Laura Burdick
(previously 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

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

Co-chair, a2-dlearn (Ann Arbor deep learning symposium)	2019
Student Co-Chair, Student Research Workshop, NAACL	2019
Unconference Session Facilitator, Michigan AI Symposium	2018
Editorial Board Member, Michigan AI Blog	2018
Reviewer, AAAI	2019
Reviewer, EMNLP	2018
Reviewer, *Computer Speech & Language*	2017

Conferences / Workshops Attended

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

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, Winter 2016
Graduate Student Instructor – involved teaching discussion sections, holding office hours, grading, and writing exams and projects

Other

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

Teaching (cont.)

Work with CRLT-Engin (Center for Research on Learning & Teaching in Engineering)
Co-facilitator for "Making Teamwork Work" Seminar — 2018
Continuing Education for Student Instructors

Grants Received

ExploreCSR, $35,000 — 2018-2019
Google grant for undergraduate computer science research-focused workshops for women

Gilbert Whitaker Fund, $5,725 — 2018
Center for Research on Learning and Teaching grant for activities that enhance the quality of student learning at the University of Michigan

Awards

NSF GRFP - Honorable Mention — 2017
Honorable mention for the National Science Foundation's Graduate Research Fellowship Program

ACM Programming Team — 2013
One of three juniors on a team that placed 13th of 126 teams at the 2013 ACM-ICPC E. Central N. America Regional Contest

UNC at Chapel Hill Capstone Award — 2013
Best final presentation summer 2013 REU - $500

John David Ormerod Memorial Award — 2013
Top-ranked computer science major in sophomore class

Grove City College Scroll and Key — 2015
Academic honor society honoring top 7% of senior class

OΔK and Mortar Board Honor Societies — 2015
Recognition for scholarship, leadership, and service

Grove City College Trustee Scholarship — 2011-2015
Top academic scholarship awarded to 24 freshmen

Grove City College Presidential Scholarship — 2012-2015
Recognition for GPA greater than 3.6

Outreach

Girls Encoded (girlsencoded.eecs.umich.edu) — 2016-2017
Co-director, Event Coordinator, Student Funding Committee
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.

CS KickStart (cskickstart.eecs.umich.edu) — 2016-2017
Co-organizer & Industrial Relations 2016, Advisor 2017
Annual summer camp introducing freshmen women to computer science. More than 100 applications received each year.

Hour of Code — 2017
Volunteer in Elementary Classroom

N. American Computational Linguistics Olympiad — 2016
Graduate Student Grader

Relevant Coursework

Graduate Level

Natural Language Processing, Machine Learning, Advanced AI, Computational Complexity, Continuous Optimization Methods, Parallel Computing

Undergraduate Level

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 20 November 2018.)