

## LOUISA CONWILL

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[louisaconwill.github.io](https://louisaconwill.github.io)

### EDUCATION

#### University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame, IN

*Ph.D. Computer Science and Engineering*

2021 - 2026 *expected*

Academic advisor: *Dr. Walter Scheirer*

*M.S. Computer Science and Engineering*

2021 - 2025

#### University of Mary

Bismarck, ND

*Graduate Certificate, Professional Campus Ministry*

2020

#### Brown University

Providence, RI

*Sc.B. Computer Science*

2013 - 2017

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Refereed Conference Papers

**Conwill, L.**, Levis, M.K., Badillo-Urquiola, K., & Scheirer, W.J. "Design Patterns for the Common Good: Building Better Technologies Using the Wisdom of Virtue Ethics." In *CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '25)*, April 26-May 1, 2025, Yokohama, Japan.

#### Reviewed Conference Papers

**Conwill, L.**, Anthony, S., & Scheirer, W.J. "Has the Virtualization of the Face Changed Facial Perception? A Study of the Impact of Photo Editing and Augmented Reality on Facial Perception." In *Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '24)*, May 11-16, 2024, Honolulu, HI, USA.

#### Books

**Conwill, L.**, Levis, M., & Scheirer, W. *Virtue in Virtual Spaces: Catholic Social Teaching and Technology*. Liturgical Press, September 2024.

#### Periodicals

**Conwill, L.** "Virtue in Virtual Spaces: Catholic Social Teaching as an Alternative." *Church Life Journal*, December 3rd, 2024.

#### Accepted for Publication

Ozturk, K\*, **Conwill, L.\***, Gutierrez, J., Bowyer, K., and Scheirer, W. "A Comprehensive Framework for the Study of the Effects of Facial Filters on Recognition Accuracy." [Accepted for publication at the *IEEE International Joint Conference on Biometrics (IJCB)* 2025].

\*Indicates co-first authors: both authors contributed equally to this work.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Conference Talks

ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. *“Design Patterns for the Common Good: Building Better Technologies Using the Wisdom of Virtue Ethics.”* May 2025, Yokohama, Japan.

Notre Dame De Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture. *“What Is Owed to Persons in Digital Spaces? Evaluating Popular Social Media Applications Through the Lens of Catholic Social Teaching.”* ‘Dust of the Earth’: On Persons. November 2023, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Notre Dame Center for Social Concerns. *“Using Catholic Social Teaching to Develop Virtuous Social Technologies.”* Justice Sown in Peace: Celebrating 60 Years Since Pacem in Terris. March 2023, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Notre Dame De Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture. *“Using Catholic Social Teaching to Develop Virtuous Social Technologies.”* ‘And It Was Very Good’: On Creation. November 2022, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Franciscan University. *“Using Catholic Social Teaching to Develop Virtuous Social Technologies.”* Software/Cyber Engineering Ethics Conference: Virtue in a Virtual World. October 2022, Steubenville, Ohio.

### Posters

Honolulu, Hawaii, *“Has the Virtualization of the Face Changed Facial Perception? A Study of the Impact of Augmented Reality and Photo Editing on Facial Perception.”* CHI 2024, May 2024

University of Notre Dame London Global Gateway, *“Has the Virtualization of the Face Changed Facial Perception? A Study of the Impact of Augmented Reality on Facial Perception.”* Workshop on Humans, Deep Networks & Face Recognition, March 2023.

University of Notre Dame, *“Using Catholic Social Teaching to Develop Virtuous Social Technologies.”* Rome Call for AI Ethics, November, 2022.

### Invited Talks

“Virtue in Virtual Spaces,” with M. Levis and W. Scheirer, invited talk at the Oxford Collaboration in Theology and Artificial Intelligence Workshop, hosted on Zoom by Oxford University, March 2025.

“Artificial Intelligence, What it Is, and What it Is Not,” invited talk at *Diocese of Raleigh Priest Assembly 2025*, Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina, January 2025. (Coordinated by the McGrath Institute for Church Life.)

“Virtue in Virtual Spaces: Catholic Tradition and the Digital Age,” with M. Levis, invited talk at *Gold Mass Lecture*, Benedictine University, Lisle, Illinois, November 2024.

“Virtue in Virtual Spaces: Catholic Social Teaching and the Internet,” invited talk at *Catholic Newman Night*, The Pittsburgh Oratory Catholic Newman Center, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, October 2024.

“Virtue in Virtual Spaces: Catholic Social Teaching and the Internet,” with M. Levis and W. Scheirer, invited panel talk at *Catholic Social Teaching and Technology: Reimagining the Internet*, a SPIRE conference sponsored by the Center for Social Concerns at Notre Dame, Mumbai, India, March 2024.

“Discernment Takeaways From My Journey as a Catholic and a Scientist.” Society of Catholic Scientists Breakfast, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana, February 2023.

## RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

### University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame, IN

*Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Computer Science and Engineering*

2021 - present

Research Projects:

- Virtue ethics and Catholic Social Teaching as frameworks for technology ethics
- Human and machine perception of faces filtered with social media filters

*Academic advisor:* Dr. Walter Scheirer

### Fellowship of Catholic University Students

Pittsburgh, PA

*Campus Missionary*

2019 - 2021

- Invited college students at Carnegie Mellon University deeper into the Catholic faith through leading two weekly Bible studies with 2-8 participants, leading faith mentorship meetings, and hosting large group formation events.
- Fundraised annual salary of \$50,000 and maintained relationships with donors through individual contact and quarterly newsletter.
- Helped coordinate and execute retreats, conferences, and domestic and international service trips.

