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Azra Ismail

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APPOINTMENTS

Emory University, Atlanta, GA, USA
9/2023–Present Assistant Professor, Department of Biomedical Informatics, School of Medicine
Affiliated Faculty, Department of Global Health, Rollins School of Public Health
Affiliated Faculty, Department of Computer Science, College of Arts and Sciences

MakerGhat Foundation, Mumbai, India
9/2018–Present Co-Founder

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA
4/2016–8/2023 Research Assistant, Technology and Design for Empowerment at the Margins Lab
1/2017–12/2017 Research Assistant, Ubiquitous Computing Lab
1/2016–5/2016 Research Assistant, Embedded Pervasive Lab
8/2015–12/2016 Research Assistant, Electromagnetic Measurements in Communications and Computing Lab

Google Research, Bangalore, India
6/2022–8/2022 Research Collaborator, AI for Social Good

United Nations Global Pulse, New York, NY, USA (Remote)
1/2022—8/2022 AI and Data Science Research Collaborator, Part-time

Wadhwani Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Mumbai, India
6/2019–8/2019 Research Intern, Maternal and Child Health Team

Philips Research North America, Cambridge, MA, USA
5/2017–8/2017 Research Intern, Acute Care Solutions Team

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA, USA
8/2018–5/2023 Ph.D. in Human-Centered Computing
Minor in Global Development
8/2014–12/2017 B.S. in Computer Engineering (Highest Honors)

AWARDS & HONORS

2023 Best Paper Honorable Mention (top 4% of submissions), CSCW 2023
2023 Forbes 30 under 30 Asia Social Impact
2022 Finalist, Rising Star category, .ORG Awards
2022 75 women in STEAM in India, selected by the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India
2021 Women Economic Forum Exceptional Leader of Excellence Award
2021 Sam Nunn School of International Affairs Paper Competition, Georgia Tech ($500)
2021 100 Brilliant Women in AI Ethics™ List

2021 Special Recognition for Outstanding Reviews (received 6 times for CHI and CSCW)
2020 GVU Foley Scholar (highest departmental student award), Georgia Tech ($5,000)
2020 N/Core Tech Cohort for MakerGhat, INR 15 lakh incubation grant ($20,000)
2019 Best Paper Honorable Mention (top 5% of submissions), CHI
2019 First Place, Ideas2Serve student business showcase competition, Georgia Tech ($3,000)
2018 Finalist, OpenIdeo BridgeBuilder Challenge
2018 Inventure Prize semi-finalist, Georgia Tech
2016 First Place, Best Use of Wolfram Technologies, and 1517 1K grant at MHacks ($4,000)
2016 Best Focus-based Document Summarization (Philips) at HackMIT
2016 Best Poster Presentation, Opportunity Research Scholars Program, Georgia Tech
2015 First Runner-Up (Health Track), Best Use of IBM BlueMix at HackDuke

GRANTS, GIFTS, & FELLOWSHIPS

2023 Google Award for Inclusion Research ($60,000)
2021, 2022 Work in the Age of Intelligent Machines (WAIM) Doctoral Research Fellowship ($75,000)
2017 President's Undergraduate Research Award, Georgia Tech ($1,500)

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

* authors were equal contributors

1. **Azra Ismail***, Divy Thakkar*, Neha Madhiwalla. Neha Kumar. Public Health Calls with/for AI: An Ethnographic Perspective."*Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction 5,* CSCW, *2023.* **Best Paper Honorable Mention.**

2. Anupriya Tuli*, **Azra Ismail***, Karthik Bhat*, Pushpendra Singh, and Neha Kumar. "Information-Backward but Sex-Forward": Navigating Masculinity towards Intimate Wellbeing and Heterosexual Relationships". *In Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '23).* ACM, New York, NY, USA, 21 pages.

3. **Azra Ismail**, Deepika Yadav, Meghna Gupta, Kirti Dabas, Pushpendra Singh, and Neha Kumar. "Imagining Caring Futures for Frontline Health Work." *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction 6,* CSCW, Article 480 (November 2022), 30 pages.

4. Divy Thakkar*, **Azra Ismail***, Alex Hanna, Pratyush Kumar, Nithya Sambasivan, and Neha Kumar. "When is Machine Learning Data Good?: Valuing in Public Health Datafication". *In Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '22).* ACM, New York, NY, USA, 26 pages.

