ProfShop: The First Annual Workshop for Developing the Future XR Professoriate

To be held in conjunction with the 2023 IEEE International Symposium on Mixed and Augmented Reality (ISMAR 2023)

Monday, 16 October 2023

Hybrid

━----------

Acronym of the Workshop
ProfShop '23

Abstract and Call for Participation

This workshop is designed to foster mentorship, education, and collaboration among students who have an interest in becoming AR/VR (or XR) faculty someday. *Thus, we are <u>willing and eager to impart their knowledge to the next prospective generation of professors.</u> We are also seeking some professors with industry experience to provide comparisons between industry and academia.* The workshop will feature panels of current professors discussing various aspects of professorship, including (among other topics) tenure, creating and organizing a research program, teaching, and professional service, and more generally what aspects of their profession they really like and dislike, and why. Additionally, the workshop will include "speed advising" sessions in which students will be able to have 1-on-1 short advising sessions with current faculty. The panels and speed advising sessions will feature diverse faculty to provide students with various perspectives on the meaning of, success within, and preparation for professorship. Throughout the workshop, there will be an emphasis on creating and sustaining an academic environment that is diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible.

To participate, please sign up via this form: https://forms.gle/TSxMbcEbrk3ZpisD6

Who is the workshop for?

- <u>Participant:</u> We encourage any professor interested in mentorship to volunteer. We anticipate the workload being minimal, with you sitting on panels with other professors. We want a diverse range of professors– this means new professors and senior professors, professors with/without teaching experience or industry experience, and so on.
- <u>Attendee:</u> We encourage any aspiring or new (1-2 years) faculty to attend this workshop to learn more about professorship. Further, we strongly encourage any professors advising students who are interested in becoming professors to attend as well.

A Hybrid Workshop

Since ISMAR 2023 is a hybrid event, we intend to run our workshop as a hybrid event as well to include remote conference attendees who want to participate in the workshop. We feel passionately about hybrid modalities as they can be a profound bridge for less

advantaged groups to still engage with the community. **To this end, we are seeking both remote and in-person professors, and we will stream all of the panel sessions so that virtual attendees can still participate**. For the speed advising sessions, we will try to pair up professors and students based on their attendance form (online or in-person) to make the process more seamless and to minimize logistical issues.

How can you support this workshop? (Panels and Speed Advising)
The workshop will feature panels of current professors discussing various aspects of professorship, including (among other topics) tenure, creating and organizing a research program, teaching, and professional service, and more generally what aspects of their profession they really like and dislike, and why.

Tentative Panel topics include:
- Panel 1: High-level intro/overview of professorship motivations, responsibilities, workload, etc.
- Panel 2: Professor application process (materials, letters, etc.)
- Panel 3: Differences in universities (geographical, research vs. teaching allocations, etc.)
- Panel 4: Lab formation and management
- Panel 5: Challenges of interdisciplinary research
- Panel 6: Prof prep (what students can be doing now to prepare for professorship)
- Wildcard: (Unknown– we are open to suggestions!)

Each panel will last for one hour and will be centered on a specific aspect related to being a professor (e.g. a panel on how to manage a research lab, a panel on dealing with the challenges of interdisciplinary research). For each panel, we will have a brief introduction of the panel members and the panel topic, and then move into questions and group discussions. We will have prepared some starter questions to get the discussion going, after which we will open the floor to questions and comments from the workshop attendees.

Speed advising
In order to facilitate more personalized discussions, we will also host two "speed advising" sessions. In these sessions, attendees will be paired with a professor for 15 minutes for a 1-on-1 conversation. This conversation gives aspiring/young professors the opportunity to get advice regarding their specific situations and questions, unlike the more general advice from panel sessions. After each 15 minute session, attendees will be rotated out so that more people can get the chance to speak to a professor.

Social event
There will finally be a social event which can include informal mentorship and conversations surrounding anything to do with professorship. Signing up to attend this event ensures we have plenty of professors represented for students to mingle with.

Your suggestions!

This is the first ever edition of this workshop and to our knowledge there have not been workshops similar to this. Thus, we are open and eager to hear your suggestions on potential panels or subjects of discussion! The panels we have outlined here are tentative and if we get fantastic suggestions, we may move some things around. You do not have to volunteer to sit on a panel in order to provide suggestions. Please give us your thoughts using this form.

Organizers
Matt Gottsacker
Cassidy R. Nelson
Niall L. Williams
Gregory F. Welch
Joseph L. Gabbard

If you have any questions or ideas, please reach out to us at:
profshop.xr@gmail.com