

Rising Stars

In EECS 2019



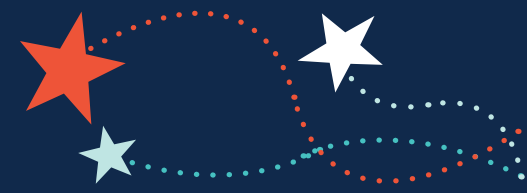
AN ACADEMIC CAREER WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN IN EECS

OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 1, 2019

I ILLINOIS



WELCOME TO THE RISING STARS IN EECS 2019 WORKSHOP



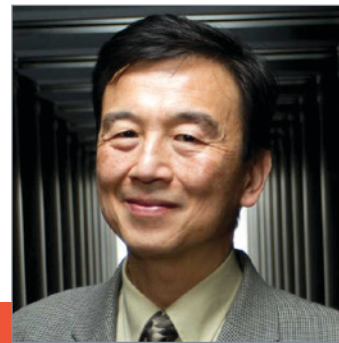
FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

FROM THE DEAN

FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE



NANCY AMATO
Abel Bliss Professor
Department Head
of Computer Science
The Grainger College of
Engineering



WEN-MEI HWU
AMD Jerry Sanders Chair
Department of Electrical and
Computer Engineering
The Grainger College of
Engineering



RASHID BASHIR
Grainger Distinguished Chair in
Engineering and Professor of
Bioengineering
Dean of The Grainger College
of Engineering

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.



KATIE DRIGGS-CAMPBELL
Assistant Professor,
Illinois ECE



BRUCE HAJEK
Leonard C. and Mary
Lou Hoeft Endowed
Chair in Engineering
Department Head,
Illinois ECE



KARRIE KARAHALIOS
Professor, Illinois CS



ROBIN KRAVETS
Professor, Illinois CS



RANJITHA KUMAR
Assistant Professor,
Illinois CS



RUTA MEHTA
Assistant Professor,
Illinois CS



ELYSE ROSENBAUM
Melvin and Anne
Louise Hassebrock
Professor, Illinois ECE



LARA WALDROP
Assistant Professor,
Illinois ECE



TANDY WARNOW
Founder Professor of
Engineering, Illinois CS

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.

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.

COVER PHOTO: Past Rising Stars participants who are now Illinois EECS Faculty (L to R): Dakshita Khurana, Katherine Driggs-Campbell, Radhika Mittal, and Ruta Mehta.



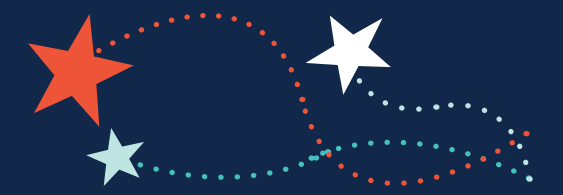
THOMAS M. SIEBEL CENTER FOR COMPUTER SCIENCE



ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING BUILDING

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE RISING STARS 2019 ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM:

Aaron Cohen, Clint Harper, Steve Hall, Erin Henkelman, Sarah Krueger, Allison Mette, Ryann Monahan, Wes Moore, Jancie Philippus, Colin Robertson, Yvonne Shaw, Catherine Somers, Todd Sweet, Alayna Timbo, and Michelle Wellens.



DAKSHITA KHURANA

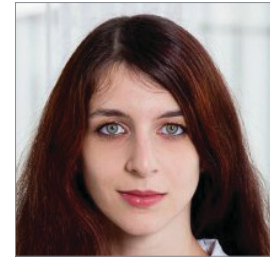


“The Rising Stars workshop was an incredible opportunity to learn from the best of the best in academia, interact with phenomenal mentors, and connect with outstanding peers.”

Dakshita Khurana
Assistant Professor, Illinois CS
Rising Stars 2017 Participant



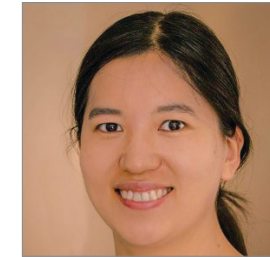
AYTEN OZGE AKMANDOR
Princeton University



ANDREEA ALEXANDRU
University of Pennsylvania



HEBA ALY
University of Maryland at College Park



MIN DU
University of California, Berkeley



ESIN DURMUS
Cornell University



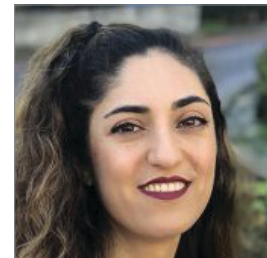
NAJME EBRAHIMI
University of Michigan



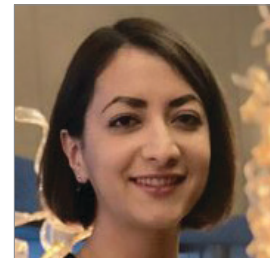
PARDIS EMAMI NAEINI
Carnegie Mellon University



