

Jay L. Cunningham, Ph.D.

Human Centered Technology Design & Artificial Intelligence (AI)

AI/ML Trust & Safety Research Scientist | Professor of Computer Science

jaylcham@gmail.com | linkedin.com/in/jaylcunningham/ | jaylcunningham.com | @jay__cunningham | Google Scholar
Chicago, IL

EDUCATION

University of Washington

Seattle, WA

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Human Centered Design and Engineering (HCDE/HCI)

August 2024

Concentration: Fairness, Accountability, Transparency & Ethics in AI (FATE); Human Computer Interaction

Committee: Dr. Julie Kientz*, Dr. Daniela Rosner*, Dr. Alicia Wassink, Dr. Alexes Harris

Master of Science (M.S.), Human Centered Design and Engineering (HCDE/HCI)

June 2021

The University of Alabama

Tuscaloosa, AL

Bachelor of Science (B.S.), Computer Science

December 2019

Minor: Civic Engagement & Leadership | Certificate: Diversity & Inclusion Leadership

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor of Computer Science

Chicago, IL

DePaul University - College of Computing and Digital Media - School of Computing

July 2025 - Present

- Research area: Human-computer interaction, Human-centered AI, algorithmic fairness, natural language processing, inclusive technology design, public interest technology innovation, AI policy and governance.
- PI of the RAISE (Responsible AI Systems and Societal Experiences) Lab: Advancing responsible AI systems through human-centered research that serves the common good of humanity and the environment.
- Teaching: Human-computer interaction, AI ethics, and user centered design, computing for social good

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Principal Investigator and Founder

Chicago, IL

RAISE Lab (Responsible AI Systems and Societal Experiences) - DePaul University

July 2025 - Present

- Leads institutional research which advances research, public knowledge, and innovation on the social and ethical responsibilities of computing and human-centered technologies.
- We design, study, critique, and strategize policy of sociotechnical systems to promote equity, accountability, cultural alignment, and justice in computing—particularly for communities underserved by technology.
- Through participatory research methods, interdisciplinary collaboration, and commitment to public interest innovation, we aim to ensure that computing systems serve the common good of humanity and the environment.

Research Fellow

New York City, NY (remote)

Social Science Research Council (SSRC) | Just Tech Fellowship

2023-2025

- The Just Tech Fellowship provides unrestricted awards for researchers and practitioners investigating the uneven benefits and harms of technology and imagining futures that embrace joy, hope, self-determination, and equity.

Graduate Student Researcher

Seattle, WA

University of Washington | Computing for Healthy Living & Learning Lab (CHiLL) | PI: Dr. Julie Kientz

2020-2024

- The CHiLL Lab consists of researchers interested in designing, developing, and evaluating various applications of computing technology that aim to promote healthy lifestyles, education, and ability.

University of Washington | Tactile & Tactical Design Lab (TAT) | Co-PI: Dr. Daniela Rosner

2021-2024

- The TAT Lab seeks to open new opportunities for sustainable technology development, broaden the diversity of design and engineering, and extend theoretical frameworks that further our understanding of design and social change.

University of Washington | Sociolinguistics Lab | PI: Dr. Alicia Wassink

2021-2024

- The Sociolinguistics Lab investigates the subfield of linguistics that explores the interrelationships between language and society through fieldwork conducted either locally or sites around the world.

Visiting Student Researcher

Seattle, WA

Google Research | People + AI Research (PAIR); Responsible AI & Human Centered Technologies

Fall 2022 - Winter 2023

Mentors: Ayça Cakmakli, Dr. Courtney Heldreth, Dr. Sheena Erete, Dr. Lauren Wilcox, Dr. Emily Denton, Dr. Eric Corbett

- Conducted research to support racial equity and machine learning efforts within Google, through a research agenda to help advance racial justice in analysis, production, and deployment of new technologies.
- Co-led research study to understand the experiences of community-based nonprofits' collaborations with tech companies *(Paper accepted into CSCW 2025).
- Co-authored internal Community-Based Participatory Research Guide for Google researchers and product managers.
- Supported research for the Equitable Automated Speech Recognition (ASR) project which sought to advance on how Black users experienced voice technology within Google products and services.

