Yasmine Kotturi

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EDUCATION

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 2022
Doctor of Philosophy, Human-Computer Interaction
Community-Based Approaches to Building Peer Support Systems for Work

Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA 2020
Master of Science, Human-Computer Interaction
Specialized in Computer Science

University of California San Diego, La Jolla, CA 2014
Bachelor of Science, Cognitive Science
Cum Laude

BOOK CHAPTERS

Designing Scalable and Sustainable Peer Interactions Online (2016). Kulkarni C., Kotturi Y., Bernstein M., Klemmer S. *Design Thinking Research*, Springer.

JOURNAL PAPERS

Heuristic Design of a Hybrid Presentation Medium (2016) Edge, D., Yang, X., Kotturi, Y., Wang, S., Feng, D., Lee, B., Drucker, S; *ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction.*

CONFERENCE PAPERS

Understanding the Challenges of Maker Entrepreneurship (2025) Friedman, N., Bremmers, A., Nyanyo, A., Clark, I., Kotturi, Y., Dabbish, L., Ju, W., Martelaro, N. *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work.*

Deconstructing the Veneer of Simplicity: Co-Designing Introductory Generative AI Workshops with Local Entrepreneurs (2024) Kotturi, Y., Anderson, A., Ford, G., Skirpan, M., Bigham, J.; *ACM Conference on Computer Human Interaction.*

Peerdea: Co-Designing a Peer Support System with Creative Entrepreneurs (2024) Kotturi, Y., Yu, J., Khadpe, P., Gatz, E., Zheng, H., Fox, S., Kulkarni, C.; *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work.*

Sustaining Community-Based Research in Computing: Lessons from Two Tech Capacity Building Initiatives for Local Businesses (2024) Kotturi, Y., Hui, J., Johnson, T., Sanifu, L., Dillahunt, T.; *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work.*

"This Really Let's Us See the Entire World:" Designing a Conversational Telepresence Robot for Homebound Older Adults (2024) Hu, Y., Stegner, L., Kotturi, Y., Zhang, C., Peng, Y., Huq, F., Zhao, Y., Bigham J., Multu B.; *ACM Conference on Designing Interactive Systems.*

Exploring the Role of Social Support when Integrating Generative AI into Small Business Workflows (2024) Lauro, Q. R., Bigham, J. P., & Kotturi, Y.; *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work. Short paper.*

Surfacing Structural Barriers to Community-Collaborative Approaches in Human-Computer Interaction (2023) Liang, C., Tseng, E., DeWitt, A., Kotturi, Y., Ghoshal, S., Smith, A., Wong-Villacres, M., Wilcox, L., Erete, S.; *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work. Workshop.*

Tech Help Desk: Support for Local Entrepreneurs Addressing the Long Tail of Computing Challenges (2022) Kotturi, Y., Johnson, H., Skirpan, M., Fox, S., Bigham, J., Pavel, A.; *ACM Conference on Computer Human Interaction.*

The Unique Challenges for Creative Small Businesses Seeking Feedback on Social Media (2021) Kotturi, Y., Blaising, A., Fox, S., Kulkarni, C.; *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work.*

Making it Work, or not: A Longitudinal Study of Career Trajectories Among Online Freelancers (2021) Blaising, A., Kotturi, Y., Kulkarni, C., Dabbish, L.; *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work.*

HirePeer: Impartial Peer-Assessed Hiring at Scale in Expert Crowdsourcing Markets (2020) Kotturi Y., Kahng, A., Procaccia, A., Kulkarni, C.; *Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence.*

The Future of Work(places): Creating a Sense of Place for On-demand Work (2019) Hui, J., Cranshaw, J., Kotturi, Y., Kulkarni, C.; *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work. Workshop.*

Why do Designers in the "Wild" Wait to Seek Feedback Until Later in their Design Process? (2019) Kotturi, Y., Kingston, M., *ACM Conference on Creativity and Cognition. Short paper.*

