

# Natalie Parde

Assistant Professor  
Department of Computer Science  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
🌐 [www.natalieparde.com](http://www.natalieparde.com)

851 S Morgan St.  
Room SEO 1132  
Chicago, Illinois 60607  
✉ [parde@uic.edu](mailto:parde@uic.edu)

---

## Education      **Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering**

University of North Texas, 2018. 4.0/4.0.

## **M.S., Computer Science**

University of North Texas, 2016. 4.0/4.0.

## **B.S., Computer Science**

University of North Texas, 2013. *Summa Cum Laude*.

## Research

### **Human Intelligence and Language Technologies Laboratory**

Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of North Texas

*Research Assistant*, June 2013 – May 2015

*Research Fellow*, June 2015 – September 2018

### **Human Movement Performance Laboratory**

Department of Physical Therapy, University of North Texas Health Science Center

*Programmer*, June 2018 – September 2018

### **Software and Knowledge Engineering Laboratory**

Institute of Informatics and Telecommunications, N.C.S.R. Demokritos, Greece

*Visiting Researcher*, July 2014

### **Reconfigurable Computing Laboratory**

Department of Electrical Engineering, University of North Texas

*Research Assistant*, August 2012 – May 2013

### **Summer Undergraduate Program in Engineering Research (SUPER)**

College of Engineering, University of North Texas

*Research Assistant*, June 2012 – August 2012

## Research Grants

### **Google Cloud Platform Research Credits Grant**

Google, 2018 | Award Amount: \$5000

### **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship**

National Science Foundation, 2014 | Award Amount: \$132,000

Awards	<p><b>Outstanding Ph.D. Student</b>, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of North Texas, 2018</p> <p><b>Dr. Hermann Zemlicka Award for Most Visionary Paper</b>, Gmunden Retreat on NeuroIS, 2017</p> <p><b>Golden Eagle Award</b>, University of North Texas, 2016</p> <p><b>First Place Project</b>, International Research-centered Summer School in Cognitive Systems and Interactive Robotics, Data and Content Analysis, 2014</p> <p><b>People’s Choice Project</b>, International Research-centered Summer School in Cognitive Systems and Interactive Robotics, Data and Content Analysis, 2014</p> <p><b>Honors Scholar Award</b>, UNT Honors College, 2013</p>
Travel Grants	<p><b>Connections in Smart Health Workshop Travel Award</b>, National Science Foundation, 2018</p> <p><b>SemBEaR Student Travel Grant</b>, NAACL Workshop on Computational Semantics Beyond Events and Roles/National Science Foundation, 2018</p> <p><b>AAAI Doctoral Consortium Travel Grant</b>, Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, 2018</p> <p><b>Grace Hopper Scholarship</b>, Google, 2017</p> <p><b>EMNLP Student Scholarship</b>, Special Interest Group on Linguistic Data and Corpus-based Approaches to NLP, 2017</p> <p><b>Toulouse Graduate School Travel Grant</b>, University of North Texas, 2018, 2017</p> <p><b>College of Engineering Travel Grant</b>, University of North Texas, 2018, 2017, 2014</p> <p><b>Departmental Travel Award</b>, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of North Texas, 2018, 2016, 2015, 2013</p> <p><b>IJCAI Doctoral Consortium Travel Grant</b>, International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence/National Science Foundation, 2015</p> <p><b>CRA-W Workshop and Travel Scholarship</b>, CRA Committee on the Status of Women in Computing, 2016, 2015, 2014</p>
Scholarships	<p><b>Graduate Assistantship Tuition Scholarship</b>, University of North Texas, 2013</p> <p><b>Academic Achievement Scholarship</b>, University of North Texas, 2013</p> <p><b>Engineering Ambassador Scholarship</b>, College of Engineering, University of North Texas, 2012</p> <p><b>C.J. Davidson Honors Scholarship</b>, Honors College, University of North Texas, 2011</p> <p><b>Achievement Scholarship</b>, University of North Texas, 2009</p> <p><b>Board of Regents’ Excellence Scholarship</b>, University of North Texas, 2009-2013</p>
Publications	<p><u>N. Parde</u> and R. D. Nielsen. Automatically Generating Questions about Novel Metaphors in Literature. In <i>Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on Natural Language Generation (INLG 2018)</i>. Tilburg, The Netherlands, November 5-8, 2018.</p>