Machine Intelligence Research Scientist Intern

Seattle, WA

Apple Research | Human Centered Machine Intelligence (HCMI); Machine Intelligence Design for Siri

Summer 2022

Mentors: Dr. Kayur Patel, Dr. Danielle Olsen, Dr. Jeffrey Bigham

- The HCMI Group in Apple's AI/ML organization focuses on designing, studying, and engineering interactive technologies using AI/ML. Core areas of focus are accessibility, data visualization, developer tools, intelligent user interfaces, and design methods.
- Led a project "Toward Inclusive Siri Language Recognition," where I explored approaches to designing non-invasive, inclusive data collection frameworks for African American English (AAE) speakers. The project identified critical factors—such as Siri user safety and comfort—that influence the accuracy and naturalism of non-code-switched speech data.

Research Scientist Intern

New York City, NY

Microsoft Research | Fairness, Accountability, Transparency & Ethics in AI (FATE Group)

Summer 2021

Mentors: Dr. Hannah Wallach, Dr. Hal Daumé III, Dr. Michael Madio, Dr. Su Lin Blodgett

- The MSR FATE Group studies the complex societal implications of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML), and natural language processing (NLP). Researchers facilitate computational techniques that are both innovative and responsible, while prioritizing issues of fairness, accountability, transparency, and ethics as they relate to AI/ML/ NLP.
- Led strategic research initiative from exploration, theoretical analysis of sociotechnical implications, study design, recruitment, and execution with the aim to explore experiences of speakers of language varieties used in some Black and African American communities in relation to linguistic cultural capital, use of language technologies, fairness-related harms experienced through them, and perspective of collaborative approaches toward inclusive design practices.

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Tuscaloosa, AL

The University of Alabama | Human-Technology Interaction Lab | PI: Dr. Chris Crawford

Sept. 2017 – Dec. 2018

- Developed and implemented a human centered social robot system to recognize emotions and adapt behavior.
- Examined adaptability, expressivity, and genuine interaction on human robot relationships.

RESEARCH PROFILE & TECHNICAL SKILLS

Technical Engineering Research	C, C++, Java, Python,, CSS, SQL, JavaScript, Prolog, MiniTab, R, Figma, Unity, PyTorch, TensorFlow AI, Machine Learning, Natural Language Processing, UX Design, System Design, Physical Prototyping Quantitative Methods, Qualitative Methods, Mixed-Methods Approaches, Community-Centered Collaborations, Usability Studies, Interviewing, Ethnographic Observations, Participatory Design, Interaction Techniques, Data (Collection/Analysis/Visualization), Survey Design, Experimental Design, Design Theory/Techniques, Social Computing, Action Research, Human-Centered Computing, Computer Supported Cooperative Work
Expertise	<u>Human-Centered AI & ML Systems:</u> Natural language technologies (NLP), Large language models (LLMs), Generative AI, Conversational AI (ASR), Multimodal systems, Computer vision, Ubiquitous computing, AR/VR, FinTech, Robotics, Quantum AI. <u>AI User Experience (UX) Research & Development:</u> UX methods, Design thinking, User insights and testing, UX workshops, Storytelling, Marginalized groups UX. <u>Socio-technical Research & Public Interest Technology:</u> Responsible/Ethical AI, Inclusion/Accessibility, Social computing, AI fairness/safety, AI/ML evaluation metrics, AI policy, Red-teaming, Strategic AI data production
Recognition	National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellow (NSF GRFP), Gates Millennium Scholar, GEM Engineering Fellow, UW Graduate Minority Scholar, UW Husky 100.