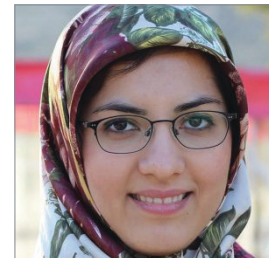
XIAN FAN
Rice University



FOROUGH ARABSHAHI
Carnegie Mellon University



BAHAR ASGARI
Georgia Institute of Technology



SAMANEH AZADI
University of California, Berkeley



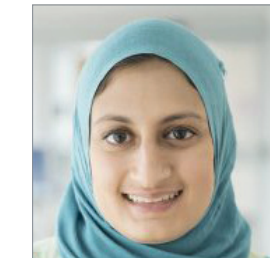
SUMEGHA GARG
Princeton University



YASAMAN GHASEMPOUR
Rice University



SURBHI GOEL
University of Texas at Austin



HANA HABIB
Carnegie Mellon University



BAHAR HAGHIGHAT
Harvard University



NAAMA BEN-DAVID
Carnegie Mellon University



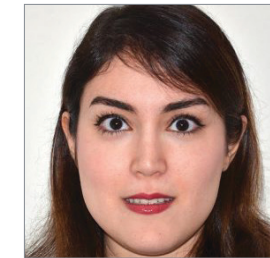
AMANDA BIENZ
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



SU LIN BLODGETT
University of Massachusetts at Amherst



**SAHAR HASHEMGEL-
LOOGERDI**
University of Rochester



HODA HEIDARI
ETH-Zurich



SYLVIA HERBERT
University of California, Berkeley



PATRICIA HIDALGO GONZALEZ
University of California, Berkeley



HUDA IBEID
Intel Corporation



TEGAN BRENNAN
University of California, Santa Barbara



CEARA BYRNE
Georgia Institute of Technology



CHITRALEEMA CHAKRABORTY
Harvard University



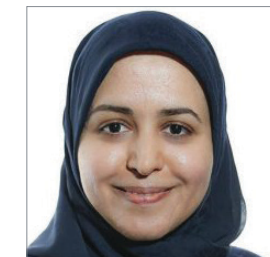
MARGARET CHAPMAN
University of California, Berkeley



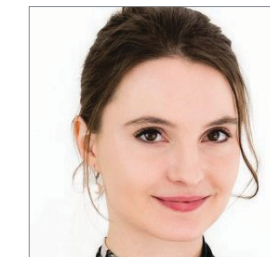
BEIDI CHEN
Rice University



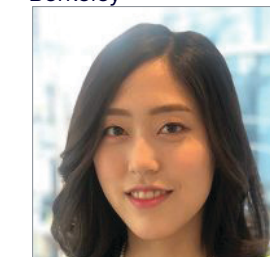
ALEXANDRA ION
ETH-Zurich



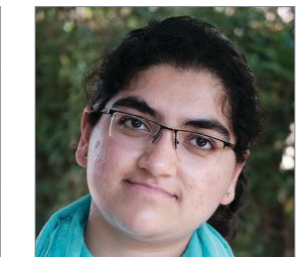
REYHANEH JABBARVAND
University of California, Irvine



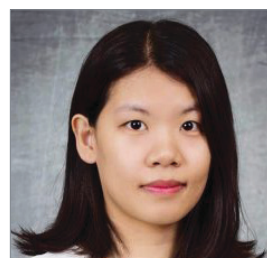
NATASHA JAQUES
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



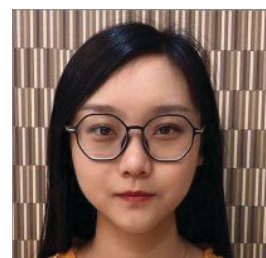
SOUYOUNG JIN
University of Massachusetts at Amherst



FARIA KALIM
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



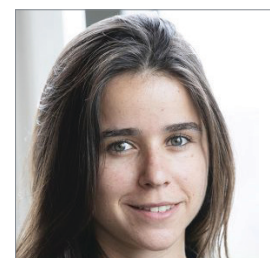
CHEN CHEN
Google



SHUANG CHEN
Cornell University



CHUNFENG CUI
University of California, Santa Barbara



MARIA DE-ARTEAGA
Carnegie Mellon University



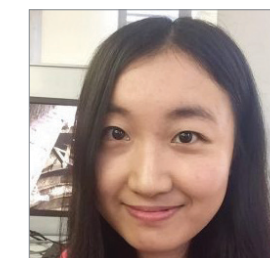
GHADA DESSOUKY
Technische Universität Darmstadt