Phases of Uncertainty and Information-Seeking Among Online Freelancers (2019) Blaising, A. Kotturi, Y., Kulkarni, C., *ACM Conference on Computer-Human Interaction. Short paper.*

Ranking Wily People Who Rank Each Other (2018) Kahng, A., Kotturi Y., Kurokawa, D., Kulkarni, C., Procaccia, A.; *Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence.*

A Qualitative Investigation of Unmet Information-Seeking Needs of Online Workers (2018) Blaising, A., Askay, D., Kotturi, Y., Kulkarni, C., *ACM Conference on Information Systems.*

Long-Term Peer Reviewing is Anti-Reciprocal (2017). Kotturi Y., Du, A., Kulkarni C., Klemmer S; *ACM Learning at Scale. Short paper.*

Structure and Messaging Techniques for Online Peer Learning Systems that Increase Stickiness (2015). Kotturi Y., Kulkarni C., Bernstein M., Klemmer S; *Proceedings of ACM Learning at Scale.*

Talkabout: Making Distance Matter with Small Groups in Massive Classes (2015). Kulkarni C., Cambre J., Kotturi, Y., Bernstein M., Klemmer S; *ACM Conference on Computer Supported Collaborative Work.*

Connecting Stories and Pedagogy Increases Participant Engagement in Discussions (2015). Pandey V., Kotturi Y., Kulkarni C., Bernstein M., Klemmer S; *ACM Learning at Scale. Short paper.*

Basal Forebrain Dynamics Provide a Teaching Signal for Motor Skill Learning (2014). Nitz D., Kotturi Y., Gupta A., Chiba A. *Society for Neuroscience. Extended Abstract.*

FUNDING

Submitted $3,340
UMBC Hrabowski Fund for Innovation
PI: Centering Student Perspectives when Integrating Generative AI in a Design Classroom

Awarded $1,500
UMBC Supplement for Undergraduate Research Experiences
PI: Addressing Disparities in Generative AI Adoption among Small Businesses

Awarded $129,543
National Science Foundation
Co-PI: Using Technology to Transform Makers into Creative Entrepreneurs

Awarded $197,044
Presidential Postdoctoral Fellowship,
Artificial Intelligence Frontier, Virginia Tech
Inclusive Futures of Digitally-Mediated Work for Creative Entrepreneurs

Awarded $120,000
Ignite Venture Postdoctoral Fellowship,
Center for Technology Licensing, Cornell Tech
A Design Registry Platform for Creative Entrepreneurs

Awarded $26,273
National Science Foundation
Co-PI: Scholarships for Student Attendance at Co-Located Conferences: Human Computation & Collective Intelligence

Awarded €4,000
Artificial Intelligence Journal
Scholarships for Student Attendance at Human Computation & Collective Intelligence

Awarded $50,000
Work in the Age of Intelligent Machines
(Co-)Designing an Inclusive Future of Work

Awarded $35,000
Siebel Foundation

Awarded $99,497
Meta
Bolstering the Role of Peer-to-Peer Networks in Early-Stage Product Innovation

EXPERIENCE

Assistant Professor Baltimore, MD
University of Maryland, Baltimore County Aug 2024 - present
Postdoctoral Scholar Pittsburgh, PA
HCI Institute, Carnegie Mellon Sept 2022 - Aug 2024
Graduate Research Assistant Pittsburgh, PA
HCI Institute, Carnegie Mellon Aug 2016 - Aug 2022
Lead Graduate Teaching Assistant Pittsburgh, PA
Institute of Software Research, Carnegie Mellon Jan 2021 - May 2021
Graduate Teaching Assistant Pittsburgh, PA
HCI Institute, Carnegie Mellon Aug 2020 - Dec 2020
Summer Research Fellow Brooklyn, NY
Etsy May 2018 - Aug 2018
Summer Research Fellow Cambridge,MA
Teaching Systems Lab, MIT Jun 2016 - Aug 2016
Graduate Research Assistant La Jolla, CA
Computer Science, UC San Diego Sept 2015 - Jun 2016
Human-Computer Interaction Intern Beijing, China
Microsoft Research Asia May 2015 - Sept 2015
Research Assistant La Jolla, CA
Design Lab, UC San Diego Mar 2014 - May 2015
Research Assistant La Jolla, CA
Cognitive Science, UC San Diego Jun 2013 - Jun 2014
Research Assistant La Jolla, CA
Psychology, UC San Diego Jun 2012 - Jun 2013