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

UX Program Manager Intern

Microsoft | Azure Storage R&D | Azure Files

Redmond, WA

Summer 2020**Technical Program Manager Intern**

Facebook | Infrastructure | Production Network | Network Software

Menlo Park, CA

Summer 2019**Software Engineering Intern**

Oracle Corporation | NetSuite ERP Software – Financials Group

San Mateo, CA

Summer 2018**Software Engineering Intern**

Lockheed Martin Company | S-97 Raider & JMR Programs - Vehicle Mgt. System (VMS)

Stratford, CT

Summer 2017**PEER REVIEWED JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS**

- J1. Dawn Sakaguchi-Tang, **Jay L Cunningham**, Wendy Roldan, Jason Yip, and Julie A Kientz. 2021. **Co-Design with Older Adults: Examining and Reflecting on Collaboration with Aging Communities**. In Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction, Vol. 5, CSCW2, Article 362 (October 2021), 28 pages, <https://doi.org/10.1145/333362>
- J2. **Jay L. Cunningham**, Sydney T. Nguyen, Julie A. Kientz and Daniela Rosner. 2022. **The Cost of Culture: An Analysis of Cash App and the Financial Inclusion of Black American Communities**. In Designing Interactive Systems Conference (DIS '22), June 13-17, 2022, Virtual Event, Australia. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 24 Pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3532106.3533569>
- J3. **Jay Cunningham**, Gabrielle Benabdallah, Daniela Rosner, and Alex Taylor. 2023. **On the Grounds of Solutionism: Ontologies of Blackness and HCI**. ACM Trans. Comput.-Hum. Interact. 30, 2, Article 20 (April 2023), 17 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3557890>
- J4. Johnson K., Arroyos V., Garcia C., Aisha C., Hussein L., Melaku T., **Cunningham J.L.**, Shapiro B., and Iyer V. "AVELA- A Vision for Engineering Literacy & Access". [World Engineering Education Forum](#). December 2024.
- J5. **Jay L. Cunningham**, et al. 2024. Responsible Automated Speech Recognition: A Scoping Literature Review. (Under Review ACM FAccT 2025).
- J6. **Jay L. Cunningham**, et al. 2024. Advancing Data Equity: Practitioner Responsibility and Representation in NLP Data Practices. (Under Review ACM FAccT 2025).
- J7. **Jay Cunningham**, Su Lin Blodgett, Michael Madaio, Hal Daumé iii, Christina Harrington, and Hanna Wallach. 2024. Understanding the Impacts of Language Technologies' Performance Disparities on African American Language Speakers. [In Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics](#): ACL 2024, pages 12826–12833, Bangkok, Thailand. Association for Computational Linguistics.
- J8. Jeffrey K Basoah, **Jay L. Cunningham**, et. al. Should AI Mimic People? Understanding AI-Supported Writing Technology Among Black Users. [ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work](#) (CSCW 2025).
- J9. Erete, S., Corbett, E., Smith-Walker, N., **Cunningham, Jay. L.**, Gatz, E., Park, T., ... & Denton, R. (2025). Towards Equitable Community-Industry Collaborations: Understanding the Experiences of Nonprofits' Collaborations with Tech Companies. [Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction](#), 9(2), 1-31.
- J10. Wassink, Alicia B., **Cunningham, J. L.** (2024). African American Users' Experiences with Voice Technologies. (Manuscript in Progress).
- J11. **Cunningham, Jay L.**, Kevin Zhongyang Shao, Rock Yuren Pang, and Nathanael Elias Mengist. "Advancing NLP Data Equity: Practitioner Responsibility and Accountability in NLP Data Practices." In Proceedings of the [AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society](#), vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 679-691. 2025.
- J12. **Cunningham, Jay L.**, Adinawa Adjagbodjou, Jeffrey Basoah, Jainaba Jawara, Kowe Kadoma, and Aaleyah Lewis. "Toward Responsible ASR for African American English Speakers: A Scoping Review of Bias and Equity in Speech Technology." In Proceedings of the [AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society](#), vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 665-678. 2025.
- J13. **Jay L. Cunningham**. 2025. The Community Advisory Board Model for Participatory Computing Research: Engaging and Empowering Black Communities in Collaborative University Research. (Manuscript in Review).
- J14. **Jay L. Cunningham**. 2025. Reclaiming Data Power: Community-Centered Frameworks for Equitable AI Governance. (Manuscript in Progress).