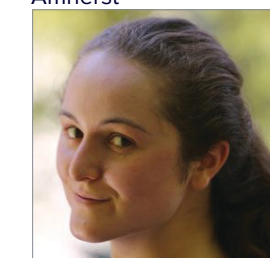
YEA-SEUL KIM
University of Washington



MINA KONAKOVIC LUKOVIC
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



QI LEI
University of Texas at Austin



ANDREA LINCOLN
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



GUYUE LIU
Carnegie Mellon University

RISING STARS 2019 WORKSHOP SCHEDULE



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2019

6:00 pm 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

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
10:00 am (ECEB 3002)

10:00 am Break
10:15 am

10:15 am Parallel Sessions: Job Talk Starts II
(ECEB 3002, BI 2269,
11:30 am BI 3269, BI 4269)

11:30 am Lunch & Poster Session
(ECEB 3rd Floor Atrium
1:30 pm outside of 3002)

1:30 pm Panel: Building Your
2:45 pm Research Program (ECEB 3002)

2:45 pm Break
3:00 pm

3:00 pm Parallel Sessions: Job Talk Starts III
(ECEB 3002, BI 2269,
4:15 pm BI 3269, BI 4169)

4:15 pm Panel: Tips from the Trenches - Re-
5:15 pm cent Job Candidates (ECEB 3002)

5:30 pm Shuttle Bus to Hyatt Place Hotel

Dinner: Maize at the Station
Halloween Theme!

6:30 pm 100 N. Chestnut Street, Champaign, IL
(This is a short walking distance from
the hotel in downtown Champaign.)

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,
10:30 am SC 2102, SC 2407)

10:30 am Panel: Overcoming Challenges,
Getting Mentoring, and Building a
11:45 am 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

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

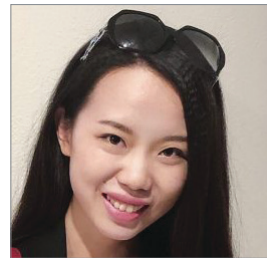
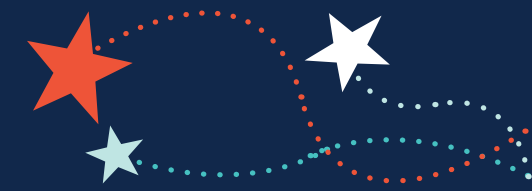
RESEARCH HIGHLIGHT VIDEOS - SC 4325
Wednesday only
9:00 am - 12:00 pm, 1 pm- 5 pm

FORGOT 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

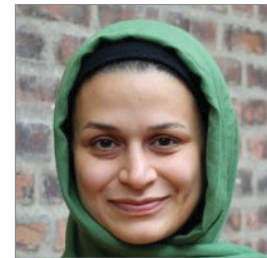
MEET THE 2019 RISING STARS



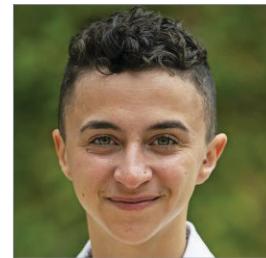
SIFEI LIU
Nvidia Graphics Pvt Ltd



ISMINI LOURENTZOU
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



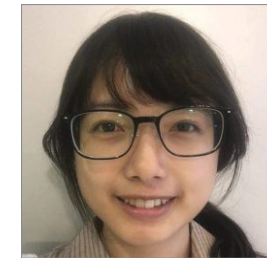
SEPIDEH MAHABADI
Toyota Technological Institute at Chicago



DANAÉ METAXA
Stanford University



NOOSHIN MOHAMMADI ESTAKHRI
University of Michigan



HSIAO-YU TUNG
Carnegie Mellon University



BIGE UNLUTURK
Georgia Institute of Technology



JUNIA VALENTE
University of Texas at Dallas



GAYANE VARDOYAN
University of Massachusetts at Amherst



NIKHITA VEDULA
The Ohio State University



ERIN MOLLOY
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



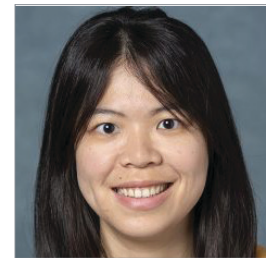
SOO-JIN MOON
Carnegie Mellon University



SHANA MOOTHEDATH
University of Washington



TRICIA NGOON
University of California, San Diego



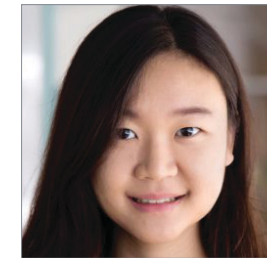
PEI-CHEN PENG
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center



