

# Julia M. Gersey

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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

Sensing Networks, Embedded Systems, IoT, Mobile Computing, Human-Computer Interaction.

## EDUCATION

**University of Michigan**, Ann Arbor, MI  
Ph.D. Student, Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Advisor: Pei Zhang

August 2024 - Present

**Baldwin Wallace University**, Berea, OH  
B.Sc., Computer Science  
B.Sc., Applied Mathematics  
GPA: 3.86/4.0, *Magna Cum Laude*

May 2024

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### Fine-Grained Air Quality Sensing with Internet-of-Things

March 2022 - May 2024

*Researcher & Developer*, Baldwin Wallace University MOPS Research Group

- Interdisciplinary research project funded by the NSF that investigates fine-grained Air Quality sensing in urban environments using **low-power and low-cost IoT sensors**.
- Coded Raspberry Pi Pico W's, Zero W's, 3B's and Arduino M4 Airlift Lite boards with Plantower PMS5003 particulate matter and SGP30 TVOC/eCO2 volatile organic compound sensors to capture and **report air quality data** to our web server.
- Implemented a proof-of-concept **opportunistic sensing** via Apple's AirTag Protocol to provide connectivity to our sensors outside of WiFi or LoRa areas to still send AQ data via bluetooth.
- Partnered with PCsForPeople to deploy our units in their wifi hotspot towers across East Cleveland to expand AQ coverage and **made our data publicly available** on our website.

### Campus Plate

March 2021 - May 2024

*Lead iOS Developer*, Baldwin Wallace University MOPS Research Group

- Interdisciplinary research project funded by the EPA's People, Prosperity, and Planet (P3) Grant to help reduce food waste, food insecurity, and student hunger on college campuses via a mobile application.
- Continued development of the **iOS application written in Swift**, utilizing REST web services and Git.
- Implemented a swipe-to-delete iOS function for users to cancel their food reservations.
- Refactored and **centralized web service URL** to support switching between prod and dev environment.
- Corrected **user permissions** (student, manager) to correctly hide/show certain parts of the application.

### EduSense: Classroom Sensing Towards Inclusive & Equitable Teaching

May 2023 - August 2023

*NSF REU Intern*, Carnegie Mellon University Human-Computer Interaction Institute (HCII)

- Used **scikit-learn** and **imblearn** libraries to build and train **binary classification models** based on the manually coded video data annotations and the instructor gaze and location features from the EduSense classroom sensing system.
- Applied **Logistic Regression, Linear Regression, Decision Tree, and Random Forest** classification algorithms to create machine learning models for classroom activity recognition using video data.
- Implemented **AdaBoost and SMOTE algorithms** onto our imbalanced data set to improve model performance to **78.8%** and **76.4% accuracy** for the 'posing questions' and 'answering questions' codes.
- Tested the performance of our models with the leave one out cross validation (LOOCV) standard.

## INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

### Medical Mutual of Ohio

May 2022 - August 2022

*IT Software Development Intern*, Brooklyn, OH

- Tuned **SQL queries** for an admin search tool to **improve efficiency** when searching within 2 databases with thousands of rows and columns.
- Implemented a minimum requirement of 2 search parameters and a limited the query to fetch the first 50 rows only to **eliminate a 30-second timeout error**.
- Learned SQL Server Management Studio and IBM DB2 Database integration and maintenance skills.

### Qwickly, Inc.

January 2021 - May 2022

*Web & Application Development Intern*, Cleveland, OH

- Completed a cross-platform mobile application using **C# and Xamarin**.
- Utilized Blackboard, Canvas, and D2L **REST API's** for an attendance-taking proof of concept to scan a generated QR code in a large lecture on a mobile device.
- Developed an internal video management system to more efficiently upload video guides to clients.
- Created a course-pinning feature to allow clients to pin their top preferences across our products.

## PEER-REVEIWED PUBLICATIONS

- [3] **Julia Gersey**, Brian Krupp, Jonathon Fagert. "Pilot Study of Deploying IoT Micro Air Quality Sensors in an Urban Environment: Lessons Learned". 2023 ACM Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges Midwestern Conference.
- [2] Brian Krupp, **Julia Gersey**, Jonathon Fagert, Tony Mlady. "Towards Fine-Grained Air Quality Sensing in Urban Environments". 2022 ACM Conference on Embedded Networked Sensor Systems. (Poster)
- [1] Brian Krupp, **Julia Gersey**, Franklin Lebo. "Campus Plate: Connecting Students on College Campuses to Reduce Food Waste and Food Insecurity". 2022 International Conference on Research in Adaptive and Convergent Systems.