PUBLISHED CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS & MAGAZINES

- C1. **Jay L. Cunningham**. 2021. Society and Inclusive Technology Design Pedagogy: A Digital Zine. Interactions 28, 5 (September - October 2021), 12–13. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1145/3480949>

- C2. **Jay L. Cunningham.** 2023. **Collaboratively Mitigating Racial Disparities in Automated Speech Recognition and Language Technologies with African American English Speakers:** Community-Collaborative and Equity-Centered Approaches Toward Designing Inclusive Natural Language Systems. In Extended Abstracts of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI EA '23), April 23–28, 2023, Hamburg, Germany. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 5 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3544549.3577057>
- C3. Aaleyah Lewis, **Jay L. Cunningham**, Orevaoghene Ahia, James Fogarty. 2023. Towards Intersectional CUI Design Approaches for African American English Speakers with Dysfluencies. ACM CHI 2023 Workshop. CUI@CHI: Inclusive Design of CUIs Across Modalities and Mobilities.
- C4. **Jay L. Cunningham.** (2024). [Methods of Designing Justice-oriented Interactive AI Systems](#) (Doctoral dissertation, University of Washington).

NON-ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

- P1. **Little, Jay.** “*Grown and Gone: Stories and Tips to Help You Survive Your First Independent Year of College*”. Jackson, MS: Impact Learning Publications, 2017. Pg. 73-78.

GRANTS

- UW Black Opportunity Fund - **Endowment Grant: Awarded \$4,500** March 2023
- HCDE Black Scholars Undergraduate Research Immersion
- Google Award for Inclusion Research (AIR) - **Research Grant: Awarded \$60,000** October 2022
- The Award for Inclusion Research Program recognizes and supports academic research in computing and technology that addresses the needs of historically marginalized groups globally.
 - Proposed study: Toward Equitable and Community-Collaborative Approaches to Mitigating Racial Disparities in Automated Speech Recognition and Language Technologies Alongside African American Speakers of African-American Vernacular English (AAVE)
- UW Resilience Lab - **Seed Grant: Awarded \$2,500** May 2020
- Support resilience and compassion-building initiatives that foster connection and community at UW.

INSTRUCTIONAL EXPERIENCES

- Assistant Professor of Computer Science (HCI)** Fall 2025 - On-going
DePaul University Jarvis College of Computing and Digital Media
- Instructing on courses in the human-computer interaction degree track: Intro to User-centered Design, HCI Foundations and Theory, Designing Conversational/Voice User Interfaces.
- Adjunct Professor of Design Strategy** Fall 2022 - Spring 2025
University of Southern California, Iovine and Young Academy for the Arts, Technology and the Business of Innovation
- Integrating talks in IYA courses and lecture series focusing on data for collaborative innovation and design strategy.
 - Conducting reviews/critiques of student projects, mentoring students, and engaging in with faculty, staff and partners.
- Teaching Assistant** Winter 2021
University of Washington, HCDE | HCDE 592: MS Capstone Planning
- Supported and mentored over 80 masters students in their industry-sponsored capstone projects.
 - Assisted in instruction and supported faculty in conducting lectures, evaluating student performance, and grading.
- Primary Instructor** (Supported by Professors: Julie Kientz, Sarah Coppola, Daniela Rosner) Autumn 2020
University of Washington, HCDE | HCDE 596: Race, Culture, Gender & Ethics in Tech - Directed Research Group
- Developed content and curriculum for inaugural DRG experience surrounding implications of society and technology.
 - Led instruction and facilitation of class of 15 students ranges from BS, MS, and PhD programs.
 - The course engaged in deep literary analysis of existing work, examined product/system designs in the wild, and applied various disciplinary tools to further advance knowledge in fairness, accountability, transparency, and ethics in tech.
- Teaching Assistant** Fall 2018
The University of Alabama, Honors College | UH 405: Leadership Through Sustained Dialogue
- Designed specialized material based on department academic curriculum
 - Instructed course of 20 underclassmen students, facilitating active learning through engaging activities and material

- Facilitated high impact experiences, enabling students develop a diverse set of leadership skills, including strong personal identity awareness, knowledge of social justice, empathy, facilitation and conflict resolution skills, and more

PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS

Panelist: Learning During Disruption: Student and Postdoctoral Reflections - NASEM	
Speaker: Community-Powered Conversations on the Future of Artificial Intelligence - MOHAI Innovation Exchange	
Panelist: “Responsible Design for Financial Technology” - Block, Inc. (<i>formerly Cash App</i>)	October 2022
Guest Speaker: “Navigating Your Graduate Research Journey” - Equity & Health Innovations Lab, CMU	February 2022
Guest Speaker: “Survey of User Centered Design Techniques & Research Journey” - HCDE 210, UW	November 2021
Guest Talk Moderator: “Coded Bias with Director Shalini Kantayya” - HCDE, University of Washington	April 2021
Expert Testimony in Support: (Senate Bill 5116) “Establishing Guidelines for Government Procurement & Use of Automated Decision Making Systems” - Washington State Legislature, Government & Elections Committee	January 2021
Panel Moderator: “Racism, Advocacy, and Equity in Academia” - DUB Retreat, University of Washington	October 2020

INVITED TALKS

Invited Speaker A Techno-Realist Vision for Equitable AI, Ron Brown AI Summit	October 2025 NYC, NY
Invited Speaker Reclaiming Responsibility in NLP Data Practices , University of Michigan - (CSE)	October 2025 Ann Arbor, MI
Invited Speaker and Co-Organizer Listening for Bias: The Politics and Potential of Speech AI, CUSP at NYU Tandon	April 2025 NYC, NY
Invited Speaker Socio-technical Approaches to AI Harms Measurement, Apple Research (HCMI)	February 2025 Cupertino, CA
Invited Speaker Critical Technology Practices & Social Impact , University of Texas Austin - Information School	October 2024 Austin, TX
Invited Speaker Critical Technology Practices & Social Impact , University College London - Interaction Centre	January 2024 London, EN, UK
Invited Speaker Critical Technology Practices & Social Impact, University of Toronto - Faculty of Information	October 2023 Toronto, ON, CA
Invited Speaker Fairness and Representation in Speech AI, The Blackburn Institute - University of Alabama	August 2023 Tuscaloosa, AL
Department Lecturer Algorithmic Design Justice, University of Southern California - Iovine & Young Academy	March 2023 Los Angeles, CA
Invited Speaker Responsible AI/ML: On Equitable Tech Design, Northeastern University - Computer Science	March 2023 Boston, MA
Invited Speaker On the Grounds of Solutionism: Ontologies of Blackness and HCI, University of Michigan - Info. Sciences	February 2023 Ann Arbor, MI
Invited Speaker On the Grounds of Solutionism: Ontologies of Blackness and HCI, Google Research	November 2022 Seattle, WA
Invited Speaker An Analysis of Cash App and the Financial Inclusion of African Americans, Block, Inc. - Design Week	October 2022 NYC, NY
Invited Workshop Presenter Potentials of Community Participation in Machine Learning Research, ICML 2022	July 2022 Baltimore, MD
Invited Speaker Racial Bias in Healthcare Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Algorithms, Mary Mahoney Professional Nurses Organization	October 2021
Invited Speaker Breaking into Computer Science, College Board AP Educators Summer Institute at Facebook	July 2019 Menlo Park, CA

Keynote Speaker

Your Legendary Legacy - Senior Send Off, Lowndes County School District

May 2019
Columbus, MS

Keynote Alumni Speaker

Cultivating a Calling, Elevating and Celebrating Effective Teachers and Teaching Conference - MUW

March 2018
Columbus, MS

SELECTED PRESS

[UW Graduate School](#)

Jay Cunningham: Pioneering Ethical Tech and Diversity for a More Inclusive Future

September 2023

[UW Viewpoint Magazine](#)

In Pursuit of Tech Equity: UW's new student regent Jay Cunningham wants more inclusive machine learning

August 2023

[The Just Tech Fellowship](#)

Introducing the 2023–2025 Just Tech Fellows - [Jay Cunningham](#)

July 2023

[UW Office of Fellowships and Scholarships](#)

2023 Bonderman Travel Fellows - Jay Cunningham

June 2023

[Office of Washington State Governor Jay Inslee](#)

Inslee appoints Maggie Walker and Jay Cunningham to University of Washington Board of Regents

