Hannah Estes

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Computer Science, North Carolina State University   May, 2029 (expected)
Advisor: Dr. Kathryn T. Stolee, Wolfpack Innovations in Software Engineering Research (WISER) Lab

M.S. Computer Science, North Carolina State University   December, 2026 (expected)

B.S. Computer Science, North Carolina State University, Magna Cum Laude   May, 2024
Minors: Cognitive Science, Global Leadership & Team Decision Making
NCSU College of Engineering Faculty Senior Scholar Nominee, CSC Ambassador

REFEREED FULL CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

[1] **Hannah Estes**, Satwika Kancharla, and Kathryn T. Stolee. An Empirical Study of the Alignment between Software Product Managers and Software Engineers. ACM International Conference on the Foundations of Software Engineering (FSE '26). [Under Review]

[2] **Hannah Estes**, Katie Hollowell, John Cheek, Shiv Patel, Hanna Reese, and Kathryn T. Stolee. 2025. Advancing Software Product Management Education: Insights from an Industry Survey. In 33rd ACM International Conference on the Foundations of Software Engineering (FSE Companion '25), June 23–28, 2025, Trondheim, Norway. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 11 pages. [DOI]

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant   August, 2024 - present
WISER Lab, Department of Computer Science, NCSU   Raleigh, NC

- Spearheaded a comprehensive research initiative and designed an IRB-approved protocol to define the software product manager (SPM) role, analyzing survey data from 59 SPMs and 63 SWEs across 24+ companies.
- Coordinated a team of five student researchers to author and analyze data.
- Authored and served as the primary researcher for a paper identifying 21 competencies and 10 key values of the SPM role, which was published and presented at the top-tier FSE-SEET international conference [2].
- Authored and served as the primary researcher for a second research paper, currently under review, which examines the alignment between SPMs and software teams by identifying 14 categories of typical questions and 8 primary challenges in the role[1].
- Leveraged research findings to inform the curriculum of a new SPM course at NCSU, providing students with a competitive advantage in the workforce.

Undergraduate Research Assistant under Dr. Kathryn T. Stolee   December, 2023 - August, 2024

WORKING EXPERIENCE

Software Engineering Intern   June 2024 - August 2024
Pearson   Durham, NC

- Consolidated identities and create a seamless ID verification process for in-person and online users
- Developed authentication session transfer capabilities for document verification across multiple devices

Technology Security & Privacy Consulting Intern   June 2023 - August 2023
Protiviti   Dallas, TX

- developed an interactive mock online order page utilizing Microsoft Power Apps and Power Pages, showcasing the practical application of digital twins and order management solutions for prospective clients
- automated tracking of deliverables to support the client's virtualization process

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

CSC 408: Software Product Management, North Carolina State University Fall 2024, Spring 2025
Teaching Assistant (TA), Instructor: Dr. Kathryn T. Stolee

INVITED PANELS

Graduate School…should I go? Is it for me? NCSU Engineering Your Experience Workshop February 2025
What is Research? Fontainebleau High School December 2024

SERVICE

NC State CS Ambassador August 2022 - present

HONORS, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS

Foundations of Software Engineering (FSE) Travel Grant, National Science Foundation (NSF), $2,200 June 2025
Grad Cohort Workshop Travel Grant, Computing Research Association (CRA), $480 June 2025

REVIEWER AND SUBREVIEWER

HCI International (HCII 2025) Workshop: Designing for Inclusivity Advancing User Experience Through Inclusive Design Methodologies | 2 full papers
IEEE/ACM International Conference on Software Engineering (ICSE 2026): Software Engineering Education | 1 full paper