The Sentinel: October 11, 2021
News and events happening in the [Computer Science Department](#)

CS Tea Talk:

CS Tea is our weekly Thursday afternoon (4:00-5:00PM) get-together to spend time together, to share our interest in computer science, and to learn interesting new things. Sometimes we'll have a guest speaker, sometimes we'll have a panel of Carleton faculty or students, and sometimes we'll just get together to chat. Sign up for the cs-interest list and watch for emails from Professor David Liben-Nowell highlighting details about our talks. To get your name on the list, contact [Paula Stowe](#), Department Admin. Asst. (Note: Masking is required at CS Tea events, as these events are open to off-campus visitors.)

- **Thursday, Oct. 14, 4:00-5:00pm, Olin 306:** The Mind and the Machine: "How Technology Shapes Our Psychological and Social Realities". Featured speaker will be [Mitchell Campbell](#) from Carleton's Psychology department. Just days ago, Facebook whistleblower Frances Haugen testified before Congress about the company's failure to act on its own data showing the detrimental psychological effect of its platforms on particularly its younger users. Haugen's testimony begs us to ask bigger questions, not just about the effect of social media on the mental health of young people, but also about technology's many effects on the mind more broadly. Our brain did not evolve to cope with the technological realities of the 21st century world. In this talk, I will review some of the main ways in which modern technologies, including smartphones, autonomous vehicles, virtual reality, machine learning algorithms, and social media, affect our psychological and social realities. I will provide insight into how psychologists view these technological advances, both what excites us and what alarms us. Finally, I will share some principles for approaching tech to increase the likelihood that technology will meet its promise of providing us with more efficient and enjoyable lives.
- **Thursday, Oct. 21, 4:00-5:00pm, Olin 306:** [Laura Beister](#) '16 (Michigan CSE) Laura will speak on a recent research project, and alto talk about her path from Carleton to where she is today.

Summer 2022 Off Campus Studies Program History of Computing in England:

Professor David Liben-Nowell will be leading the second offering of this new off-campus studies program. (The program first ran in Summer 2019; the Summer 2021 program had to be cancelled for obvious reasons.) The program is centered on the History of Computing, with particular focus on the 19th-century (Ada Lovelace! Charles Babbage!) and the mid-20th century (Alan Turing!), but looking at plenty of other characters and milestones, too. We'll be based in England (mostly Cambridge, plus significant time in London and Manchester), with an excursion across the channel to France. The

coursework includes a mixture of CS, history, and interdisciplinary studies. Prerequisites for the program are CS 111, CS 201, and CS 202 (Math 236 can substitute for 202). Members of the classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025 are all very welcome, regardless of major -- as long as you'll be done with CS 111, 201, and 202 by the end of Spring 2022, it'd be great to have you. There's much more information about the program on the OCS website, at https://www.carleton.edu/ocs/computing/.
A few upcoming dates:

- **"Early decision" application deadline on Friday, October 15th** [application available on the OCS website]
- **Oct 11th 7-8pm via Zoom: History of Computing Q&A**
- **Oct 12th 12-1pm Sayles Terrace History of Computing Drop-in Q&A**

(There will be a "regular decision" round of applications in January 2022.)

The Match! Prof. Dave Musicant just sent an email to the cs-interest list with loads of information about The Match! The CS department preregistration match system for CS courses numbered 202 and above. The idea of The Match! is to guarantee a seat in a single desired CS course for as many students as possible, while maintaining seniority-based priorities for registration. Check your email for details. The Match! linked form in the email is **due by noon on Tuesday, October 19.**

International Collegiate Programming Contest (IPPC): Join our team! "The International Collegiate Programming Contest is an algorithmic programming contest for college students. Teams of three, representing their university, work to solve the most real-world problems, fostering collaboration, creativity, innovation, and the ability to perform under pressure. Through training and competition, teams challenge each other to raise the bar on the possible. Quite simply, it is the oldest, largest, and most prestigious programming contest in the world." The winning team from the regional contest will progress to the divisional competition and compete for a spot in the national competition. If you think you might be interested in participating, send Aaron Bauer an email and you'll be added to the list of people who will get future ICPC emails. Carleton will compete in the regional qualifier in either February or March.

Math Across the Cannon Talk:

Every year, the Carleton Department of Mathematics and Statistics and St. Olaf Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science jointly host the Math Across the Cannon speaker series. This year's speaker is Alicia Carriquiry from Iowa State University.

