



Embracing New Horizons

It is with mixed emotions that I write this letter to you all. After two and a half years of serving as the Editor-in-Chief of ACM *XRDS*, the time has come for me to step down and pass the torch. It has been an incredible journey filled with remarkable experiences, inspiring individuals, and a deep sense of pride in the work we've accomplished together.

First and foremost, I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the entire volunteer ACM *XRDS* team, the dedicated contributors, the brilliant minds behind the research articles, the thought-provoking columnists, and, most importantly, the students and readers who have brought life and meaning to our pages. Without your unwavering support and passion, this magazine would not be the beacon of knowledge that it is today.

Over the years, we have witnessed the rapid evolution of technology, the rise of AI, the blossoming of extended reality, and the convergence of disciplines that have redefined computing as we knew it. Our magazine has been at the forefront of these transformations, striving to deliver cutting-edge content that inspires, educates, and challenges our readers to think beyond the boundaries of conventional wisdom. Together, we have tackled diverse themes, covered

fascinating topics, and explored the frontiers of research, sparking discussions that have reverberated across the academic and industry domains. I am humbled to have played a part in showcasing your remarkable contributions.

By the time you read this, I should have defended my Ph.D. dissertation research at Carnegie Mellon University and will be preparing to launch my academic career as a faculty member at Northwestern University. Not only is my time becoming scarcer, but with 10 issues behind us, I also feel it's time to embrace new horizons, perspectives, and backgrounds to continue to be relevant and engaging. As I hand over the reins to my co-Editor-in-Chief, Jiayi Li, I am filled with optimism for the future of ACM *XRDS*. I have every confidence that under Jiayi's visionary leadership and our Managing Editor Denise Doig's stewardship, the magazine will continue to thrive and reach new heights.

And now, without further ado, let's delve into our current issue's theme: 'Robots and You.' In this rapidly changing world, the relationship between humans and robots has become an ever-present force. From industrial automation to healthcare advancements and now even in our homes, robotics is reshaping the way we live and work. But, with this progress comes a myriad of ethical, social, and technological chal-

lenges that we must grapple with. In this issue, guest editors Safinah Ali and Daniella DiPaola, along with lead editor Raiful Hasan, have brought together an amazing cast of contributors to explore the symbiotic dance between humans and robots, diving into the intricacies of their collaboration, the ethical implications, and the potential future this alliance holds.

As we embrace this captivating theme, I encourage you all to reflect on the tremendous impact technology has on society and the responsibility we bear in shaping a world where humans and robots coexist harmoniously.

Once again, thank you, dear readers, for being an integral part of our community. Your support, engagement, and intellectual curiosity have been the driving force behind our success. I am proud to have been a part of this incredible journey with you all.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

All 2024 issue themes will be posted on our website with article deadlines.
<https://xrds.acm.org/editorialcalendar.cfm>

If you are interested in joining *XRDS*, please submit an application.
<https://xrds.acm.org/volunteer.cfm>

Biography



Karan Ahuja is an incoming Wissner Slivka Assistant Professor in Computer Science at Northwestern University. He completed his Ph.D. in HCI from Carnegie Mellon University, specializing in novel sensing and interaction techniques. Many of his research projects have been open-sourced, deployed in the wild, licensed by tech companies, and even shipped as product features. To date, Karan has published more than 25 papers at top venues. He is also a Siebel Fellow and is currently a Visiting Faculty at Google.

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