RIT | AWARE-AI NSF Research Traineeship Program

Winter Retreat 2024
Tuesday January 16 - Friday January 19, 2024
James E. Gleason Hall (GLE-3119)

Day 1 - Tuesday January 16

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast
10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Session I - Keynote Address

Exploring Robotic Minds Using the Free Energy Principle
Dr. Jun Tani
Okinawa Institute of Science & Tech.
Introduced by Dr. Alexander Ororbia

11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Session II

Industry Research Panel

Moderator: Dr. Jamison Heard

Dr. Bridget Beamon-Robertson
Raytheon

Dr. Srinivas Sridharan
Corteva Agriscience

Dr. Alison M Smith-Renner
DataMinr

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch with Group Discussion
1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Session III

Major Research Breakthrough? Navigating Press Releases

Vienna Carvalho
Senior Associate Director
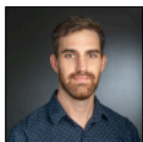University Communications, RIT

Mindy Mozer
Director of Content Strategy
University Communications, RIT

1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Break
2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Session IV

Technical tutorial - Quantifying Similarities and Differences between Neural Representations

Dr. Richard Lange
Assistant Professor
Department of Computer Science
RIT

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Networking coffee break
3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Session V

Using AI in Research

Greyson Pasiak
GCCIS/Student Success Librarian
RIT Libraries - Research and Instruction Services

Day 2 - Wednesday January 17

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Keynote Networking Breakfast
10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Session VI - Trainee Talks

Moderator: Dr. Esa Rantanen

10:00 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.	Track 1 - Software

Modality Dropping Strategies for Time Series Heavily Multimodal Machine Learning
Michael Peechatt
PhD Student, Computing and Information Sciences, RIT

10:20 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.	Track 1 - Software

Cross-Modal Generative Models for Synthetic Modality Generation
Mahsa Mozaffari
PhD Student, Electrical & Computer Engineering, RIT

10:40 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Track 2 - Hardware

Phobia Intrinsic Reward for Collision Avoidance in Reinforcement Learning
Rodney Sanchez
PhD Student, Electrical & Computer Engineering, RIT

11:00 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.	Track 3 - HCI

Co-Design of ASR Technologies with Older Adults with Hearing Loss
Liya Thomas
MS Student, Human-Computer Interaction, RIT

11:20 a.m. - 11:40 a.m.	Track 3 - HCI

Accessibility for Older DHH Adults using ASR in Live Conversations
Marzieh Shahbazi
PhD Student, Mechanical & Industrial Engineering, RIT

11:40 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Track 4 - Cognitive Models

Toward a Spiking Cognitive Model of Human Short-term Memory Loss
William Gebhardt
PhD Student, Computing and Information Sciences, RIT

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Lunch / Workday Wellness

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Day 2 - Wednesday January 17 Cont'd

1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.	Session VII

Diversity Theater Workshop - Continuing to Build Community in the AI Field: Effective Intercultural Communication

Tina Chapman DaCosta
Director of Diversity Theater
Diversity and Inclusion, RIT

Dr. Keith Jenkins
Vice President & Associate Provost
for Diversity and Inclusion, RIT

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Networking Coffee Break
3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Session VIII

Methods Tutorial - Data Analysis and Modeling in R

Dr. Dustin Haraden
Assistant Professor
Department of Psychology
RIT

Day 3 - Thursday January 18

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Networking Breakfast
10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Session IX

Considerations for Careers in Academia

Dr. Torrence Sparkman
Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs
Academic Affairs
RIT

10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Break
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Session X - Keynote Address

Collaborative Robotics for Effective Human-Robot Teaming
Dr. Monroe Kennedy III
Stanford University.
Introduced by Dr. Ferat Sahin

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Planning Lunch
1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Session XI

Roundtable on Skills and Strategies for Mentoring Undergraduate Students

Moderator: Dr. Cecilia Alm

Dr. Joshua Faber
School of Mathematics
and Statistics, RIT

Dr. L. Kate Wright
THG School of
Life Sciences, RIT

Dr. Darren Narayan
School of Mathematics
and Statistics, RIT

1:45 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Break
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Session XII - Trainee Talks

Moderator: Dr. Kristen Shinohara

All tracks, 8 minute presentations with 2 minute Q&A

3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.	Networking Coffee Break
3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Trainee Talks Cont'd

Day 4 - Friday January 19 (Online)

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Session XIII

Dublin-Rochester International Mobility Experience Redux

10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Session XIV

AWARE-AI Trainee-led Discussion on Resume Building and Approaches for Securing Internships

10:45 a.m. - EOD	Trainee Field Trip

Corning Museum of Glass

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