June 2023

[UW HCDE News](#)

HCDE PhD student Jay Cunningham named Student Regent

June 2023

[USC IYA NEWS](#)

Achieving Algorithmic Justice Through Inclusive Design

April 2023

[UW HCDE News](#)

HCDE researchers Jay Cunningham, Daniela Rosner, and Julie Kientz have received a grant from Google Research

December 2022

[Elks Scholar News](#)

A True Champion of the Order - 2021 Elks Scholar Alum of the Year

November 2021

[UW HCDE News](#)

HCDE 2021 Student Awards of Excellence

June 2021

[UW HCDE News](#)

HCDE PhD Student Jay Cunningham in Husky 100

May 2021

[UW HCDE News](#)

HCDE Students Awarded NSF Graduate Research Fellowships

April 2021

[East Mississippi Community College News](#)

Columbus-Lowndes Chamber of Commerce Hosts ‘Senior Send-Off’ at EMCC

May 2019

[Scholarship America Blog](#)

Meet The 2018 Dream Award Recipients

November 2018

[Google Student Blog](#)

CSSI Three-Day Takeover! Day Two: Catching Up With CSSI'ers (Jay Little)

January 2017

[Careers with Code - US](#)

Mentors Matter: Google CSSI Participant Jay Little (pg. 13)

August 2017

[The Commercial Dispatch](#)

Area High School Students Earn National Scholarship

May 2016

[Gates Millennium Scholars Program](#)

The United Negro College Fund Congratulates the 2016 GMSP Scholars (J. Little)

March 2016

[Columbus Magazine](#)

Person of Interest: Big Promise - Jay Little Leads By Example

March 2015

CONFERENCES AND PROGRAMS

AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society

2025

Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL)

2024

ACM Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing - Scholar	2022
The International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)	2022
ACM SIGCHI Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS)	2022
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI)	Est. 2020
Contrary Fellowship Program	2021
Code for Equity Fellowship Program, Impact Labs	2021
ACM Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW)	Est. 2020
ACM UbiComp / International Symposium on Wearable Computers (ISWC)	2020
Blavity Inc. AfroTech	2020, 2021
The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) Annual Convention	Est. 2017
Google Computer Science Summer Institute - Cambridge, MA	July 2016

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Fellowships and Scholarships ~ \$2 million

Private Pilot Training Scholar, OBAP and Boeing	2023
Just Tech Fellowship, Social Science Research Council	2023
Bonderman Travel Fellowship, UW Graduate School (Endowed by David Bonderman)	2023
Graduate Student Conference Presentation Award, UW Graduate School	2023
GEM Full Engineering Fellow, The National GEM Consortium and Adobe Research	2022
Scholar, Neon Blackboard Term Fellowship in Human Centered Design & Engineering	2022
Conference Scholar, ACM Richard Tapia Celebration of Diversity in Computing	2022
Fellow, National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP)	2021
GOMAP Top Off Award, Graduate Opportunities and Minority Achievement Program - UW	2019
Dream Award Recipient, Scholarship America	2018
Corporate Scholar, Chevron	2018
Oracle Corporate Scholar, United Negro College Fund and Oracle Inc.	2018
Box Diversity Scholar, Box Inc	2017
Blacks at Microsoft (BAM) Scholar, Microsoft	2017
INROADS Scholar, INROADS Internship Program	2017
Gates Millennium Scholar, United Negro College Fund Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	2016
Most Valuable Student Scholar, Elks National Foundation	2016
Ron Brown Captain, The Ron Brown Scholars Program	2016
Google Generation Scholar, Google	2016
GE-Reagan Scholar Finalist, General Electric (GE) and President Ronald Reagan Foundation	2016
Corporate Scholar, Paccar	2016
Scholar, American Legion	2016
Scholar, American Association of Blacks in Energy	2016
Community Excellence Scholar, Junior Auxiliary of Lowndes County, MS	2016
Presidential Scholar, The University of Alabama	2016
Engineering Excellence Scholar, College of Engineering - The University of Alabama	2016
Lois Myer Leadership Scholar, The University of Alabama	2016