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. Reading with Robots: Promoting Cognitive Exercise in Elderly Populations through Embodied Conversational Dialogue. In *Proceedings of the 2018 Connections in Smart Health Workshop*. Arlington, Virginia, September 24-26, 2018.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. Detecting Sarcasm is Extremely Easy ;-). In *Proceedings of the NAACL 2018 Workshop on Computational Semantics Beyond Events and Roles (SemBEaR 2018)*. New Orleans, Louisiana, June 5, 2018.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. A Corpus of Metaphor Novelty Scores for Syntactically-Related Word Pairs. In *Proceedings of the 11th International Conference on Language Resources and Evaluation (LREC 2018)*. Miyazaki, Japan, May 7-12, 2018.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. Exploring the Terrain of Metaphor Novelty: A Regression-based Approach for Automatically Scoring Metaphors. In *Proceedings of the Thirty-Second AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-18)*. New Orleans, Louisiana, February 2-7, 2018.

N. Parde. Reading with Robots: Towards a Human-Robot Book Discussion System for Elderly Adults. In *Proceedings of the Thirty-Second AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-18) Doctoral Consortium*. New Orleans, Louisiana, February 2-7, 2018.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. Finding Patterns in Noisy Crowds: Regression-based Annotation Aggregation for Crowdsourced Data. In *Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2017)*. Copenhagen, Denmark, September 7-11, 2017.

N. Salma, B. Mai, K. Namuduri, R. Mamun, Y. Hashem, H. Takabi, N. Parde, and R. Nielsen. Using EEG Signal to Analyze IS Decision Making Cognitive Processes. In *Information Systems and Neuroscience, Lecture Notes in Information Systems and Organisation*.

M. Narouei, H. Khanpour, H. Takabi, R. Nielsen and N. Parde. Towards a Top-down Policy Engineering Framework for Attribute-based Access Control. In *Proceedings of the 22nd ACM Symposium on Access Control Models and Technologies*. Indianapolis, Indiana, June 21-23, 2017.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. #SarcasmDetection is soooo general! Towards a Domain-Independent Approach for Detecting Sarcasm. In *Proceedings of the 30th International FLAIRS Conference*. Marco Island, Florida, May 22-24, 2017.

N. Parde, A. Hair, M. Papakostas, K. Tsiakas, M. Dagioglou, V. Karkaletsis, and R. D. Nielsen. Grounding the Meaning of Words through Vision and Interactive Gameplay. In *Proceedings of the 2015 International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI 2015)*, Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 25-31, 2015.

M. Papakostas, K. Tsiakas, N. Parde, V. Karkaletsis, and F. Makedon. An Interactive Framework for Learning User-Object Associations through Human-Robot Interaction. In *Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Pervasive Technologies Related to Assistive Environments*, Corfu, Greece, July 1-3, 2015.

N. Parde, M. Papakostas, K. Tsiakas, and R. D. Nielsen. "Is It Rectangular?" Using I Spy as an Interactive, Game-Based Approach to Multimodal Robot Learning. In *Proceedings of the AAAI-15 Conference on Artificial Intelligence Student Program*, Austin, Texas, January 25-30, 2015.

N. Parde, M. Papakostas, K. Tsiakas, M. Dagioglou, V. Karkaletsis, and R. D. Nielsen. I Spy: An Interactive Game-Based Approach to Multimodal Robot Learning. In *Proceedings of the AAAI-15 Workshop on Knowledge, Skill, and Behavior Transfer in Autonomous Robots*, Austin, Texas, January 25, 2015.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. Design Challenges and Recommendations for Multi-Agent Learning Systems Featuring Teachable Agents. In *Proceedings of the 2nd Annual GIFT Users Symposium (GIFTSym2)*. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 12-13, 2014

G. Mehta, K. K. Patel, N. Parde, and N.S. Pollard. "Data-driven mapping using local patterns." *IEEE Transactions on Computer-Aided Design of Integrated Circuits and Systems* 32.11 (2013): 1668-1681.

G. Mehta, C. Crawford, X. Luo, N. Parde, K. Patel, B. Rodgers, A. Sistla, A. Yadav, and M. Reisner. (2013). UNTANGLED – A game environment for discovery of creative mapping strategies. In *ACM Transactions on Reconfigurable Technology and Systems*, Vol. 6, No.3

G. Mehta, X. Luo, N. Parde, K. Patel, B. Rodgers, and A. K. Sistla. UNTANGLED - An interactive mapping game for engineering education. In *Proceedings of 2013 IEEE International Conference on Microelectronic Systems Education (MSE)*, Austin, Texas, 2013.

A. Sistla, N. Parde, K. Patel, and G. Mehta. Cross-architectural study of custom reconfigurable devices using crowdsourcing. In *Proceedings of the 2013 IEEE 27th International Symposium on Parallel and Distributed Processing Workshops and PhD Forum (IPDPSW '13)*, Boston, Massachusetts, May 20-24, 2013.