5. Prerna Ravi, **Azra Ismail**, and Neha Kumar. "The Pandemic Shift to Remote Learning under Resource Constraints". *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction 5,* CSCW, Article 314 (October 2021), 28 pages.

6. **Azra Ismail** and Neha Kumar. "AI in Global Health: The View from the Front Lines". *In Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '21).* ACM, New York, NY, USA, 21 pages.

7. Neha Kumar, Naveena Karusala, **Azra Ismail**, and Anupriya Tuli. "Taking the Long, Holistic, and Intersectional View to Women's Wellbeing". *ACM Transaction Computer-Human Interaction.* 27, 4, Article 23 (July 2020), 32 pages.

8. Hayley Evans, Udaya Lakshmi, Hue Watson, **Azra Ismail**, Neha Kumar, and Rosa Arriaga. "Understanding the Care Ecologies of Veterans with PTSD". *In Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '20).* ACM, New York, NY, USA, 15 pages.

9. Neha Kumar, **Azra Ismail**, Samyukta Sherugar, Rajesh Chandwani. "Restoration Work: Responding to Everyday Challenges of HIV Outreach". *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction 3*, CSCW, Article 54 (November 2019), 26 pages.

10. Neha Kumar, Naveena Karusala, **Azra Ismail**, Marisol Wong-Villacres, Aditya Vishwanath. "Engaging Feminist Solidarity for Comparative Research, Design, and Practice". *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction 3*, CSCW, Article 176 (November 2019), 24 pages.

11. **Azra Ismail** and Neha Kumar. "Empowerment on the Margins: The Online Experiences of Frontline Health Workers". *In Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '19).* ACM, New York, NY, USA, 15 pages. **Best Paper Honorable Mention.**

12. Neha Kumar, Marisol Wong-Villacres, Naveena Karusala, Aditya Vishwanath, Arkadeep Kumar, and **Azra Ismail**. "Aspirations-Based Design". *Proceedings of the Tenth International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development: Full Papers-Volume 1.* ACM, 2019.

13. **Azra Ismail** and Neha Kumar. "Engaging Solidarity in Data Collection Practices for Community Health". *Proceedings of the ACM Human-Computer Interaction 2,* CSCW, Article 76 (November 2018), 24 pages.

14. **Azra Ismail**, Naveena Karusala, and Neha Kumar. "Bridging Disconnected Knowledges for Community Health". *Proceedings of the ACM Human-Computer Interaction 2,* CSCW, Article 75 (November 2018), 27 pages.

OTHER ARTICLES

15. Vishal Sharma and **Azra Ismail**. "Lessons from Ph.D. Fieldwork: A Conversation with Dr. Azra Ismail." *XRDS: Crossroads, The ACM Magazine for Students* 30.1 (2023): 70-73.

16. Marisol Wong-Villacres, Sheena Erete, Aakash Gautam, **Azra Ismail**, Neha Kumar, Lucy Pei, Wendy Roldan, Veronica Ahumada-Newhart, Karla Badillo-Urquiola, J. Maya Hernandez, Anthony Poon, Pedro Reynolds-Cuéllar, Vivian Genaro Motti. "Dialogues: Elevating strengths and capacities: the different shades of assets-based design in HCI." *Interactions. 2022 Aug 30;29(5):28-33.*

17. Marisol Wong-Villacres, Sheena Erete, Aakash Gautam, **Azra Ismail**, Neha Kumar, Lucy Pei, Wendy Roldan, Veronica Ahumada-Newhart, Karla Badillo-Urquiola, J. Maya Hernandez, Anthony Poon, Pedro Reynolds-Cuéllar, Vivian Genaro Motti. "Dialogues: Elevating strengths and capacities: the different shades of assets-based design in HCI." *Interactions. 2022 Aug 30;29(5):28-33.*

18. Manasee Narvilkar, Josiah Mangiameli, Adriana Alvarado Garcia, **Azra Ismail**, Daniel Schiff, Danielle Schechter, Jordan Chen, Karthik Bhat, Marisol Wong-Villacres, Anusha Vasudeva, Aparna Ramesh, Michaelanne Dye, Naveena Karusala, Pragati Singh, Savanthi Murthy, Shubhangi Gupta, Udaya Lakshmi, and Neha Kumar. 2019. "Bringing Shades of Feminism To Human-Centered Computing". *In Extended Abstracts of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '19).* ACM, New York, NY, USA, 1–12.

