AWARE-AI Spring Roundtable:

AI's Presence in Accessible Computing

March 5, 2024

www.rit.edu/nrtai

- The AWARE-AI NRT is a program funded by the National Science Foundation.

- Trainees experience **career-advancing activities and events** addressing skill gaps in AI, and **convergent AI research** with faculty in **four research tracks:**

Software - Hardware - HCI - Cognitive Modeling

- Trainees develop their **network** in a research community.

How to apply at rit.edu/nrtai

Application due March 1 on the AWARE-AI website

- Application form
- CV (uploaded in form)
- Cover letter (uploaded in form)
- One letter of recommendation (if applicable, from advisor) sent to **awareainrt@rit.edu** by March 1

- Prospective or current MS and Ph.D. students can contact **awareainrt@rit.edu** for more information.
- Advisees can apply without advisor being an NRT affiliate. Advisor or program director indicates **support for participation** in their letter.
- Currently, 18 eligible PhD or MS programs at RIT (see website)
- All students in these program are eligible to apply.
- Applicants also eligible for stipends will be automatically considered.

Topic Focus

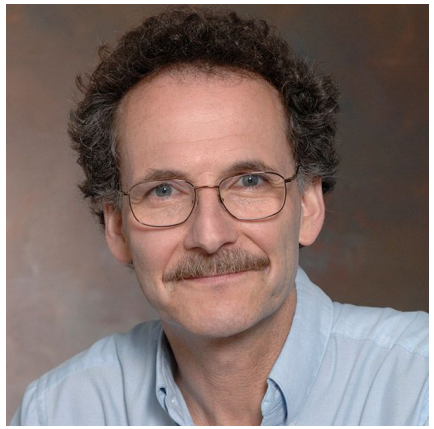
This AWARE-AI Spring Roundtable focuses on AI’s presence in accessible computing. The discussion will focus on the latest research, current concerns and challenges, and what's on the horizon.

Roundtable panelists

- **Jason Nordhaus,** Ph.D, Associate Prof., School of Mathematics and Statistics, RIT
- **Kristen Shinohara,** Ph.D, Associate Prof., School of Information, RIT
- **Dan Phillips,** Ph.D, Associate Prof., Department of Electrical and Microelectronic Engineering, RIT

Jason

Kristen



Dan

Overarching Questions

- What are some of the most groundbreaking AI technologies that have recently been developed or are in development to enhance accessible computing?
- What ethical considerations should researchers prioritize to ensure AI innovations are inclusive and do not exacerbate existing inequalities or harm?
- Accessible computing benefits from interdisciplinary research. Can you share any interdisciplinary collaborations that has led to innovative AI applications?
- One challenge in AI development is creating models without biases. What strategies are being employed to ensure AI systems are inclusive?
- Looking forward, what emerging technologies or research methods do you believe will be most influential in shaping the future of AI in accessible computing? How can current graduate students position themselves to contribute to these future developments?

Thank you!

This material is based upon work supported by the National Science Foundation under Award No. DGE-2125362. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the National Science Foundation.

Questions?