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- [2] **Julia Gersey**. "MOPS Research Group Empowers Communities: Baldwin Wallace University". ACM XRDS 30, 1 (Fall 2023), 74–75. (<https://dl.acm.org/doi/pdf/10.1145/3625396>)
- [1] Brian Krupp and **Julia Gersey**. 2023. "Privacy Focused Companies, How Focused Are They?". SIGCAS Computing Society 51, 3 (December 2022), 10. (<https://doi.org/10.1145/3585060.3585064>)

## RESEARCH GRANTS

### External

- 2023-24 NASA Ohio Space Grant Consortium Scholarship (\$3,500)
- 2022-23 NASA Ohio Space Grant Consortium Scholarship (\$3,500)
- ACM SenSys 2022 Travel Grant (\$1,000)

### Internal

- Women for Baldwin Wallace Giving Circle Award (\$2,000)
- URCS Travel Grant (\$500)
- The Lauria STEM Research Competition 2022 (2nd Place - \$500)

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

- University of Michigan EECS Department Ph.D. Fellowship, 2024-25 (\$41,304)
- Charles & Elsie Little Graduate Award (\$2,000)
- Outstanding Computer Science Senior Award
- NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program Honorable Mention
- Baldwin Wallace Woman of Achievement Award

- NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Honorable Mention (\$100)
- CIO Tomorrow Student Scholarship (\$3,590)
- Upsilon Pi Epsilon Honor Society
- Outstanding Computing Student (\$625)
- National Residence Hall Honorary
- Academic All-Ohio Athletic Conference Award
- Chi Alpha Sigma Honor Society
- Kappa Mu Epsilon Honor Society
- Anthony & Patricia Lauria Scholarship in Computer Science (\$750)
- Toni & Max Dehn Scholarship for Mathematics (\$250)
- The Christopher J. Sullivan and Frank & Margaret Schmidt Scholarship (\$250)
- Center for Innovation & Growth Ratcliffe Student Fellow
- Choose Ohio First STEM Scholarship (\$5,000 annually)

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS & TALKS

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| [12] SIGCAS Works in Progress Webinar, (Virtual) Zoom<br>Title: Air Quality Sensing with Internet-of-Things<br>Authors: <b>Julia Gersey</b>  | Spring 2024 |
| [11] NASA Ohio Space Grant Consortium Symposium, Ohio Aerospace Institute<br>Title: Air Quality Sensing with Internet-of-Things<br>Authors: <b>Julia Gersey</b>  | Spring 2024 |
| [10] Choose Ohio First STEM Scholar Showcase, Ohio Statehouse<br>Title: Towards Fine-Grained Air Quality Sensing in Urban Environments<br>Authors: Brian Krupp, <b>Julia Gersey</b> , Jonathon Fagert, Tony Mlady                                    | Spring 2024 |
| [9] Midwest Consortium for Computing Sciences in Colleges, University of Indianapolis<br>Title: Pilot Study of Deploying IoT Micro Air Quality Sensors in an Urban Environment<br>Authors: <b>Julia Gersey</b> , Brian Krupp, Jonathon Fagert        | Fall 2023   |
| [8] HCII REU Poster Session, Carnegie Mellon University<br>Title: What's happening in the classroom? Automated recognition of classroom activity for scalable multimodal learning analytics<br>Authors: <b>Julia Gersey</b> , Angela Gui, Lucia Fang | Summer 2023 |
| [7] NASA Ohio Space Grant Consortium Symposium, Ohio Aerospace Institute<br>Title: Towards Fine-Grained Air Quality Sensing in Urban Environments<br>Authors: Brian Krupp, <b>Julia Gersey</b> , Jonathon Fagert, Tony Mlady                         | Spring 2023 |
| [6] Cleveland Big Data Group Meet-Up, Cleveland, OH<br>Title: Using IoT to Measure Air Quality<br>Authors: <b>Julia Gersey</b>   | Spring 2023 |
| [5] Ohio Celebration of Women in Computing (OCWiC), Huron, OH<br>Title: Using IoT to Measure Air Quality<br>Authors: <b>Julia Gersey</b>   | Spring 2023 |
| [4] ACM SenSys 2022, Boston, MA<br>Title: Towards Fine-Grained Air Quality Sensing in Urban Environments<br>Authors: Brian Krupp, <b>Julia Gersey</b> , Jonathon Fagert, Tony Mlady  | Fall 2022   |

- [3] OurCS Research Conference, Carnegie Mellon University      Fall 2022  
Title: Congestion Control with TCP Hybla  
Authors: **Julia Gersey**, Audrey Kim, Vasu Ramanujam, Lisa Shen
- [2] The Lauria STEM Research Competition, Baldwin Wallace University      Spring 2022  
Title: Fine-Grained Air Quality Sensing with IoT  
Author: **Julia Gersey**
- [1] Computing, Engineering, Mathematics & Science Showcase, Baldwin Wallace University      Fall 2021  
Title: Campus Plate  
Authors: Terrell McDowell, **Julia Gersey**, Leighton Medved

## SERVICE & MEMBERSHIPS

- GradSWE Social Outreach Member      September 2024 - Present
- ECE Graduate Student Council Member      September 2024 - Present
- ACM XRDS Magazine Department Editor      August 2023 - Present
- ACM SIGCHI Member      June 2023 - Present
- ACM SIGCAS Member      March 2023 - Present
- ACM-W Student Member      February 2022 - Present
- ACM Student Member      January 2022 - Present
- CincyHacks Hackathon Mentor      February 2021

## REFERENCES

Dr. Pei Zhang, Associate Professor, Electrical & Computer Engineering, University of Michigan  
[peizhang@umich.edu](mailto:peizhang@umich.edu)

Dr. Hae Young Noh, Associate Professor, Civil & Environmental Engineering, Stanford University  
[noh@stanford.edu](mailto:noh@stanford.edu)

Dr. Brian Krupp, Assistant Professor, Computer & Data Sciences, Case Western Reserve University  
[brian.krupp2@case.edu](mailto:brian.krupp2@case.edu)