsourcing within query processing systems such as a database management system (DBMS) to broaden the scope of questions users can ask about their data. In this talk, I will give an introduction to crowdsourcing and how it can complement a DBMS to support queries that may be subjective and/or require visual or semantic interpretation. Then I will discuss our work that focuses on a particular type of query that filters data. After describing some of the challenges of crowd-based filter queries, I will present our adaptive query processing approach and some experimental results.

**April 29:** Comps Reveal for 2021-22!

**May 6:** CS Tea: Dr. Nediya Daskalova, research scientist at Spotify, will be speaking about her research.

**The Computer Science department is hiring Prefects and Course Staff for the 2021-22 academic year.**

If you're looking for an exciting and rewarding job, here it is. Positions are now available, and we need your skills and enthusiasm. Here are the job descriptions: [Course Staff Member](#) or [Prefect](#). The [application](#) is now open. **Deadline is Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00pm**. If you have questions, contact [Mike Tie](#).

**Taking Applications for CS Department SDAs for 2021-22!!**

Are you interested in being considered for one of the SDA positions in Computer Science for next year? This is a wonderful way to get involved in the department. College-wide requirements are that all SDA's must have a 3.0 GPA and be

in residence and enrolled throughout their senior year. Note that SDAs serve the College as volunteers. SDAs need to be available for a brief orientation during New Student Week in the fall. The exact date and time of the orientation session will be announced to all newly selected SDAs this May.

Here is a [job description](#) provided by the Dean of the College Office. Also, here is the [CS Department SDA information](#). We have provided a link below to the job description: If you are a junior and interested in applying, please contact [Paula Stowe](#), Dept. Admin. **by Wednesday, April 21.**

**Student Programmer Needed:** The Physics and Astronomy Department is looking for a student programmer to work on the Carleton Weather Database project this summer. We're looking for someone with a friendly attitude, attention to detail, and an interest in weather, scientific instrumentation, and of course computing. Full job description and contact information is available [here](#).

Carleton has been gathering and sharing weather data since 1881, and these data are the oldest official weather records in the state. Most of the work on this project over the past two decades has been accomplished by students, and we look forward to continuing that tradition. We are looking for a motivated, capable student who is interested in this project.

The **[Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing \(GHC\)](#)** is an annual meeting that occurs every fall (Sept 26 - Sept 29, 2021). The meeting, including the career fair where many of our students have found internships or jobs in the past, will be happening virtually in 2021. CS Department Asst. Professor Layla Oesper has announced availability of Grace Hopper Conference Scholarships! There are a number of [scholarships](#) for students interested in attending to offset the registration fees that have an **application date of April 28**. The CS department also has funding available to help students attend the meeting, but to be eligible, you *must* also apply for outside funding. If you are interested in attending GHC this fall, you should complete the following steps:

1. Apply for one of the scholarships available [here](#).
2. You will need a faculty recommendation if you apply for the scholarships listed above. Please talk to any faculty member you plan to ask for a recommendation early (I'd suggest talking with your faculty recommender **before April 14** to give them time to write the letter).
3. Fill out this [form](#) to let Layla Oesper know that you are wanting to go to GHC this fall.

#### OTHER EVENTS:

#### **Whether, Why, and How to Get a Ph.D. in Computer Science**

Thinking about getting a Ph.D. in Computer Science? Join [MyCSPhd.org](#) for a free online information session about getting a Ph.D. in computer science!

Hear from current Ph.D. students and faculty at leading Ph.D. programs. Get real, honest answers from professors and Ph.D. students from across North America to questions like:

- What is grad school like for Ph.D. students?
- How can I use a Ph.D. to make the world better?
- Am I qualified to get a Ph.D.? Would I do well?
- How would a Ph.D. affect my future job and earnings?
- Do I need a Ph.D. to get the job I want?
- What is a Ph.D. program like? Stressful? Fun? Fulfilling?
- How is getting a Ph.D. different than undergrad?
- What is research? What is doing research like?
- ... or any other question you have!

The sessions will be held on Zoom. Here's the schedule:

Date/Time	Topics (parallel tracks)
April 21, 12:00-1:00 PDT	Applying to Ph.D. Programs
	Should I get a Ph.D.?

For more information or to register (it's free), go [here](#).

[MyCSPhd.org](#) hosts a variety of other resources about getting a Ph.D. in CS. Prior information sessions are on [YouTube](#).

[MyCSPhd.org](#) is part of the [Computer Science Department](#) at [UC San Diego](#), but the information is about getting a Ph.D. in computer science generally. It is applicable to most (or all) Ph.D. programs in North America. Contact [swanson@cs.ucsd.edu](mailto:swanson@cs.ucsd.edu) if you have questions.

The **Computer Science Department at the University of Iowa** is proud to announce a new NSF-funded REU site: [Computing for Health and Well-being](#). A ten-week program will run from May 24 to July 30, 2021 in-person (if the pandemic renders an in-person experience infeasible, we will hold the site virtually). We would appreciate your help with sharing this information with undergraduate students. Candidates from populations underrepresented in STEM fields or from academic institutions with limited research opportunities are encouraged to apply as well as students with disabilities. *Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until all positions are filled.*

If you have any questions or need more information, [please contact Dr. Elizabeth Kleiman at uicsreu@gmail.com](#) or [visit our website](#).

#### **JOB/ INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES:**

**Gustavus Adolphus College** is looking for a [Systems Administrator and Networking Analyst](#). Applications are now being accepted.

### From the Carleton College Career Center:

\*\*Opportunities forwarded by a Carleton alum, [Diana Fraser '14](mailto:fraser.diana.m@gmail.com) (fraser.diana.m@gmail.com). You are welcome to reach out to Diana with any questions regarding the organization or the position prior to applying.

1. **Twin Cities PBS (TPT): [Game Programmer, Ready to Learn](#)** TPT is seeking a dynamic **Game Programmer** to provide programming support for digital games to be released on the web and emerging platforms for a new animated property funded by the Ready to Learn (RTL) grant by the U.S. Department of Education.
2. **Twin Cities PBS (TPT): [Educational Technology Internship, Ready To Learn](#)** TPT is offering an educational technology summer internship experience that is approximately 20 hours per week. This position will provide hands-on learning experiences for *Hero Elementary*, a new children's television show and related transmedia resources developed by TPT's Ready to Learn team, and is only eligible to those currently enrolled as a student.

\*\*Opportunities forwarded by alum, [ChrisWelsh '96](mailto:christopher.welsh@snowflake.net) (christopher.welsh@snowflake.net). Please reach out to Chris with any questions regarding the organization or the position.

**Attn: seniors interested in getting into technology** - Two ways in the door both at Snowflake and in the b2b enterprise software industry generally:

1. **Non-tech entry point (any major):**  
<https://careers.snowflake.com/us/en/job/4884942002/Sales-Development-Representative>
2. **Technical entry point** [need: Hands-on experience with SQL, Experience working with database technology and scripting languages (e.g. Python, Ruby, Perl and Bash) a plus, University degree in computer science, engineering, mathematics]:  
<https://careers.snowflake.com/us/en/job/5144954002/Corporate-Sales-Engineer>

### Reminder - Important Dates

**April 21:** Deadline to apply for CS department SDA

**April 22:** CS Tea: Professor Beth Trushkowsky, 4:00pm via Zoom

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**April 30:** Deadline to apply for CS department Prefect or Course Staff for 2021-22