

ANNE SPENCER ROSS

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I am a PhD student in the Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering at the University of Washington. My broad interests are in Human-Computer Interaction. I am passionate about enabling diverse groups of people to access, interact with, and communicate through technology. I am currently working with James Fogarty and Jacob O. Wobbrock on making mobile applications more accessible to people with disabilities.

EDUCATION

University of Washington, Seattle, WA	
Ph.D. Student, Computer Science & Engineering , GPA: 3.92	2015 – present
Focused in Human-Computer Interaction and Accessibility	
Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO	
B.S. in Computer Science , Magna Cum Laude with Honors, GPA: 3.99	2012 – 2014
Thesis: <i>Examination of the Dedicated Research Assistant (DESA) System Usability and Effectiveness</i>	
University of California Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz, CA	
Major: Film Production , Minor: Statistics, GPA: 3.95	2010 – 2012

AWARDS AND SERVICE

Best Paper Nominee, <i>ASSETS 2018</i>	2018
Best Paper Nominee, <i>ASSETS 2017</i>	2017
Graduate Research Fellowship, <i>National Science Foundation</i>	2017
2 nd Place, ACM Graduate Research Competition, <i>Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing</i>	2016
Honorable Mention, Graduate Research Fellowship, <i>National Science Foundation</i>	2016
Wilma Bradley Endowed Fellowship in Computer Science & Engineering, <i>Univ. of Washington</i>	2015 – 2016
Natural Sciences Undergraduate Fellowship, <i>Colorado State Univ.</i>	2014
Frances Allen Scholarship in Computer Science, awarded 2 years, <i>Colorado State Univ.</i>	2013 – 2014
Dean's Honors: Fall, Spring, <i>Colorado State Univ.</i>	2012 – 2013
Ram Transfer Scholarship for Academic Achievement, awarded 2 years, <i>Colorado State Univ.</i>	2012 – 2014
Dean's Honors: Fall, Winter, and Spring, <i>Univ. of California Santa Cruz</i>	2010 – 2012

SELECT PUBLICATIONS

<i>Examining Image-Based Button Labeling for Accessibility in Android Apps through Large-Scale Analysis</i>	2018
<u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Xiaoyi Zhang, Jacob O. Wobbrock , James Fogarty	
ASSETS 2018, BEST PAPER NOMINEE	
<i>Robust Annotation of Mobile Application Interfaces in Methods for Accessibility Repair and Enhancement</i>	2018
Xiaoyi Zhang, <u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , James Fogarty	
UIST 2018	
<i>Values, Identity, and Social Translucence: Neurodiverse Student Teams in Higher Education</i>	2018
Annuska Zolyomi, <u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Arpita Bhattacharya, Lauren Milne, Sean Munson	
CHI 2018	
<i>Interaction Proxies for Runtime Repair and Enhancement of Mobile Application Accessibility</i>	2017
Xiaoyi Zhang, <u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Anat Caspi, James Fogarty, Jacob O. Wobbrock	
CHI 2017	
<i>Epidemiology as a Framework for Large-Scale Mobile Application Accessibility Assessment</i>	2017
<u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Xiaoyi Zhang, James Fogarty, Jacob O. Wobbrock	
ASSETS 2017, BEST PAPER NOMINEE	

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of Washington Research Assistant	
DUB GROUP, Advisors: James Fogarty, Jacob O. Wobbrock	2015 – present
Exploring ways to conceptualize, assess, and repair smartphone accessibility for people with disabilities.	
Developed a conceptual framework for identifying and fixing accessibility barriers in mobile apps. This framework expands the view of app accessibility to draw attention to under-studied factors that impact accessibility such as source code, tools, company and governmental roles, and social norms.	

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Microsoft Research, Redmond | Graduate Research Intern

ABILITY AND ENABLE GROUPS, Mentors: Ed Cutrell, Meredith Ringel Morris, Alex Fiannaca, Melanie Kneisel
Prototyped an audio-based, virtual navigation app to explore how such an experience could help people with vision impairments familiarize themselves with an area and be more motivated and comfortable exploring.

Summer 2018

University of Washington | Research Assistant

DUB GROUP, Mentor: Sean Munson

Explored how technology can support higher education students with Autism in teamwork settings. Designed and conducted interviews with students with Autism using modified open-ended questions, value statement ranking (Q-methodology), and a collage activity to engage individuals who may not always strongly respond to standard conversational interviewing.

2016 – 2018

ARK LAB, Mentor: Noah Smith

Explored how working with a machine in the loop on creative writing may help creativity. Through a user study of prototype creative writing systems, we presented common attitudes, experiences, and thoughts on machine-in-the-loop writing. These insights guide the development of new language models that will better provoke human creativity.

