# Laura Wendlandt

wenlaura@umich.edu          http://wendlandt.github.io

**Education**

**University of Michigan** (Ann Arbor, MI)
Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering          (Expected) 2020
  *Advisor: Dr. Rada Mihalcea*
M.S., Computer Science and Engineering          April 2017

**Grove City College** (Grove City, PA)
B.S., Computer Science          May 2015

**Employment**

**UM Artificial Intelligence Lab**          Sept. 2015 - Present
*Research Assistant, LIT research group*
Working in natural language processing, machine learning, computational social science, word embeddings, word semantics, and data science with Dr. Rada Mihalcea

**Majorana Research Team**          May - Aug. 2013
*Research Assistant*
Participated in Computational Astronomy and Physics REU, contributed to international physics research team studying neutrino detection, created extensible modeling capabilities and models for data processing software

**Amazon**          May - Aug. 2014
*Software Development Intern*
Developed complete web application for use in Amazon's Fulfillment Centers, tested application with users, prepared code for global production, actively participated in a software development team using agile methodology

**Publications**

**Conference Papers**
"Factors Influencing the Surprising Instability of Word Embeddings"
Wendlandt, L., J. K. Kummerfeld, R. Mihalcea
*North American Chapter of the Assoc. for Computational Linguistics*, 2018

"Multimodal Analysis and Prediction of Latent User Dimensions"
Wendlandt, L., R. Mihalcea, R. Boyd, J. Pennebaker
*Social Informatics*, 2017

**Workshop Papers**
"Data Science in Service of Performing Arts: Applying Machine Learning to Predicting Audience Preferences"
Abernethy, J., C. Anderson, C. Dai, J. Dryden, E. Schwartz, W. Shen, J. Stroud, L. Wendlandt, S. Yang, D. Zhang
*Bloomberg Data for Good Exchange*, 2016

| Talks | | |
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| | **Ann Arbor / Detroit NLPers Meetup** | Aug. 2018 |
| | "Factors Influencing the Surprising Instability of Word Embeddings" | |
| | **Midwest Speech and Language Days** | May 2018 |
| | "Factors Influencing the Surprising Instability of Word Embeddings" | |
| | **Decision Consortium** | May 2016 |
| | University of Michigan, Psychology Department | |
| | "Inferring User Attributes from Images" | |
| | **North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences** | Aug. 2013 |
| | With Asher Wasserman | |
| | "The Hunt for Neutrinos" | |

Professional Activities

**Service**

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| Co-chair, a2-dlearn (Ann Arbor deep learning symposium) | 2019 |
| Student Co-Chair, Student Research Workshop, NAACL | 2019 |
| Reviewer, EMNLP | 2018 |
| Reviewer, *Computer Speech & Language* | 2017 |

**Conferences / Workshops Attended**

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| COLING | Aug. 2018 |
| NAACL | June 2018 |
| Midwest Speech and Language Days | April 2017, May 2018 |
| Social Informatics (SocInfo) | Sept. 2017 |
| Bloomberg Data for Good Exchange | Sept. 2016 |
| CRA-W Grad Cohort Workshop | April 2016 |
| Fall Meeting of the APS Division of Nuclear Physics | Oct. 2013 |

Teaching

**University of Michigan Classes**

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| EECS 198: Discover CS | Fall 2018 |
| Primary instructor for a new class at UM, designed for incoming freshmen women to explore CS | |
| EECS 498/595, SI 561: Natural Language Processing | Fall 2017 |
| Co-instructor – involved lecturing, planning curriculum, holding office hours, and grading | |
| *(ranked by School of Information students in top quartile of classes for overall quality and amount learned)* | |
| EECS 281: Data Structures and Algorithms | Fall 2015, |
| Graduate Student Instructor – involved teaching discussion sections, holding office hours, grading, and writing exams and projects | Winter 2016 |

**Other**

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| Python tutorial instructor at CS KickStart | 2017, 2018 |
| Guest instructor for ICOS Big Data Summer Camp | 2018 |
| Guest lecturer for Information Retrieval (EECS 486) | 2018 |
| Teaching assistant for CS and Physics (Grove City College) | 2012-2015 |
| Personal academic tutor (Grove City College) | 2013-2015 |

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| **Grants Received** | **ExploreCSR, $35,000** <br> Google grant for undergraduate computer science research-focused workshops for women | 2018-2019 |
| | **Gilbert Whitaker Fund, $5,725** <br> Center for Research on Learning and Teaching grant for activities that enhance the quality of student learning at the University of Michigan | 2018 |

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| **Awards** | **NSF GRFP - Honorable Mention** <br> Honorable mention for the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program | 2017 |
| | **ACM Programming Team** <br> One of three juniors on a team that placed 13th of 126 teams at the 2013 ACM-ICPC E. Central N. America Regional Contest | 2013 |
| | **UNC at Chapel Hill Capstone Award** <br> Best final presentation summer 2013 REU - $500 | 2013 |
| | **John David Ormerod Memorial Award** <br> Top-ranked computer science major in sophomore class | 2013 |
| | **Grove City College Scroll and Key** <br> Academic honor society honoring top 7% of senior class | 2015 |
| | **OΔK and Mortar Board Honor Societies** <br> Recognition for scholarship, leadership, and service | 2015 |
| | **Grove City College Trustee Scholarship** <br> Top academic scholarship awarded to 24 freshmen | 2011-2015 |
| | **Grove City College Presidential Scholarship** <br> Recognition for GPA greater than 3.6 | 2012-2015 |

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| **Outreach** | **CS KickStart** ([cskickstart.eecs.umich.edu](cskickstart.eecs.umich.edu)) <br> *Co-organizer & Industrial Relations 2016, Advisor 2017* <br> Annual summer camp introducing freshmen women to computer science. More than 100 applications received each year. | 2016-2017 |
| | **Girls Encoded** ([girlsencoded.eecs.umich.edu](girlsencoded.eecs.umich.edu)) <br> *Co-director, Event Coordinator, Student Funding Committee* <br> Focused on recruiting and retaining women in computer science. Initiatives include Women in Computing seminars, industry panels featuring female software engineers, and high-school outreach. | 2016-2017 |
| | **Hour of Code** <br> *Volunteer in Elementary Classroom* | 2017 |
| | **N. American Computational Linguistics Olympiad** <br> *Graduate Student Grader* | 2016 |

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| **Relevant Coursework** | **Graduate Level** <br> Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Advanced AI, Computational Complexity, Continuous Optimization Methods, Parallel Computing <br> **Undergraduate Level** <br> Algorithms, Introduction to AI, Ethics in the Computing Profession, Foundations of CS, Operating Systems, Object-Oriented and Advanced Programming, Data Communications and Networking, Data Structures and Algorithms, Computer Architecture and Organization, Database Management Systems, Discrete Math |

**References**  Available upon request.

*(CV compiled 27 August 2018.)*