It’s finally here—the 2019 Rising Stars Workshop. This is the first time the University of Illinois has had the opportunity to host this prestigious workshop, and we are proud to welcome the largest workshop cohort yet, with 90 incredibly talented young scholars. We have been anticipating your arrival for months, and we can’t wait to get to know you and support you in this exciting next step in exploring your academic career.

Continuing the successful programs started by our peers and past hosts at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of California Berkeley, Carnegie Mellon University, and Stanford University, the University of Illinois has developed presentations, panels, and interactive discussions to support your career explorations. New in 2019, is the addition of the Rising Stars Career Center, which will offer a variety of professional development resources to complement the workshop sessions. This includes one-to-one mentoring, professional profile photography, and sessions to record and polish research highlight videos. You can even participate in a research pitch competition.

Most importantly, we’ve taken feedback from past Rising Stars participants and mentors and want this workshop to be customizable for your personal career journey. Please take advantage of the networking opportunities to build personal and professional relationships that will benefit your entire career. Please seek us out during the workshop and be sure to visit the Rising Stars Career Center to ensure you get the most out of this experience.

On behalf of The Grainger College of Engineering, I am extremely proud that Illinois is home to the 2019 Rising Stars Workshop. It is an incredible opportunity to welcome such accomplished young scholars to our campus and to leverage the strengths in our computer science and electrical engineering departments and community to support your future career endeavors. I look forward to learning of your experiences here, and even more so where your career journeys take you. Best wishes for a wonderful workshop.

Welcome 2019 Rising Stars! We are truly honored to host such an amazing group of talented early-career computer scientists and electrical engineers as you begin to explore your vast career possibilities. We are eager to meet you and learn about your research, and to provide you with many opportunities to engage with and learn from top faculty mentors, polish your presentations, and deepen your network of colleagues and peers. We are eager to show off our micro-urban community, Illinois’ beautiful campus, and our state-of-the-art facilities and labs in the Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science and the Electrical and Computer Engineering Building.
“The Rising Stars workshop was an incredible opportunity to learn from the best of the best in academia, interact with phenomenal mentors, and connect with outstanding peers.”

Dakshita Khurana
Assistant Professor, Illinois CS
Rising Stars 2017 Participant
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2019

Opening Night Welcome Activities: Hamilton Walkers Private Party Room
201 N. Neil St., Champaign, IL

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019

8:15 am Shuttle Bus from Hyatt Place Hotel
8:45 am Welcome
9:00 am (SC 2405)
9:00 am Panel: Our Paths to Academia
10:00 am (SC 2405)
10:00 am Break
10:15 am Panel: The Job Search: Preparation
11:30 am (SC 2405)
11:30 am Lunch & Poster Session
1:30 pm (SC 1st and 2nd Floor Atrium)
1:30 pm Parallel Sessions: Job Talk Starts I
2:45 pm (SC 2405, SC 2124, SC 2102, 2407)
2:45 pm Group Picture
3:00 pm
3:00 pm Panel: The Interview
4:15 pm (SC 2405)
4:15 pm Panel: Work/Life Balance
5:15 pm (SC 2405)
5:30 pm Research Highlight Pitch Competition
6:30 pm (SC 2405)
6:30 pm Dinner (SC 1st Floor Atrium)
8:30 pm Shuttle Bus to Hyatt Place Hotel

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2019

8:30 am Shuttle Bus from Hyatt Place Hotel
9:00 am Panel: The Job Search: Post-Interview (ECEB 3002)
10:00 am Break
10:15 am Parallel Sessions: Job Talk Starts II (ECEB 3002, BI 2269, BI 3269, BI 4269)
11:30 am Lunch & Poster Session (ECEB 3rd Floor Atrium outside of 3002)
1:30 pm Panel: Building Your Research Program (ECEB 3002)
2:45 pm Research Program (ECEB 3002)
3:00 pm Break
3:00 pm Parallel Sessions: Job Talk Starts III (ECEB 3002, BI 2269, BI 3269, BI 4169)
4:15 pm Panel: Tips from the Trenches - Recent Job Candidates (ECEB 3002)
5:15 pm
5:30 pm Shuttle Bus to Hyatt Place Hotel
Dinner: Maize at the Station
Halloween Theme!
100 N. Chestnut Street, Champaign, IL
(This is a short walking distance from the hotel in downtown Champaign.)
6:30 pm

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2019

8:30 am Shuttle Bus from Hyatt Place Hotel
9:00 am Parallel Sessions: Job Talk Starts IV (SC 2405, SC 2124, SC 2102, SC 2407)
10:30 am Panel: Overcoming Challenges, Getting Mentoring, and Building a Network (SC 2405)
11:45 am Lunch
1:00 pm (SC 2nd Floor Atrium)

