Academic Affairs Leadership Team (AALT) Reports

Artis College of Science and Technology

Data Engineering Student Exploring Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence

Amanda Tolman has a vision of the future that is enhanced by artificial intelligence. As a student studying data engineering in Radford University’s accelerated Data and Information Management graduate program, Amanda has recently secured an opportunity to work with the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) in a research program.

“I am longing to dive deeper into the field of Artificial Intelligence by taking advantage of the learning opportunities this program will offer” Amanda stated. “This program will strengthen my skills and knowledge as I overcome challenges throughout my research in smart farms, AI assurance, and AI policy.”

Amanda will work with Feras Batarseh, a CCI Research Associate Professor at Virginia Tech on cutting-edge projects in data science, AI, and software engineering. In addition to working on advanced hardware (the AI testbed) and intelligent software systems to develop data repositories, she will also have the opportunity to deploy AI methods and to learn new skills. “My long-term career goal is to become a CS professor to utilize my gift of teaching” said Amanda. “I love to teach and explain what's happening "under the hood" of different technologies. This program at CCI will help me continue to learn "under the hood" aspects of technology. With regards to my educational goals, I expect my curiosity to drive me to achieve my master's degree and eventually a Ph.D.”

Amanda finished her AS degree at Virginia Western Community College, transferred to Radford, and immediately enrolled in our Accelerated Master’s program in Data and Information Management. In May of 2021, she will earn a BS in Computer Science with a concentration in Database Systems and in May 2022 she will complete our data science MS program.

College of Humanities & Behavioral Sciences

The Center for Gender Studies is pleased to announce the presentation “International Women in Academia”.
Please join us on Tuesday, February 23rd from 5:00 – 6:00 pm on zoom.

Three Radford University faculty members (Drs. Hoban, Srinivas, and Tsai) will reflect on the opportunities and challenges of being international female scholars in a university setting. Please refer to their bios below.

We are hoping for really strong attendance so please forward this email to your students and colleagues and anyone else who you think might be interested in attending. Also, Dr. Ann Elliott aelliott@radford.edu will be happy to send you a list of students who attended if you would like her to. Just let her know.

For more information about the Center for Gender Studies, please visit us at http://gstudies.asp.radford.edu/ (More information on Page 2)
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Here’s the zoom link:
Topic: International Women in Academia
Time: Feb 23, 2021 05:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)
Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: https://radford.zoom.us/j/94573767730
Join from a Telephone:
   Dial +1 408 638 0968
   Enter Meeting ID 94573767730
International numbers available: https://radford.zoom.us/u/aed5BKojmn
Join from a Room Systems: 94573767730@zoomcrc.com
To download the zoom client, go to https://zoom.us/download

Bios:

**Dr. Iuliia Hoban** holds a Ph.D. in Global Affairs from Rutgers University, a Masters in International Development from the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver, and a B.A. in History from the National University "Kyiv-Mohyla Academy" Her research interests are with issues of childhood and youth across various settings, conflict studies and the dynamic interrelationship between law and war. Her current research explores the strategic use of childhood in political persuasion shapes security discourse and how the militarization of childhood, as a sociopolitical process, precedes and sustains many forms of security. Dr. Hoban also applied her research skills in NGOs and think tanks such as Watchlist for Children and Armed Conflict (New York, NY), the Institute of World Policy (Kyiv, Ukraine) and the Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking (Denver, CO) where her major responsibilities focused on analysis and research of multidimensional factors and aspects of human rights violations.

**Dr. Srinivas** is a behavioral labor economist whose research focuses on the interplay between technology, social norms and the inequities that women face in their careers. Her research findings include insights from nationally representative datasets on the relationship between social attitudes and the gender pay gap, as well as the role played by gender-specific differences in occupational matching to technology jobs. Her work has been published in leading journals such as the International Journal of Social Economics, Research in Labor Economics and New Technology, Work and Employment. Dr. Srinivas was recognized as a Radford University Distinguished Woman in 2012.

**Dr. Tsai** received her doctorate from Iowa State University in 2015. Her research interests are in the following three areas: (1) positive psychology (especially the psychology of encouragement and well-being intervention), (2) training and supervision (especially coping with trainee’s anxiety in clinical work, and critical factors in training and supervision on trainee’s counseling self-efficacy), and (3) culturally adaptive coping for minority-related stress.
**Academic Programs**

**Office of Undergraduate Research & Scholarship invites student summer research and creative inquiry proposals**

The Office of Undergraduate Research & Scholarship (OURS) is now inviting proposals from Radford University and RUC students in all disciplines for the Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) program. All currently enrolled, degree seeking undergraduate students who will graduate after the fall 2021 semester are eligible to apply. Awards are for a $2,000 stipend to the SURF recipient, $500 as a mentor stipend, and up to $500 for supplies.

The SURF program fosters a community of undergraduate research, engaged scholarship, and creative inquiry during the summer months at Radford University. For summer 2021, the SURF program will fund a variety of projects in which students engage in original, intellectual, or creative contributions to a discipline. 21 students were SURF recipients in summer 2020 representing majors in biology, communications, criminal justice, design, forensic science, geology, health & human performance, music therapy, physics, psychology, and special education.

Applications must be completed and submitted by **Friday, February 26, 2021**. The expectation is that students will work under a faculty mentor to complete the proposed project for 10 weeks at an average of 20 hours per week. The faculty mentor should help plan the project, assist with proposal development, and actively participate in the implementation of a student’s project. Weekly professional and social functions will be held to support and celebrate the participating students and faculty.

**Upcoming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Sponsors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARTGAWK: Choice Pickings from the Radford University Permanent Collection. For more information visit the <a href="http://www.radford.edu/artmuseum">www.radford.edu/artmuseum</a></td>
<td>Covington Center</td>
<td>Jan 27-April 17, 2021</td>
<td>Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 12pm-4pm, Sunday Closed</td>
<td>CVPA Art Museum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radford University Career Week Business &amp; Technology Career Day</td>
<td>Visit <a href="http://www.radford.edu/artmuseum">here</a> for more information and a list of employers and additional events throughout the week.</td>
<td>Feb 22, 2021 Business &amp; Technology Day Feb 22-26, 2021 Career Week</td>
<td>10:00am-3:00pm</td>
<td>Center for Career &amp; Talent Development DCOBE</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>“International Women in Academia”</strong></td>
<td>Zoom Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: <a href="https://radford.zoom.us/j/94573767730">https://radford.zoom.us/j/94573767730</a> Join from a Telephone: Dial +1 408 638 0968 Enter Meeting ID 94573767730</td>
<td>February 23, 2021</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
<td>Center for Gender Studies CHBS</td>
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