REFEREED WORKSHOP CONTRIBUTIONS

19. Arturo De Nieves Gutiérrez de Rubalcava, Oscar Sánchez Piñeiro, Rebeca Moreno Jiménez, Joseph Aylett-Bullock, **Azra Ismail**, Sofia Kyriazi, Catherine Schneider, Fred Sekidde, Giulia Del Panta, Vanessa Maigné, Miguel Luengo-Oroz, and Katherine Hoffmann Pham. "Modeling Population Movements under Uncertainty

at the Border in Humanitarian Crises: A Situational Analysis Tool". *Data-driven Humanitarian Mapping Workshop at KDD 2022.*

20. **Azra Ismail**. "Towards Equitable Futures in Frontline Health: Design of Intelligent Systems for Supporting (Gendered) Care Work in Resource-Constrained Settings". *CHI Doctoral Consortium 2022.*

21. **Azra Ismail**, and Neha Kumar. "Data Work on the Front Lines of Global Health". *Data4Good: Designing for Diversity and Development Workshop at AVI 2020.*

22. **Azra Ismail**, Naveena Karusala, and Neha Kumar. "At the Frontlines but Still Invisible: Laboring for AI in Frontline Health". *Identifying Challenges and Opportunities in Human-AI Collaboration in Healthcare Workshop at CSCW 2019.*

23. **Azra Ismail** and Neha Kumar. "Mind the Gap: Practicing Feminist HCI in the Global South". *Solidarity Across Borders: Navigating Intersections Towards Equity and Inclusion Workshop at CSCW 2018.*

24. **Azra Ismail**, Naveena Karusala, and Neha Kumar. "Designing for Use and Non-Use: The Case of Neighborhood Clinics". *Symposium on HCI Across Borders at CHI 2017.*

ORGANIZED WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

25. Karthik Bhat*, **Azra Ismail***, Amanda Hall, Naveena Karusala, Helena Mentis, John Vines, Neha Kumar. "The Future of Hybrid Care and Wellbeing in HCI". *In CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems Extended Abstracts (CHI EA '23).*

26. Sharifa Sultana, Md. Rashidujjaman Rifat, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Ranjit Singh, Julian Posada, **Azra Ismail**, Yousif Hassan, Seyram Avle, Nithya Sambasivan, Rajesh Veeraraghavan, Priyank Chandra, Rafael Grohmann. "Big Data and AI in the Global South". *Critiquing and Rethinking Accountability, Fairness and Transparency (CRAFT) Session at the ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (ACM FAccT).* 2022.

27. CHIWORK Collective, Naveena Karusala, Nabil Al Nahin Ch, Diana Tosca, Alberta A. Ansah, Emeline Brulé, Nadia Fereydooni, Le-En Huang, **Azra Ismail**, Pranjal Jain, Yi Xuan Khoo, Isabel Muñoz, Clemens Schartmüller, Himanshu Verma, Preeti Vyas, Susanne C. J. Boll, Sarah E. Fox, Noopur Raval, Max L. Wilson, Anna L Cox, Christian P Janssen, Helena M Mentis, Neha Kumar, Orit Shaer, and Andrew L Kun. "Human-Computer Interaction and the Future of Work". *In CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems Extended Abstracts (CHI EA '22).* ACM, New York, NY, USA, Article 162, 1–3.

28. Naveena Karusala,* **Azra Ismail***, Karthik Bhat, Sachin Pendse, Aakash Gupta, Neha Kumar, Richard Anderson, Madeline Balaam, Shaowen Bardzell, Nicola J Bidwell, Melissa Densmore, Elizabeth Kaziunas, Anne Marie Piper, Noopur Raval, Pushpendra Singh, Austin Toombs, Nervo Verdezoto, and Ding Wang. "The Future of Care Work: Towards a Radical Politics of Care in CSCW Research and Practice". *Conference Companion Publication of the 2021 on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing.* 2021.

