

Summary Narrative Scholarship

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My research interests are Artificial Life (ALife) and Computer Science Education. ALife is within the larger field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and typically uses methods that involve evolutionary approaches to investigate the central questions of what makes a living system “alive” and where the boundaries between living and non-living systems. In computer science education, I am particularly interested in increasing participation of underrepresented groups in computing and technology fields.

I participate actively in a variety of scholarly activities related to my research specializations, Artificial Life and Computer Science Education. I connect with my research community through publications, presentations, technical committees, journal reviews, and grant applications.

I am particularly proud that my research earned me a place as a co-author on the 2020 review paper, “The Surprising Creativity of Digital Evolution: A Collection of Anecdotes from the Evolutionary Computation and Artificial Life Research Communities”, published in *Artificial Life*, the top journal in my research field. In this paper, my work stands besides work of many of the best known and most important researchers in the field. In 2021, I co-authored a paper with Dr. Christine Reilly of Skidmore College, “Improving the Success of Non-Traditional Students in an Introductory Computing Course: An Experience Report”, presented at the IEEE Frontiers in Education Conference (FIE) and published in the conference proceedings.

I have presented at several professional meetings recently, including an invited talk at Michigan State University and as a panelist in Clarkson’s 2021 Virtual Film Series on the topic of algorithmic bias. I am a regular technical committee member for the Artificial Life Conference and a reviewer for *Artificial Life* journal. I was the Principal Investigator (PI) on grant proposals to the National Science Foundation (NSF) in 2017 and 2018, “SUNY Potsdam Computer Science (SPOCS) Scholarship Program, National Science Foundation” (unfunded) and have participated as a co-PI or senior personnel on several other grants. Currently, I am participating in as a mentor in a grant proposal to the NSF led by Dr. Fadi Bou-Abdallah, “S-STEM “ELITES”: Enabling Learning Initiatives to Transform and Empower STEM Students” (pending).

The full citations for my publications and listing of presentations are available in my *curriculum vitae*.