### Amazon

Cambridge, MA

*Software Development Engineer*

2017 - 2019

- Designed the database schema for, and implemented in Java, a major component of the primary system used internally to generate datasets for training Alexa machine learning models and generating business reports, handling thousands of transactions per second. Promoted the new system to users through large group presentations and one-on-one onboarding.
- Worked as a security reviewer, verifying that software built by teams across Alexa met Amazon’s security standards before deployment.
- Maintained team’s codebase, adding new features and fixing bugs. Participated in a monthly/bi-monthly on-call rotation, fixing issues with the team’s software and responding to pages outside of work hours for urgent issues.

### Amazon

Cambridge, MA

*Software Development Engineer Intern*

Summer 2016

- Developed a user interface to determine whether specific utterances were supported in the Automatic Speech Recognition models and Natural Language Understanding models currently in production for the Alexa speech recognition platform.

## **Amazon**

Seattle, WA

*Software Development Engineer Intern*

Summer 2015

- Worked on the Amazon Link Electronic Data Interchange team. Developed a framework in Java to automate the running of Apache Spark applications that collect metrics through parsing large numbers of log files.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

### **Guest Lecturer**

#### **University of Notre Dame**

Notre Dame, IN

- Guest Lecture for Annalisa Szymanski, CSE 40424: Human-Computer Interaction (Spring 2025). Topic: Ethics and Human-Computer Interaction.
- Guest Lectures for Walter Scheirer, CSE 40535: Computer Vision (Spring 2025). Topics: Extraction of Visual Features — SIFT and SURF algorithms, Histogram of Oriented Gradients, Local Binary Patterns (two lectures); Geometric Transformations (one lecture).
- Guest Lecture for Greg White, CSC 33950: Appalachia (Spring 2025). Topic: Catholic Social Teaching as Lens to see Appalachia.
- Guest Lecture for EG 10117: First Year Engineering Design (Fall 2023, Fall 2024). Topic: Discerning the Computer Science and Engineering Major.
- Guest Lecture for Bill Theisen, CSE 30872: Programming Challenges (Fall 2023). Topic: Graduate School.
- Guest Lecture for Megan Levis, STV/TEC/EG 33999: Technology, Self, and Society (Fall 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024). Topic: My Career Discernment Path.

#### **Saint Mary's College**

Notre Dame, IN

- Guest Lecture for Lois Scheirer, BUAD 437: Artificial Intelligence Marketing (Spring 2025). Topic: Technology Ethics.

### **Teaching Assistant**

#### **University of Notre Dame**

Notre Dame, IN

##### **Computer Science and Engineering Department**

- CSE 40535: Special Studies: Computer Vision (Spring 2025)
- CSE 40175: Ethical and Professional Issues (Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Fall 2024)

#### **Brown University**

Providence, RI

##### **Computer Science Department**

- CS17: Integrated Introduction to Computer Science, Semester I (Fall 2014, Fall 2015)
- CS18: Integrated Introduction to Computer Science Semester II (Spring 2016, **Head TA**)
- CS22: Introduction to Discrete Structures and Probability (Spring 2015)
- CS157: Design and Analysis of Algorithms (Fall 2016)

- CS138: Distributed Systems (Spring 2017, **Head TA**)

## FELLOWSHIPS

**University of Notre Dame**  
**Center for Social Concerns**  
Graduate Justice Fellowship

Notre Dame, IN  
2023-2024  
*Faculty mentorship, \$3000 stipend*

**University of Notre Dame**  
**de Nicola Center for Ethics and Culture**  
Sorin Fellows Program

Notre Dame, IN  
2023-present  
*Conference funding and programming*

## AWARDS AND HONORS

**Catholic Media Association Book Awards**

Second Place, Catholic Social Teaching Category, for *Virtue in Virtual Spaces* 2025

**Catholic Media Association Book Awards**

Second Place, Pastoral Ministry – Parish Life Category, for *Virtue in Virtual Spaces* 2025

**University of Notre Dame**

Computer Science and Engineering Department Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award 2022

**Toastmasters International**

Area 35 Table Topics Contest First Place Winner 2019

**Brown University**

The Gladys C. and Sherwin J. Kapstein Family Fund Award for Interfaith Leadership 2017

## LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

**Brown University Peer Advising**

2014-2017

- Meiklejohn Peer Advisor—Partnered with a faculty advisor to guide a group of students throughout their first year with course selection and adjustment to university life (Fall 2014 - Spring 2016).

- Women in Computer Science Mentor—Worked one-on-one with a female computer science student at Brown, providing advice on academics and how to navigate a male-dominated field (Spring 2015 – Spring 2017).

**Brown-RISD Catholic Community Pastoral Council**

2014-2016

- Served as one of two Co-Coordination from Fall 2015 to Fall 2016, providing support, vision, and guidance to further the community's mission and ensure coordination among its leaders.
- Served as Fellowship Coordinator in the 2014-2015 academic year, focusing on strengthening the bonds among members of the community.

**Avi Schaefer Interfaith Shabbat Co-Chair, Brown University**

2017

- Served as one of two primary coordinators for the Avi Schaefer Interfaith Shabbat, a Shabbat dinner and weekend of events fostering interfaith understanding. Worked with Brown University chaplains and students from various religious backgrounds to organize events for the weekend.