COLLEGE OF
Saint Benedict Saint John's
UNIVERSITY

Computer Science

Imad Rahal

Institution(s)

- Two residential SLACS: CSB (women) and SJU (men)
- Unified academic program
- Separate residential campuses, budgets, governances, etc…
- About 3700 combined enrollment
- BA (BS in NURS; MA in THEO)

COLLEGE OF
Saint Benedict Saint John's
UNIVERSITY

Department

- Independent CS department since the early 1980s
- CS major and minor & NMCP major (envisioned as Scientific/Mathematical Computing)
- Traditional CS major: theory & application
  - first two years foundational --- lab-based
  - Upper division requirements + electives + computing Ethics + capstone (research)
  - JAVA (in depth) with exposure to other languages (start with Python)
- 7 members: 4 TT, 1 lab manager, 1 scientist-in-residence, 1 Theo/CS hybrid
  - Booming demand: 30+ graduates --- 10-20% graduate school
  - Overenrolled courses
  - High turnover due to retirements

COLLEGE OF Saint Benedict Saint John's UNIVERSITY

Data Science (for CS)

- My background is in DB and DM

- Early exposure to DS in intro for majors and non-majors (CS ½)
  - Simple data mining problems in lab
  - Credit risk prediction (kNN) to motivate programming constructs

- Advanced Courses (for majors)
  - Database Systems: Big Data
  - Data-Driven Intelligence: ML, DM (4 pillars)
  - Bioinformatics (open for BIOL majors as well)

- Honors theses (satisfy capstone)

COLLEGE OF Saint Benedict Saint John's UNIVERSITY

Future of DS

- Interest from other disciplines until 2 years ago (ACCT/ECON)
- Push from admin (driven by alumni in industry)
- A committee to organize a summer workshop
  - Define DS for a SLAC
  - Identify existing resources (at the institutions and industry in the area)
  - Put together an interdisciplinary program of some sort

COLLEGE OF
Saint Benedict Saint John's
UNIVERSITY