29. Marisol Wong-Villacres, Aakash Gupta, Wendy Roldan, Betsy DiSalvo, Neha Kumar, Lucy Pei, Jessa Dickinson, **Azra Ismail**, Tamara Clegg, Sheena Erete, Emily Roden, Nithya Sambasivan, and Jason Yip. "From Needs to Strengths: Operationalizing an Assets-Based Design of Technology." *Conference Companion Publication of the 2020 on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing.* 2020.

INVITED TALKS, PRESENTATIONS, & PANELS

Talks

2023 Towards culturally sensitive AI for community health, Google

2023 Learning in the Age of AI, Misk Global Forum

2023 Integrating AI with Care: Lessons Learned in Public Health, UCSD Computer Science and Engineering

2023 Integrating AI with Care: Lessons Learned in Public Health, CMU Software and Societal Systems

2023 Integrating AI with Care: Lessons Learned in Public Health, University College London Interaction Center

2023 Integrating AI with Care: Lessons Learned in Public Health, Emory University Computer Science

2023 Integrating AI with Care: Lessons Learned in Public Health, Emory University Biomedical Informatics

2023 Integrating AI with Care: Lessons Learned in Public Health, Columbia University Biomedical Informatics

2022 Building an Inclusive Future of Work, ACM SIGCHI HCI and Friends Symposium, IIT Bombay

2022 Do We Care Enough?: Tying Care to Action in Design Practice, Informatics Colloquium, Cornell University

2022 Human-Centered Design of AI Systems for Frontline Health, Informatics Colloquium, Indiana University

2021 Gender and the Politics of Data Work, Lahore University of Management Sciences

2021 Human-Centered Design of AI Systems for Frontline Health, New York University

2021 Human-Centered Design of AI Systems for Frontline Health, HCI4SouthAsia

2021 Taking the Long, Holistic, and Intersectional View to Women's Wellbeing, University of Michigan

2021 Human-Centered Design of AI Systems for Frontline Health, Ubiquitous Computing Group, Georgia Tech

2021 Human-Centered Design of AI Systems for Frontline Health, GVU Brown Bag, Georgia Tech

2017 Technology is the answer, but what was the question?, TEDxGeorgiaTech

Panels

2023 Technology and Innovation for Gender Equality, Trained Nurses Association of India, Maharashtra Branch

2022 Moderator, Digital Health Panel, ACM SIGCHI HCI and Friends Symposium, IIT Bombay

2022 Global Perspectives on Gender and Development, Global Development Week, Georgia Tech

2022 Ethic of Care, Critical UX Event

2022 Illness and Identity Online in the Global South, CSCW Workshop on Information-Seeking, Finding Identity: Exploring the Role of Online Health Information in Illness Experience

2022 WAIM Summer Conference

2021 Roundtable Discussion on the Future of Care Work, CHIWORK Symposium

2021 STEM Education Without Barriers Panel, Global Digital Annual Women Economic Forum

2020 Virtual Deliberative Dialogue on AI and Trust in Healthcare, Tandem Research

2020 CS + Social Good Research Panel, Georgia Tech

Workshops

2019 Empowering the Next Generation with AI, Summer School on Expanding the Horizons of Human-Centered AI

Conference Presentations

2023 Public Health Calls for/with AI, CSCW

2023 Information-Backward but Sex-Forward": Navigating Masculinity towards Intimate Wellbeing and Heterosexual Relationships, CHI

2022 Imagining Caring Futures for Frontline Health Work, CSCW

2022 When is ML Data Good: Valuing in Public Health Datafication, CHI

2022 AI in Global Health: The View from the Front Lines, CHI

2019 Restoration Work: Everyday Challenges in HIV Outreach, CSCW

2019 Empowerment on the Margins: The Online Experiences of Community Health Workers, CHI

2018   Engaging Solidarity in Data Collection Practices for Community Health, CSCW
2018   Bridging Disconnected Knowledges for Community Health, CSCW

