

Technical excellence. Whole-brain thinking. Highly interdisciplinary work.

Computer Science at Northwestern University embodies these three core values. In its third year of an ambitious growth initiative, Northwestern CS has hired a new department chair and is in the process of hiring 20 tenure-track faculty members and more than doubling the size of its teaching faculty. Northwestern CS is driven by the goal of constantly pushing at the boundaries of the field with exceptional work in programming languages, machine learning, robotics, network security, theoretical computer science, artificial intelligence, computational imaging, high performance computing, networking, and personalized education.

Rapidly Growing Department



Northwestern is excited to announce the hire of a [new Peter and Adrienne Barris Chair of the department](#). Samir

Khuller joined from the University of Maryland, where he previously served as department chair of computer science.



Three tenure-track faculty members joined in core CS areas: Christos Dimoulas (from Harvard / programming languages), Konstantin Makarychev (from Microsoft Research / theory), and Xiao Wang (from MIT / cryptography).



Four tenure-track faculty members joined in collaborative “[CS+X](#)” areas with other disciplines: Jessica Hullman (from University of Washington / CS+journalism), Han Liu (from Princeton University / CS+statistics), Eleanor O’Rourke (from U of Washington / CS+learning sciences), and Marcelo Worsley (from Stanford University / CS+learning sciences).



Teaching faculty doubled in response to overwhelming enrollment, with substantial additional investment in postdoctoral teaching resources.

Highlights include: Sara Sood (from Pomona College), Vincent St-Amour (from Northeastern University), Stephen Tarzia (from Northwestern), Jesse Tov (from Northeastern University), and Sarah Van Wart (from University of California, Berkeley).

New, Expanded Facilities



Computer Science moved into remodeled space in the Mudd Building on

Northwestern’s Evanston campus. The CS community is now in a single space, enhancing collaboration and culture.

Continued Growth in Majors, Enrollments

For the 2019-20 academic year, Northwestern saw the largest number of CS master’s and PhD applications and enrollments in its history, plus growth in collaborative PhD programs such as the PhD in Technology and Social Behavior (with the School of Communication) and the new PhD in Computer Science and Learning Sciences (with the School of Education and Social Policy).

The overwhelming demand for specific education in artificial intelligence and machine learning inspired the launch of the new Master of Science in Artificial Intelligence (MSAI) program in 2018.

CS+X Connections



We have developed a truly interdisciplinary

approach, with joint CS+X initiatives in collaboration with our other top Northwestern schools, including Feinberg School of Medicine, Kellogg School of Management, Medill School of Journalism, Pritzker School of Law, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, and the School of Education and Social Policy.

Collaborations include joint research, workshops, joint faculty appointments, the launch of the new Center for Computer Science and Learning Sciences in 2019, and plans for a new center in human-machine interaction.

Research and Award Highlights

- Han Liu earned the [Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers](#)
- Jessica Hullman received a [2019 Microsoft Research Faculty Fellowship](#)
- Jennie Rogers received the [NSF CAREER award](#)
- Haoqi Zhang and Darren Gergle received a [Google Faculty Research Award](#)
- Nikos Hardavellas received the EDBT 10-year Test-of-Time Award
- Yan Chen won the [2018 ASPLOS Most Influential Paper Award](#)
- Robby Findler won the annual SIGPLAN Programming Languages Software Award