## Additional Talks

N. Parde. Writing a Successful Proposal — How I Did It. Invited presentation at the *2018 UNT Graduate Research Grant Assistance Workshop*. Denton, Texas, August 22-24, 2018.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. Reading with Robots: Towards an Intelligent Reading Companion that Promotes Cognitive Exercise in Older Adults. Poster at the *2017 Dallas Aging and Cognition Conference*. Dallas, Texas, January 29-30, 2017.

R. D. Nielsen and N. Parde. Perceptive Emotive Spoken-Dialogue Companion Robots. Presentation at the *2016 IEEE MetroCon Conference*. Arlington, Texas, October 26, 2016.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. Getting to the Heart of Metaphors: Dependency-based Detection of Metaphoric Juxtapositions. Poster at the *2016 CRA-Women Graduate Cohort Workshop*. San Diego, California, April 15-16, 2016.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. An Exploration in Teaching Robots through “I Spy” Gameplay. Poster at the *2015 CRA-Women Graduate Cohort Workshop*. San Francisco, California, April 10-11, 2015.

N. Parde and R. D. Nielsen. Improving Cognition in the Elderly via Dialogue-Based Games with Teachable Robot Agents. Poster at the *2014 CRA-Women Graduate Cohort Workshop*. Santa Clara, California, April 11-12, 2014.

## Teaching

**Guest Lecturer**, UNT (Frisco) CSCE 5300  
March 2018: Introduction to Big Data and Data Science

**Guest Lecturer**, UNT CSCE 4310/5210  
May 2018: Grounded Language Learning  
February 2018: Figurative Language Processing + AAAI 2018 Highlights  
March 2017: Natural Language Processing

**Guest Lecturer**, UNT CSCE 1010  
Nov. 2015, April 2015, Nov. 2014, April 2014: Introduction to Robotics with NAO

## External Service

**Program Committees:**  
Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL 2019)  
Intl. Conference on Autonomous Agents and Multiagent Systems (AAMAS 2019)  
Second Conference on Language, Data and Knowledge (LDK 2019)

**External Reviewer:**  
ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2019)

**Conference Volunteer:**

Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP 2017)  
International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI 2015)

Internal  
Service

**University of Illinois at Chicago**

**M.S. Thesis Committees:**

Paolo Polimeno Camastra (Fall 2018), *University of Illinois at Chicago* and *Politecnico di Milano*

**Proposal Reviewer**, Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) Seed Funding Cycle 1 Program, Winter 2018/19

**University of North Texas**

**Mentoring:**

Henry Nguyen (2018–Present), *Texas Academy of Mathematics and Science (TAMS)*

John Long (2018), *TAMS*

Skylar Werner (2018), *University of North Texas (UNT)*

Philip Zeng (2018), *TAMS*

Ryan Peterson (2017-2018), *TAMS*

Huram-Abi Yotchoum Nzia (2017-2018), *TAMS*

Shelby Hobohm (2016-2017), *TAMS*

Leanne Joseph (2016-2017), *TAMS*

Soujanya Geddam (2016-2017), *TAMS*

Yuri Castro (2016), *TAMS*

Zaine Khoja (2016), *TAMS*

Jacob Brunson (2015-2016), *TAMS*

Sara Adams (2015-2016), *TAMS*

Noelle Davis (2015-2016), *TAMS*

Zhaochen Gu (2015-2016), *UNT*

Adam Hair (2014-2015), *UNT*

Keerat Baweja (2013-2015), *TAMS*

**Judge**, UNT Showcase of Undergraduate Research in Engineering, Fall 2013

**Engineering Ambassador**, UNT College of Engineering, 2012-2013

Outreach

**Activity Leader**, STEM Academy Middle School Summer Camp  
July 2018, July 2017, July 2016

**Site Facilitator**, North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad  
2018, 2017, 2016, 2014

**Application Reviewer**, NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award  
2017, 2015

**Activity Instructor**, Design Your World STEM Conference for Girls

November 2017, April 2016, March 2015

**Student Group Leader**, Design Your World STEM Conference for Girls  
April 2017

**Panelist**, NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Ceremony  
February 2016

**Activity Leader**, UNT Engineering REAL Community  
October 2015

**Presenter**, NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Ceremony  
February 2015

Affiliations    **Member**, Association for Computing Machinery  
                  **Member**, Association for Computational Linguistics  
                  **Member**, Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence  
                  **Former President**, UNT Women in Computing