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Guest Lecturer

2023   Human-Centered Computing and Health Equity, BMI 500, Emory University
2023   Human-AI Collaboration in Healthcare, CSI, Emory University
2022   Health and Feminisms, CS4745/6745: ICTD, Georgia Tech
2021   Design of AI Systems for Frontline Health, INTA8803: Indian Politics & Development, Georgia Tech
2021   Design of AI Systems for Frontline Health, PHIL 4811: Ethical and Societal Impacts of AI, Georgia Tech
2021   ICTD Research Panel, CS4745/6745: ICTD, Georgia Tech
2020   Design of Human-Centered AI in Frontline Health, CS4745/6745: ICTD, Georgia Tech
2019   Health and Feminism, CS4745/6745: ICTD, Georgia Tech
2018   Health and Feminism, CS4745/6745: ICTD, Georgia Tech

Teaching Assistant

2021   Course Assistant, INTA/ME 4744: Global Development Capstone, Georgia Tech
2021   Head Teaching Assistant, CS4605/7470: Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing, Georgia Tech
2020   Teaching Assistant, CS4745/6745: ICTD, Georgia Tech
2020   Teaching Assistant, CS4001: Computing and Society, Georgia Tech
2020   Teaching Assistant, CS4605/7470: Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing, Georgia Tech
2019   Teaching Assistant, CS4745/6745: ICTD, Georgia Tech

SERVICE

Institutional Service

2024   Local-Global Engagement Committee, Emory School of Medicine Global Health & Equity Office
2024   Communications Committee, Dept. of Biomedical Informatics, Emory School of Medicine

Program Committee

2024   ACM SIGCAS/SIGCHI Conference on Computing and Sustainable Societies (COMPASS)
2023, 2024   ACM Journal, Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)
2022   Critical Computing, Sustainability, and Social Justice subcommittee, ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)
2022   ACM Conference on Equity and Access in Algorithms, Mechanisms, and Optimization (EAAMO)
2022   Symposium on Human-Computer Interaction for Work (CHIWORK)
2021   Late Breaking Works, CHI

Organizer

2023–2024   Doctoral Consortium Co-Chair, COMPASS
2023–2024   Academic Learning Community talk series on Intersections: Humanity, Sustainability, and Computers + AI, Emory University
2023–2024   Seminar series on Biomedical Informatics, Emory University
2021–2022   Diversity and Equity Co-Chair, CHIWORK
2018–2019   Co-editor, Human-Centered Computing Across Borders Medium Publication

Reviewer

2023   CSCW, CHI

2022   The Journal of Information Technology for Development (ITD), ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction (ToCHI), CSCW, CHI

2021   Patterns, ToCHI, CSCW, CHI

2020   CSCW, CHI

2019   CSCW, CHI, The International Conference on Information & Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD)

2018   ACM International Conference on Mobile Human-Computer Interaction (MobileHCI)

Volunteer

2019, 2021   Student Volunteer, CHI

2020   Delhi State Government COVID Task Force on Technology and Innovation

2019   Student Volunteer, ICTD

2018   Student Volunteer, CSCW

MENTORSHIP

2024–Present Saravanan Narayanan Venkatachalam, MS BMED, Georgia Tech

2024–Present Unnathi Kumar, B.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech

2024–Present Sneha Pal, B.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech

2024–Present Kareem Bechnak, MS Health Informatics. University of Colorado

2024–Present Molly Han, B.S.. Quantitative Science. Emory University

2023–Present Yiyang Mei, JD/MPH, Emory University

2023–Present Manvi, MPH. Emory University

2023–Present Rayvant Sahni, M.S. Computer Science. Emory University

2023–Present Hazel Li, M.S. Industrial Design, Georgia Tech

2023–Present Dhruv Ramani, M.S. Computer Science, Georgetown University

2021–Present Poojita Garg, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech

2023 Chris Hovey, M.S. Human-Computer Interaction, Georgia Tech

2020–2022   Meghna Gupta, B.S. Computer Science Engineering, IIIT Delhi (currently Ph.D. in HCDE at UW)

2020–2021   Prerna Ravi, B.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech (currently Ph.D. in EECS at MIT)

2021   Kartik Joshi, B.Tech. Computer Science, VIT (currently MS by Research, IIIT-Bangalore)

MEDIA

2022   India Today, 75 Indian women in STEAM selected as women role models for youth by govt: Full list

2021   The Wire, Families of Bihar's ASHA Workers Who Died of COVID-19 Still Haven't Been Compensated

2021   YourStory, Meet the non-profit entrepreneurs who are reshaping ground realities to drive change