

SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE | June 16, 2021

A mid-week update from the SCS Dean's Office | [SCS NEWS](#) | [SCS EVENTS](#)

JUNETEENTH (June 19) is the oldest nationally celebrated commemoration of the end and abolition of slavery and the emancipation of enslaved Africans and African Americans throughout the United States. In observance, classes will not be held on Friday, June 18 as a day set aside for community engagement and educational programming. But first, [register and plan to attend](#) tomorrow's virtual panel discussion, [Juneteenth: Its Meaning, Significance and Why We Should Celebrate It](#), 4-5 p.m. Also, celebrate Black culture while exploring ways to promote diversity, equity and inclusion this weekend and during upcoming [programs in the city and region](#). Learn more about [scheduled programming](#).

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It's **PRIDE MONTH**, celebrated annually in June to celebrate and shine a spotlight on progress toward achieving equal justice and equal opportunity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning/queer, intersex and ally (LGBTQIA+) individuals and communities. Find more information about [PRIDE celebrations in cities around the world](#).

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GET INVOLVED: Michael Skirpan, special faculty in the Institute for Software Research (ISR), also runs [Community Forge](#), a community hub in Wilkesburg dedicated to building a more equitable economy for the region. The organization is a trusted, community-based asset that works with minority entrepreneurs, youth and families on business incubation, education and other community engagements. If you'd like to get involved in creating equity in opportunity and outcomes in this region or have a way you'd like to support Community Forge's mission, [contact Michael](#) to learn more.

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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: CMU's main campus is [easing certain COVID-19 mitigation protocols](#), moving to a [Transitional Posture](#), designed to support the CMU community as we transition toward daily in-person experiences. Please stay current on [minimum requirements](#) to return to campus and be sure to review [SCS's updated Frequently Asked Questions](#).

SCS NEWS

— In the Human-Computer Interaction Institute (HCII), [Jessica Hammer steps into a new interim associate director role](#).

— Language Technologies Institute (LTI) Associate Professor [Graham Neubig is CMU's first finalist for the Blavatnik National Awards for Young Scientists](#).

— The choice to study societal computing, an interdisciplinary program that blends computer science and policy, felt logical for [ISR grad student Aurelia Augusta, who embodies the intersection of multiple identities](#).

— HCII Ph.D. student Jason Wu and HCII + LTI Associate Professor Jeff Bigham were part of a [research team that improves iOS app accessibility and won a Best Paper award at CHI](#) for "Screen Recognition: Creating Accessibility Metadata for Mobile Applications From Pixels."

FOR FACULTY

— Chris Kissell of the SCS Partnerships team will be available during [virtual office hours tomorrow](#), June 17, 1-2 p.m.

Until next week,
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REMEMBER YOUR RESOURCES

Connect with a [Dean's Advisory Committee](#) if you have questions or concerns you want to share.

Connect with a representative leader from [SCS Council](#) if you'd like to submit a topic for Council to consider.

Coronavirus [Updates & Information](#) and [FAQs](#)

[SCS Alerts & Resources](#) | [For Students](#) | [For Staff](#) | [For Faculty](#) | [For Researchers](#)