AWARDS & HONORS

Consortium for the Science of Sociotechnical Systems (CSST) Fellow 2024
EECS Rising Star 2022
Siebel Scholar 2022
Contributions to Diversity, Computer Science and Engineering, UC San Diego 2016
UC San Diego Cum Laude, 2014
Senior Honors Thesis, Cognitive Science, UC San Diego 2013-2014

INVITED TALKS

University of Maryland Human-Computer Interaction Lab, College Park Maryland *Community-Based Approaches to Building Peer Support Systems for Work* December 2024

UMBC Information Systems Department, Baltimore Maryland *Community-Based Approaches to Building Peer Support Systems for Work* November 2024

Meta (remote) *Peerdea: Bolstering the Role of Peer-to-Peer Networks in Early-Stage Product Innovation* December 2020

Meta, New York City, NY *The Role of Peer-to-Peer Networks in Early-Stage Product Innovation* February 2020

Meta, New York City, NY *Designing Peer Interactions Among Online Workers to Enable Worker-Driven Pursuits* November 2018

MIT Teaching Systems Lab, Cambridge Massachusetts *Building Scalable and Sustainable Peer Interactions Online* June 2016

Hasso-Plattner Institute, Potsdam Germany *Leveraging Studio Model for Creating Peer Assessment Environment Online* September 2015

Tsinghua University, Beijing China *Using Google Hangouts for Small Discussions in Massive Online Classes* August 2015

SOFTWARE

Peerdea: `https://github.com/ykotturi/peerdea/`
BizChat: `https://github.com/ykotturi/bizchat/`

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Panelist, National Science Foundation, 2023
Associate Paper Chair, ACM Computer-Supported Cooperative Work, 2025
Associate Paper Chair, ACM Designing Interactive Systems, 2023
Scholarships Chair, AAAI HCOMP and ACM Collective Intelligence, 2023
Program Committee, ACM Learning @ Scale, 2021
Reviewer, ACM TOCHI, 2024
Reviewer, ACM Computer-Supported Cooperative Work, 2022-2024
Reviewer, ACM Creativity and Cognition, 2021
Reviewer, ACM Human Factors in Computing (CHI), 2017-2024
Reviewer, HCII PhD Admissions Committee, Carnegie Mellon University, 2019

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Co-founder, Tech Help Desk, Community Forge, Wilkinsburg PA, 2019-2024
`https://www.forge.community/services/tech-help-desk`
Co-founder, The Breakfast Club for Queer and Gender Minorities, Carnegie Mellon University, 2019-2022
Member, Respect and Relationships Committee, Carnegie Mellon University, 2019
Member, HCII-Improve, Carnegie Mellon University, 2018-2020
Officer, Graduate Queers and Allies, Carnegie Mellon University, 2018-2019
Vice President, Graduate Women in Computing, UC San Diego, 2015-2016

TEACHING & MENTORING

Head Instructor, *Fundamentals of Human-Centered Computing (UMBC 629).* Design studio course with 20 master's students from human-centered computing, information systems, and software engineering programs.

Lead Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Ethics and Policy Issues in Computing (CMU 17-200).* Managed three graduate teaching assistants, oversaw student feedback and grading. Taught by Jim Herbsleb and Laura Dabbish.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Designing Human-Centered Software (CMU 05-891).* Taught by Chris Harrison.

Guest Instructor, *Design Thinking for Leading and Learning (MIT 11.155x).* Taught by Justin Reich. Led sketching, storyboarding, prototyping portion of design thinking

curriculum

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *Human-Computer Interaction Design (UCSD CSE170).* Taught by Scott Klemmer. Each week, led two 70-minutes studio sessions where I offered 30 students studio critique on their mobile web applications. As the technical TA, I prepared and led weekly labs for all 200 students on mobile web application development.