7:00-8:00 Public Lecture at Carleton Weitz Cinema (followed by reception 8-8:30):
CSI Statistics - How the Principled Use of Quantitative Methods can Contribute to the Fair Administration of Justice. The United States leads the world in terms of the number of its citizens it incarcerates. Black and Brown people are over-represented among jailed individuals and tend to receive harsher sentences than Whites for the same crime. Saddest of all, the Innocence Network estimates that about 20,000 wrongfully convicted individuals are languishing in jail today for crimes they did not commit. Ad-hoc forensic methods, exaggerated claims and junk science are leading contributors to wrongful convictions. Yet many un-validated, poorly tested forensic technologies continue to be

admitted in court proceedings. Today we briefly highlight some of the limitations of forensic practice and propose a principled quantitative framework to address those limitations. We focus on the forensic question of source: how likely is it that the defendant was the source of the evidence at the crime scene? When the evidence is biological, forensic DNA analysis provides science-based answers. When evidence consists of a pattern such as a fingerprint or the markings on a fired bullet, much of the science still needs to be developed. This event is sponsored by The St. Olaf Department of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science, The Carleton Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and the Michael Morrill Fund.

Lovelace (a CS organization for women and non-binary students) wants to help you get prepared. Lovelace's mission is to increase gender diversity in computer science and technology within both the Carleton and Northfield communities. Lovelace members aim to accomplish this through creating supportive and inclusive environments that facilitate effective and fun learning. To learn more, contact Lovelace leadership and ask to join the Lovelace e-mail list. Also, visit the Lovelace Facebook page.

CS Dept. SDA's are planning other department events. Watch for upcoming emails with more information.

CS Labs – Beverage Caution!! There have been some beverage spills in the computer labs. Please be careful. Lids pop off of the coffee cups provided by the cafes. Spilled beverages can cause major damage.

OPPORTUNITIES:

The Carleton Career Center if forwarding the following opportunity, brought to you by a Carleton alum, **Andrew Fitch '21** (fitchand000@gmail.com). You are welcome to reach out to Andrew with any questions regarding the organization or the position. Andrew encourages you to reach out to him prior to applying! Applications are being reviewed on a rolling basis so the sooner you apply, the better!
Here are links to the job postings:

- #5378809 **Carl Connection: Software Engineer - Early Professional**
- #5378821 **Carl Connection: Software Engineer - Intern (Summer 2022)**

From Cornell's CS PhD Program: The Student-Applicant Support Program aims to assist students from marginalized backgrounds as they apply to Cornell's CS PhD program. A graduate student volunteer may provide one round of meaningful feedback on an applicant's resume and statement of purpose (capacity limited). Participation in the Student-Applicant Support Program does not guarantee admission and our capacity for applications is limited.
    To participate in the Student-Applicant Support Program, please submit your application materials here by 11:59PM EST on November 6, 2021.
Note: Information will be aggregated and anonymized to evaluate the impact of this program, but individual responses will be deleted at the end of this application cycle. All demographics questions are optional.

Become a developer or designer for Hack4Impact!

Info: Hack4Impact (H4I) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that engages software developers and designers at universities across the country to design and implement solutions for nonprofits in need of technological support. We founded a branch at Carleton last year, and since then we've developed a dialogue-based card game app using React Native for Cool Moms Dance Too, an Atlanta nonprofit that uses dance to promote wellness and connection within families. We've also created our own chapter website using React.js from scratch. Since our previous project is coming to an end, we need UI/UX designers and developers like you for our next project this upcoming fall term! If you're interested in contributing to a project like this, where you'll gain real-world development skills, and more importantly, create impact in your community, please email carleton@hack4impact.org. For more information, check out our chapter website, https://carleton.hack4impact.org/, and the national organization's website, https://hack4impact.org/.

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

Oct 11: **Kolenkow Reitz Research** applications due 5:00pm

Oct. 11: **History of Computing** Q&A Zoom session

Oct. 12: **History of Computing** Drop-in Session 12:00pm Sayles Terrace

Oct. 14: **CS Tea** with Mitchell Campbell (Carleton Psych dept.) 4:00-5:00pm, Olin 306

Oct. 15: **OCS program History of Computing in England**, Early Decision application deadline

Oct. **19:** **The Match!** form due by noon Tuesday, October 19

Oct. 21: **CS Tea** with Laura Biester '16, 4:00-5:00 pm, Olin 306