2017

Colorado State University | Undergraduate Research Assistant

2013 – 2014

HCI AND AI LABS, Advisors: Jamie Ruiz, Adele Howe

Designed and implemented a personalized web search assistant and conducted usability studies

Explored using a mobile phone accelerometer and gyroscope to identify individuals and their activities

Naval Postgraduate School | Naval Research Enterprise Internship Program Intern

Summer 2013

Investigated using Naïve Bayes classifiers to classify characteristics of Twitter users based on tweets

University of Maryland, Baltimore County | Researcher at REU Site: Interdisciplinary Program in High Performance Computing

Summer 2012

Developed visualizations for and determined appropriate statistical analysis of water quality data. The visualization GUI presented novel interactions between different features in the data. Was presented to colleges at the department of natural resources as a potential means for researchers and the public to understand the data.

University of Colorado Denver | Summer Education and Training Intern

Summer 2011

Produced instructional films on research methods being used in a psychiatric lab. These films provided a more accessible way to inform participants and the public about research methods. One is presented on the lab's website and at community outreach events. One video was published as a technique for explaining methods to researchers for replication.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Washington, Seattle, WA

Teaching Assistant – “Introduction to HCI” (CSE 440)

Winter 2019

Professor: James Fogarty. Ran two sections and aided in project feedback, assignment rubrics, and grading.

Teaching Assistant – “Advanced Topics in HCI” (CSE 510)

Spring 2017

Professor: James Fogarty. Aided in project feedback and assignment design.

PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL MENTORING

Women in Science and Engineering Bridge REU Mentor

Summer 2017

Worked with two students on a summer research project, resulting in a poster and oral presentation

Annie Hanson (incoming 1st year)

Maryam Bahadori-Nejad (incoming 1st year)

Individual Students Mentored

Summer 2017

Ishaan Chainani (summer high school research intern)

Undergraduate Mentor

2017 – present

Through the ACM-W, I mentor two women undergraduate computer science students; I answer questions about school and technology careers

New Graduate Student Mentor

2016

Mentored four incoming PhD graduate students during their first year

Smartphone Tutor

2016 – 2018

Assist an individual with low-vision with learning to use a smartphone

Computer Tutor

2012 – 2014

Assisted an individual learn basic computer skills

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SERVICE

Research Exploration Lead: OurCS@UW+AccessComputing Workshop for undergraduate women with disabilities	2019
Created and ran an R tutorial for a quantitative methods course	2019
SIGACCESS Volunteer: created student volunteer assistant training	2018 – present
DUB Student Coordinator	2018 – present
CHI Student Volunteer	2016, 17, 18
Computer Science & Engineering HCI Student Skill Share Coordinator	2017
Computer Science& Engineering New Graduate Students Orientation Coordinator	2016
Computer Science & Engineering New Graduate Students Mentoring Coordinator	2016

SELECT INVITED PRESENTATIONS

<i>An Epidemiology-Inspired, Large-Scale Analysis of Mobile App Accessibility</i>	2019
Anne Spencer Ross	
IRESEARCH FAIR, UNIV. OF WASHINGTON	
<i>An Epidemiology-Inspired, Large-Scale Analysis of Mobile App Accessibility</i>	2018
Anne Spencer Ross	
COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING RESEARCH DAY, UNIV. OF WASHINGTON	
<i>Epidemiology as a Framework for Large-Scale Mobile Application Accessibility Assessment</i>	2017
Anne Spencer Ross	
COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING RESEARCH DAY, UNIV. OF WASHINGTON	
<i>Supporting Equity in Smartphone Accessibility with Third-Party Repair Tools</i>	2016
Anne Spencer Ross	
SCHOLAR'S STUDIO, UNIV. OF WASHINGTON	

ADDITIONAL PUBLICATIONS

<i>Creative Writing with a Machine in the Loop: Case Studies on Slogans and Stories</i>	2018
Elizabeth Clark, <u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Chenhao Tan, Yangfeng Ji, Noah Smith	
IUI 2018	
<i>Value Sensitive Design for Neurodiverse Teams in Higher Education</i>	2017
Annuska Zolyomi, <u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Arpita Bhattacharya, Lauren Milne, Sean Munson	
ASSETS 2017	
<i>MEGARes: an Antimicrobial Resistance Database for High Throughput Sequencing</i>	2016
Steven M. Lakin, Chris Dean, Noelle R. Noyes, Adam Dettenwanger, <u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Enrique Doster	
Pablo Rovira, Zaid Abdo, Kenneth L. Jones, Jaime Ruiz, Keith E. Belk, Paul S. Morley, Christina Boucher	
NUCLEIC ACIDS RESEARCH, VOL. 45, ISSUE D1, 4 JANUARY 2017, PP. D574–D580	
<i>Tweet!—and I Can Tell How Many Followers You Have</i>	2014
Christine Klotz, <u>Annie Ross</u> , Elizabeth Clark, Craig Martell	
RECENT ADVANCES IN INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY, VOL. 265, PP. 245-253	
<i>P50 Sensory Gating in Infants</i>	2013
<u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Sharon Kay Hunter, Mark A Groth, Randal Glenn Ross	
JOURNAL OF VISUALIZED EXPERIMENTS, 50065	
<i>Assessment of Statistical Methods for Water Quality Monitoring in Maryland's Tidal Waterways</i>	2013
Rosemary K. Le, Christopher V. Rackauckas, <u>Anne S. Ross</u> , Nehemias Ulloa	
SIAM UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH ONLINE, VOL. 6	