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *The Design of Everyday Things (UCSD DSGN1).* Taught by Don Norman and Jim Hollan. Assisted with the design of the course, and led two-hour discussion sessions each week with 50 students where I offered studio critique.

Co-Instructor, *Tech for Entrepreneurs (Community Forge).* Co-designed curriculum to facilitate technology use among local entrepreneurs. Taught with Amil Cook.

Mentoring I have been fortunate to work closely with 13 graduate and undergraduate students.

- Quentin Romero Lauro, BS Computer Science, University of Pittsburgh '26
- Clara Lam, BS Information Systems, CMU '24, now at Nintendo
- Yaxin Hu, PhD Computer Science, University of Wisconsin '26
- Pranav Khadpe, PhD Human-Computer Interaction, CMU '26
- Erin Gatz, PhD Education, University of Pittsburgh '23, now at CMU
- Jiani Huang, BS Psychology and Informatics, UW '23, now at U Michigan
- Emmaline Mai, BS Computer Science, CMU '23, now at Hasso Plattner
- Harvey Zheng, BS Statistics and Machine Learning, CMU '23, now at Amazon
- Jenny Yu, BS Computer Engineering, CMU '21, now at Subtle Medical
- Allison Blaising, BA Communication, Cal Poly '19, now at Upwork
- Andrew Du, BS Computer Science UCSD '17, now at Google
- Xiaohui Tong, MS Computer Science Stanford '17, now at Booking

Relevant Coursework

Software Engineering for Start Ups with Michael Hilton CMU
Truth, Justice, and Algorithms with Ariel Proccacia CMU
Fundamentals of Learning from the Crowd with Nihar Shah CMU
Data Science for Psychology & Neuroscience with Timothy Verstynen CMU
Web Application Development with Jeffrey Eppinger CMU
Teaching Methods in Computer Science with Mia Minnes UCSD
Human-Computer Interaction Design with Scott Klemmer UCSD
Interaction Design Research with Scott Klemmer UCSD
Service Design with Jodi Forlizzi CMU
Computer Science Perspectives in HCI with Brad Myers CMU
Design Perspectives in HCI with Jodi Forlizzi CMU
Cognitive Perspectives in HCI with Niki Kittur CMU
HCI Process and Theory with Niki Kittur CMU
Social Perspectives in HCI with Geoff Kaufman CMU
Sketching User Experience with Bill Buxton UCSD
How To Search with Dan Russell Google via UCSD
Cognitive Ethnography with Ed Hutchins UCSD
Distributed Cognition with David Kirsh UCSD
Engineering Psychology with Hal Pashler UCSD

Accelerated Intro to Programming: Java with Rick Ord UCSD
Data Structures and OO Design Java, C, C++ with Gary Gillespe UCSD
Discrete Mathematics with Mia Minnes UCSD
Neural Registry of Attention with Douglas Nitz UCSD
Systems Neuroscience with Douglas Nitz UCSD
Neuroanatomy and Physiology with Jaime Pineda UCSD
Sensation and Perception with Steven Barrera UCSD
Learning, Memory and Attention with Sarah Creel UCSD
Modeling and Data Analysis with Virginia De Sa UCSD
Design and Analysis of Experiments with Rafael Nunez UCSD

REFERENCES

Chinmay Kulkarni
Associate Professor of Computer Science, Emory University
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Jeffrey Bigham
Professor of Human-Computer Interaction, Carnegie Mellon University
jbigham@cs.cmu.edu

Ariel Procaccia
Gordon McKay Professor of Computer Science, Harvard University
arielpro@seas.harvard.edu

Nihar Shah
Associate Professor of Machine Learning, Carnegie Mellon University
nshah@cs.cmu.edu

Tawanna Dillahunt
Professor of Information Science, University of Michigan
tdillahu@umich.edu

Sarah Fox
Assistant Professor of Human-Computer Interaction, Carnegie Mellon University
sarahf@cs.cmu.edu