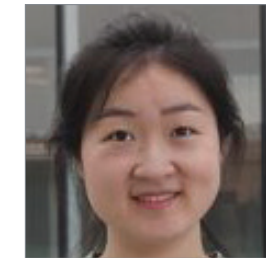
RADHA VENKATAGIRI
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



RAMYA KORLAKAI VINAYAK
University of Washington



XINTONG WANG
University of Michigan



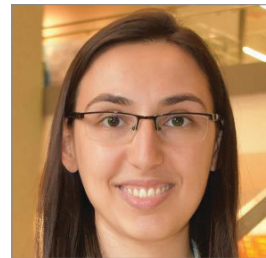
XU WANG
Carnegie Mellon University



QINYUNG WU
University of Virginia



TALIA RINGER
University of Washington



LEDA SARI
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



SHREYA SAXENA
Columbia University



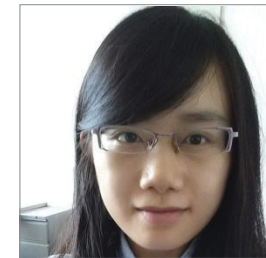
SARAH SEBO
Yale University



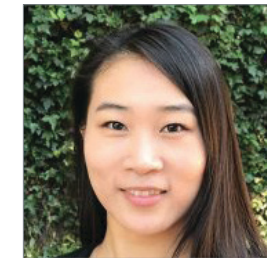
MARIA SHUGRINA
University of Toronto



NEERAJA YADWADKAR
Stanford University



YANG YANG
Carnegie Mellon University



ZHI YAO
University of California, Los Angeles



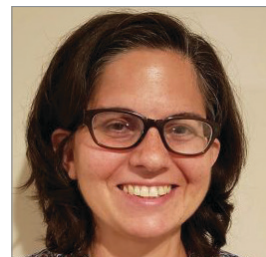
CECILIA ZHANG
University of California, Berkeley



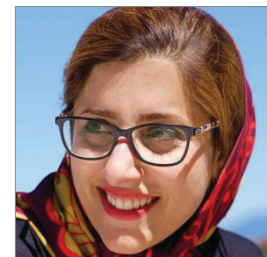
RUI ZHANG
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



SAIMA SIDDIQUI
Argonne National Laboratory



JENNIFER SLEEMAN
University of Maryland Baltimore County



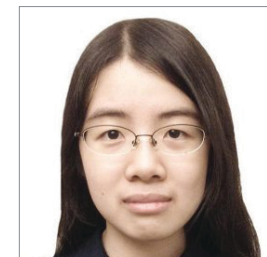
ELAHE SOLTANAGHÆI
University of Virginia



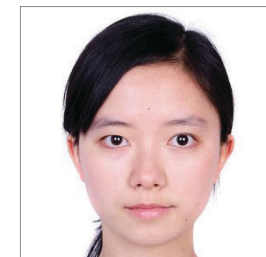
AKSHITHA SRIRAMAN
University of Michigan



LITING SUN
University of California, Berkeley



SHUOWEN ZHANG
National University of Singapore



HONGWEI ZHAO
University of California, Santa Barbara



YIXUE ZHAO
University of Southern California



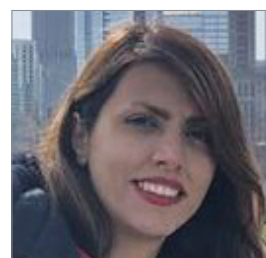
YUHANG ZHAO
Cornell University



WENTING ZHENG
University of California, Berkeley



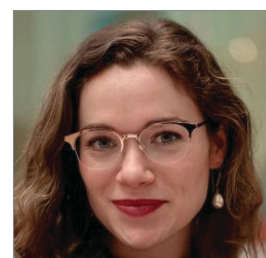
SWABHA SWAYADIPTA
Carnegie Mellon University



NAZANIN TAKBIRI
University of Massachusetts at Amherst



LAURE THOMPSON
Cornell University



EMILY TOOMEY
Massachusetts Institute of Technology



GÜLİZ TUNCAY
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

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





RANJITHA KUMAR

“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.”

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



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



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



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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

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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

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AND PUBLIC
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and graduate programs
1,987 undergraduates students
699 graduate students,
310 Phd Students
113+ faculty
22,300+ 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



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