LOCATION KEY

SC = Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science
201 N. Goodwin Ave., Urbana, IL

ECEB = Electrical and Computer Engineering Building
306 N. Wright St., Urbana, IL

BI = Beckman Institute for Advanced
Science & Technology
405 N Mathews Ave, Urbana, IL

find schedule updates: go.illinois.edu/risingstars
find mentor information: go.illinois.edu/risingstars

FORGOT YOUR TIME SLOT?
Visit the Career Center web page on the Rising Stars website for a reminder!
RISING STARS CAREER CENTER
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30 - SC 3403
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31 - ECEB 5070
9:00 am-12:00 pm
1:00 pm- 5:00 pm

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1 - SC 3403
9:00 am - 11:00 am

PORTRAITS - SC 4th Floor Atrium
Wednesday only
9:00 am - 12:00 pm, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT VIDEOS - SC 4325
Wednesday only
9:00 am - 12:00 pm, 1 pm- 5 pm

FORGET YOUR TIME SLOT?
Visit the Career Center web page on the Rising Stars website for a reminder!

Find schedule updates: go.illinois.edu/risingstars
Find mentor information: go.illinois.edu/risingstars
MEET THE 2019 RISING STARS

KATIE DRIGGS-CAMPBELL

“Rising Stars was great for preparing me for the academic job market, but also gave me insight about what to expect as a starting faculty member. The workshop not only helped me land a job, but also has helped me as I’m forming my group.”

Katie Driggs-Campbell, Assistant Professor, Illinois ECE
Rising Stars 2017 Participant
WELCOME FROM CO-CHAIRS

RADHIKA MITTAL

“Getting feedback on application materials and the job talk is crucial to success when you’re on the academic market. I’m proud that this year we started a mentoring-focused Rising Stars Career Center to broaden each participant’s professional feedback network.”

Ranitha Kumar, Assistant Professor, Illinois CS
Rising Stars 2018 Mentor

RISING STARS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

THE GRAINGER COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
GRAINGER.ILLINOIS.EDU
13 top-five ranked degree programs
10,000+ students from all 50 states and 100+ countries
400+ faculty
60+ labs, research centers, and institutes
80,000+ alumni

RUTA MEHTA

“Attending Rising Stars workshop gave me this amazing opportunity to make friends with future faculty, connect with great mentors, and gear up for the interview season that landed me a job in Illinois Computer Science, a top-notch and extremely friendly-supportive place (a rare combination). My advice to this year’s attendees is to enjoy, mingle, and make the most out of new initiatives like the Career Center to get ready for the job market.”

Ruta Mehta, Assistant Professor, Illinois CS
Rising Stars 2013 Participant

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING
ECE.ILLINOIS.EDU
Top-ranked undergraduate and graduate programs
1,987 undergraduate students
699 graduate students
310 PhD Students
113+ faculty
22,300+ alumni

RADHIKA MITTAL

“The workshop was extremely beneficial -- meeting other attendees and discussing shared apprehensions about my job search was very comforting; the talks on the job interview process were highly useful; and panel discussions with multiple junior and senior faculty gave me a more informed view of academic life. I would advise this year’s participants to make good use of it by asking uninhibited questions.”

Radhika Mittal, Assistant Professor, Illinois ECE
Rising Stars 2017 Participant

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS.EDU
15 colleges and schools offering 150 undergraduate majors
46,000+ students from all 50 states and 100+ countries
1,900+ faculty
24 Nobel Prizes, 25 Pulitzer Prizes,
7 MacArthur Fellows
425,000+ alumni

THE GRAINGER COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING
GRAINGER.ILLINOIS.EDU
13 top-five ranked degree programs
10,000+ students from all 50 states and 100+ countries
400+ faculty
60+ labs, research centers, and institutes
80,000+ alumni

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE
CS.ILLINOIS.EDU
Top-five ranked graduate program
1,883 undergraduate students
1,576 graduate students,
388 PhD students
90+ faculty
14,000+ alumni

Established by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2012, past Rising Stars workshops have also been hosted by:
Carnegie Mellon University, University of California Berkeley, and Stanford University.
Links to past conferences can be found at: GO.ILLINOIS.EDU/RISINGSTARS
WELCOME FROM CO-CHAIRS

RISING STARS IN EECS 2019 SPONSORS

EMAIL: RISINGSTARS2019@ILLINOIS.EDU
WEB: GO.ILLINOIS.EDU/RISINGSTARS

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