SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE | OCTOBER 5, 2022
A midweek update from the SCS Dean's Office

SCS NEWS
— [A team from CMU – led by Matt Travers](#), systems scientist in the Robotics Institute (RI) – and the University of Rochester is participating in the first phase of [DARPA's RACER program](#), which challenges teams to build and design autonomous off-road systems that can keep up with traditional military vehicles in difficult terrain.

— [New research led by Mayank Goel](#), head of the Smart Sensing for Humans (SmaSH) Lab in the Software and Societal Systems Department (S3D), has developed a model that can accurately predict how stay-at-home orders like those put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic affect the mental health of people with chronic neurological disorders such as multiple sclerosis.

— Chan Young Park and Anjalie Field, both Ph.D. students in the Language Technologies Institute (LTI) during the spring and summer of 2020, [watched online as hundreds of millions of social media posts showed a range of emotions](#) as people protested the murder of George Floyd and participated in the renewed Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. That flood of online activity presented them with a ripe dataset to analyze with natural language processing tools and an opportunity to better understand the roles emotions play in social movements.

CONGRATULATIONS . . .
 . . Dimitrios Skarlatos, assistant professor in the Computer Science Department (CSD), has [received three research awards from Meta](#) that will support his research group's work to improve the scalability, programmability and security of datacenter computer systems.

. . . Last weekend, the [Machine Learning Department (MLD) celebrated its 25th anniversary](#). Four notable MLD alums were featured as keynote speakers during the two-day celebration, starting with Herbert A. Simon University Professor Emerita, former head of MLD and head of J.P. Morgan Chase AI Research, Manuela Veloso.

NEXT WEEK
— Friday, October 14, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Be sure to [register soon](#) if you plan to virtually attend the next Raj Reddy Artificial Intelligence Lecture. In-person attendance is at capacity, so please plan to join virtually..

WATCH YOUR INBOX
— Later this month, SCS students, faculty and staff will receive a brief survey regarding internal communications in our school. The pandemic put a spotlight on some areas where we had internal communications challenges and we want to keep working to improve content and delivery. I ask that you please take a few minutes to complete that survey to support efforts underway to better understand your preferences and identity information that is most useful to you.

Until next week,
---- Martial

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 Faculty & Staff](#) | [For Researchers](#)