

## Curriculum Vitae

# MELISSA BICA

Department of Computer Science  
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## EDUCATION

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### University of Colorado Boulder

Ph.D., Computer Science, first year student

- Advisor: Leysia Palen
- Research interests: human-centered computing, social computing, crisis informatics

### Santa Clara University

B.S., Computer Science and Engineering, June 2014

- Graduated *cum laude* (GPA: 3.67)

### University of Edinburgh

Study abroad, School of Informatics, Fall 2012

## AWARDS

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### Open Science Data Cloud PIRE Fellowship

Open Science Data Cloud

April 2015

### Graduate Student Research Community Development Award

CU Boulder Department of Computer Science

October 2014

### Dean's Fellowship

CU Boulder Department of Computer Science

AY 2014 – 2015

### Dean's List

Santa Clara University

AY 2013 – 2014

### Senior Design Presentation Session Award

Santa Clara University

May 2014

### IEEE Women in Engineering International Leadership Conference Scholarship

IEEE Santa Clara Valley Section

April 2014

### Upsilon Pi Epsilon Computing and Information Honor Society

Santa Clara University

April 2014

### Willem P. Roelandts and Maria Constantino-Roelandts Grant

Center for Science, Technology, and Society

November 2013

### Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society

Santa Clara University

October 2013

### Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing Scholarship

NSF

July 2013

**Global Social Benefit Fellowship**  
Santa Clara University

February 2013

**Cisco-SCU Engineering Fellowship**  
Santa Clara University

May 2012

**Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing Scholarship**  
ACM

April 2011

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## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**University of Colorado Boulder**  
*Teaching Assistant*

August 2014 – present

- Teaching two recitation sections and creating assignments for CSCI 1300: Introduction to Programming in Python and C++.
- Conducting grading interviews with about 50 students weekly for programming assignments.

**Center for Science, Technology, & Society (Santa Clara University)**  
*Global Social Benefit Fellow*

February – December 2013

- Conducted research for social enterprises Anudip and iMerit as part of this 9 month, academic action research fellowship including 7 weeks of field work in Kolkata, India.
- Developed curriculum and instructed women in HTML and CSS in a semi-rural iMerit center in Metiabruz.

**Qualcomm Incorporated**  
*Interim Engineering Intern*

June – August 2012

- Developed automated Android system and graphics performance benchmark tests using Perl and Java.
- Improved efficiency by reducing time needed to perform tests and analyze results.

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## MANUSCRIPTS

Bica, Melissa, Elizabeth Donahue, and Silvia Figueira (2014). "Text to Learn": Enabling Job Training in Emerging Markets. *Proceedings of the 5th ACM Symposium on Computing for Development (DEV 2014)*, San Jose, CA, 2 page poster. (Submitted)

Bica, Melissa, and Elizabeth Donahue (2014). "Text To Learn": A Digital Training System for Global Social Enterprises. *B.S. Thesis, Santa Clara University*, 2014.

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## PROJECTS

**Text to Learn – Senior Design Project**

AY 2013 – 2014

- Digital training tool developed for social enterprises in emerging markets.
- Uses a web-based dashboard for trainers to send training materials via SMS to trainees' mobile phones.
- Won Best in Session at SCU's annual Senior Engineering Design Conference.
- Thesis: <https://scholarcommons.scu.edu/handle/11123/616>

**Bridging the Information Gap**

April – June 2013

- Collaborated with a team of eleven students to develop a mobile application for Community Technology Alliance to aid homeless people in finding local services, including food, shelter, jobs, and health services.
- Designed user interface using HTML and CSS to be compatible with feature phones.

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## PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES

ACM, ACM-W, ACM Special Interest Group Computer-Human Interaction (SIGCHI)