**SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE  |  MAY 11, 2022**
A midweek update from the SCS Dean's Office

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*As we gather to celebrate Commencement, remember that COVID is still with us. Take precautions to protect yourself and each other. High-quality [facial coverings](#) (while optional for those who are up-to-date with vaccinations and have no recent exposure or positive test result) are strongly recommended.*

*—  SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE will take a break next week.  —*

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**SCS NEWS + AWARDS**
— While the technology for picking  up finger interactions on touchscreen and trackpad surfaces continually improves, Karan Ahuja, a doctoral student in the Human-Computer Interaction Institute (HCII), began thinking about [what else researchers might discern beyond finger contacts](#).

— Lorrie Cranor, a professor in the Institute for Software Research and the Department of Engineering and Public Policy and director of CyLab, [recently received an honorary doctorate](#) from the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI), a public Swiss university near the country's southern border with Italy. The university awarded the honorary degree for Cranor's relentless pursuit of making privacy and security usable, including her pioneering work on privacy policies, fundamental contributions toward understanding phishing attacks, and active role in shaping public policy to better protect our privacy.

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**CONGRATULATIONS!**
— The **Allen Newell Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research** is presented annually by SCS. This award recognizes undergraduate research that exemplifies the scientific process, rigorous analysis and deep impact. The undergraduate winner of the Newell Award for 2022 is **Aditi Gupta**, "Ergonomic Multilinear Futures" (Advisor: Frank Pfenning). Runners-up this year include **Daniel Schaffer**, "A Comparative Genomics Approach to Identifying Candidate Enhancers Associated with Phenotypes" (Advisors: Irene Kaplow and Andreas Pfenning) and **Đorđe Popović**, "FedTeams: Towards Trust-Based and Resource-Aware Federated Learning" (Advisors: Khaled Harras and Hend Gedawy).

— The **School of Computer Science Alumni Award for Undergraduate Excellence** recognizes technical excellence and societal impact in research and development by a graduating senior participating in the thesis research program. The winner of the Alumni Award for 2022 is Jiayi (Maggie) Zhang, "Vocal Fold Dynamics for Automatic Detection of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis from Voice" (Advisor: Rita Singh).

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Until May 25,
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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](#)