Honors

Resolution of Regental Service to the University of Washington, UW Board of Regents	2024
HCDE Graduation Award of Excellence for Leadership & Engagement, University of Washington	2024
Distinguished Citizen - Key to the City, Town of Artesia, Mississippi	2024
Semi-finalist, The Quad Fellowship	2022
Finalist, Adobe Research Fellowship	2021
Elks Scholar Alumni of the Year (2021), Elks National Foundation	2021
Husky 100, University of Washington	2021
Most Valuable Member, National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) - UA	2019
Cleophus Thomas Diversity Leadership Award, Student Government Association (SGA) - UA	2019
Jasons Men's Honorary, Honor Society, 106th Class - The University of Alabama	2019

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Student Regent, University of Washington Board of Regents; State of WA Governor Jay Inslee	23-24
PhD Student Representative, UW HCDE Graduate Student Association (GSA)	20-21
Graduate Student Ombudsman, UW HCDE Diversity and Inclusion Committee	19-23
President, The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) - UA	18-19
Student Government Association (SGA) - UA	
• Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (<i>inaugural</i>)	18-19
• Chief Implementation Officer	17-18
• Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs	16-17
Director of Educational Activities, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. – Kappa Alpha	18-19
Residential Advisor (RA), Housing & Residential Communities - UA	17-19
Member Engagement Chair, Black Student Union - UA	17-18
Director of Partnerships & Engagement, Office of Student Involvement (SOURCE) - UA	17-18
Peer Facilitator, Sustain Dialogue & Inclusive Engagement - UA	17-19
Fellow, The Blackburn Institute - UA	17-19

PROFESSIONAL & SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Organizer

- InterSpeech Special Session: [Speech AI for All](#): Challenging Deficit-based Approaches to Speech Science and Technology Upcoming 2026

Peer-Reviewer

- ACM Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS) 2023
- ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI) Est. 2021
- ACM Computer Supported Collaborative Work (CSCW) 2021

Department Service

- **School of Computing Diversity Committee, Provost Committee on Institutional AI Advancement, Faculty Committee on Community-based Research,** DePaul University 25-26
- **Faculty Search Committee,** UW HCDE 20-24
- **Search Committee,** Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, UW College of Engineering 2021
- **PhD Admissions Review Committee,** UW HCDE 20-23

Mentoring

- **PI and Director,** RAISE Lab DePaul University School of Computing Est. 2025
- **Graduate Student PI,** WA Space Grant 2023
- **Graduate Student PI,** Distributed Research Experiences for Undergraduates (DREU) 2023
- **Research Mentor and PI,** Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) 2023
- **Founder and Director,** HCDE Black Scholars Research Immersion for Undergraduates 2023

Councils and Boards

- **Board of Regents,** University of Washington 23-24
- **Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Scholar Council,** National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, Medicine 23-24

INVOLVEMENT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Mentor, WHOLE Mentoring - Seattle Public Schools	22-23
Scholar Advisory Board Member (SAB), Elks National Foundation Scholars Program	21-23
National Judge, Most Valuable Student Scholarship Program - Elks National Foundation	21-23
Executive Board Member, Black Graduate Student Association (BGSA) - University of Washington	20-23
Mentor, The Brotherhood Initiative - UW	19-23
Corresponding Secretary, Zeta Pi Lambda (Seattle Alumnus) - Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.	20-22
Member, Seattle Metro Urban League - Seattle, WA	2020
Policy Research Adviser, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Washington - Technology Equity Coalition	2020
Mentor, UNCF Portfolio Project	2020

Assistant Chapter Advisor, Alpha Xi - Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.

2020

Member, GSEE: Graduate Student Equity & Excellence - UW

20-23

Volunteer, Center for Service & Leadership - UA

17-18

Affiliations

- The Design Justice Network (DJN)
- The National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)
- The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)
- Black in AI | Black in Computing | Black Computer Science PhD Collective
- User Experience Professionals Association (UXPA)
- Institute of Electronics and Electrical Engineers (IEEE)
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (ΑΦΑ) | Kappa Alpha - UA | Zeta Pi Lambda - Seattle Alumnus
- 100 Black Men of America Inc.
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
- The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, USA