WORKSHOPS

<i>Use Cases and Impact of Audio-Based Virtual Exploration</i>	2019
<u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Edward Cutrell, Alex Fiannaca, Melanie Kneisel, Meredith Ringel Morris	
POSITION PAPER, CHI 2019 BLIND NAVIGATION WORKSHOP	
<i>An Epidemiology-Inspired, Large-Scale Analysis of Mobile App Accessibility</i>	2018
Anne Spencer Ross	
ASSETS 2018 DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM PARTICIPANT	

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POSTERS AND PRESENTATIONS

<i>Supporting Equity in Smartphone Accessibility with Third-Party Repair Tools</i>	2016
Anne Spencer Ross	
ACM STUDENT RESEARCH COMPETITION, GRACE HOPPER CELEBRATION, AWARDED 2 ND PLACE, [POSTER, PRESENTATION]	
<i>Using Bayesian Statistics on Twitter Feeds to Classify Twitter Users</i>	2014
<u>Anne Ross</u> , Elizabeth Clark, Christina Klotz, Craig Martell	
CELEBRATE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY SHOWCASE, COLORADO STATE UNIV. [POSTER]	
<i>Using Bayesian Statistics on Twitter Feeds to Classify Twitter User</i>	2014
<u>Anne Ross</u> , Elizabeth Clark, Christina Klotz, Craig Martell	
AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION'S SECTIONAL MEETING, [PRESENTATION]	
<i>Water Quality Monitoring in the Chesapeake Bay</i>	2013
<u>Anne S. Ross</u> , Rosemary K. Le, Christopher V. Rackauckas, Nehemias Ulloa, Sai Popuri, Nagaraj Neerchal, Brian Smith	
CELEBRATE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AND CREATIVITY SHOWCASE, COLORADO STATE UNIV. [POSTER]	
<i>A Powerful New Tool for Visualizing Water and Habitat Quality Data</i>	2012
Brian Smith, Rosemary K. Le, Christopher V. Rackauckas, <u>Anne S. Ross</u> , Nehemias Ulloa, Sai Popuri, Nagaraj Neerchal	
MARYLAND WATER MONITORING COUNCIL'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE [POSTER]	
<i>Visualization and Analysis Tool for Water Quality Monitoring in the Chesapeake Bay</i>	2012
<u>Anne S. Ross</u> , Rosemary K. Le, Christopher V. Rackauckas, Nehemias Ulloa, Sai Popuri, Nagaraj Neerchal, Brian Smith	
ROCKY MOUNTAIN CELEBRATION OF WOMEN IN COMPUTING [POSTER]	
<i>A Powerful New Tool for Visualizing Water and Habitat Quality Data</i>	2012
Brian Smith, Rosemary K. Le, Christopher V. Rackauckas, <u>Anne S. Ross</u> , Nehemias Ulloa, Sai Popuri, Nagaraj Neerchal	
ATLANTIC ESTUARINE RESEARCH SOCIETY FALL MEETING [POSTER]	
<i>Water Quality Monitoring of Maryland's Tidal Waterways</i>	2012
<u>Anne S. Ross</u> , Rosemary K. Le, Christopher V. Rackauckas, Nehemias Ulloa, Sai Popuri, Nagaraj Neerchal, Brian Smith	
SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FEST [POSTER]	
<i>Using Video to Teach Research Methods</i>	2011
<u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Mark A Groth, Sharon Kay Hunter, Ali Newton, Kim Muhlhauser, Elizabeth Calvin, Randal Glenn Ross	
CONTE CENTER SUMMER RETREAT, AWARDED TOP POSTER [POSTER]	
<i>Chimeric Animal Stroop Task for Young Children</i>	2011
<u>Anne Spencer Ross</u> , Mark A Groth, Sharon Kay Hunter, Kim Muhlhauser, Elizabeth Calvin, Randal Glenn Ross	
DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHIATRY RESEARCH LAB'S WEBSITE, UNIV. OF COLORADO DENVER [INSTRUCTIONAL VIDEO]	