

Open Science Symposium 2020 Speaker Bios

Session 1

Al Presto

Albert Presto is an Associate Research Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University, and a member of the Center for Atmospheric Particle Studies (CAPS). Presto's research focuses on pollutant emissions from energy extraction and consumption and the subsequent atmospheric transformations that these emissions undergo. He also works closely with community groups to share air quality data directly with the public.

Varsha Khodiyar

Dr. Varsha Khodiyar has nearly two decades of experience as a research data curator, having worked as a curator for the Human Genome Project and the Gene Ontology project. Varsha's publishing career began with a short stint at F1000Research, followed by over 5 years as an editor for the Nature Research journal, Scientific Data. Varsha leads the team of data experts delivering Springer Nature's Research Data Support service, and also contributes to the design, development and delivery of the Nature Research Academy data training workshops. She curates and maintains the Springer Nature recommended repository list, and is an Executive Advisor of FAIRsharing.org, a member of CODATA's International Data Policy committee and programme chair of the Better Research through Better Data conference series.

William Thompson

Dr. Thompson's research focuses are on temporal network theory, cognitive neuroscience and, ever-increasingly, within metascience. Currently a post-doc at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm. Regarding metascience, my main interests are about how scientists do research, both with regards to their communication of results and their hypothesis making. This talk will be about my concerns regarding a sequential multiple comparison problem for dataset reuse.

Session 2

Richard Sever

Richard Sever is Assistant Director of Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York and Co-Founder of the preprint servers bioRxiv and medRxiv. He also serves as Executive Editor for the Cold Spring Harbor Perspectives and Cold Spring Harbor Protocols journals and launched the precision medicine journal Cold Spring Harbor Molecular Case Studies.

After receiving a degree in Biochemistry from Oxford University, Richard obtained his PhD at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology in Cambridge, UK. He then moved into editorial work, first as an editor at Current Opinion in Cell Biology and later Trends in Biochemical Sciences. He subsequently served as Executive Editor of Journal of Cell Science, before moving to Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in 2008.

Kathleen Carley

Dr. Carley is a Professor of Computer Science in the Institute for Software Research, IEEE Fellow, and Director of the Center for Computational Analysis of Social and Organizational Systems (CASOS) and Director of

the Center for Informed Democracy and Social-cybersecurity (IDeaS) of the Center for at Carnegie Mellon University. She joined Carnegie Mellon in 1984 as Assistant Professor of Sociology and Information Systems. In 1990 she became Associate Professor of Sociology and Organizations, in 1998 Professor of Sociology, Organizations, and Information Technology, and in 2002, attained her current role as Professor of Computation, Organization, and Society. She is also the CEO of Carley Technologies Inc. aka Netanomics. Dr. Carley's research combines cognitive science, sociology, and computer science to address complex social and organizational issues.

Sarah Kiden

Sarah Kiden is a technologist and researcher, working at the intersection of technology and society. As a Marie Curie Research Fellow on Open Design of Trusted Things (OpenDoTT), a joint programme between the Northumbria University and Mozilla, her research focuses on the impact of technology and the Internet for grassroots communities and neighbourhoods.

Session 3

Saskia de Vries

Saskia de Vries joined the Allen Institute in 2012 as a scientist in the neural coding team. With a background in systems neuroscience, she has studied visual processing in both vertebrate and invertebrate systems using a combination of physiological, computational, behavioral and molecular tools to parse how neural circuits process visual information and use that information to select appropriate behavior. Prior to joining the Allen Institute, de Vries was a postdoctoral scholar in the department of neurobiology at Stanford University, where she identified loom sensitive neurons in the optic lobe of the fruit fly and directly linked them to the fly's escape behavior. De Vries received a B.S. from Yale University in molecular biophysics and biochemistry and a Ph.D. in neurobiology from Harvard University.

Alexxai Kravitz

Dr. Lex Kravitz received a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of Pennsylvania and is currently an Associate Professor in the Psychiatry Department at Washington University in St Louis. His research focuses on how obesity alters the brain, and in particular those brain areas that govern decision making and behavioral selection. In addition to this specific research interest, he has a passion for developing and sharing open-source hardware for neuroscience research, co-founding the website OpenBehavior.org to highlight advances in open source methods for behavioral neuroscience. Most recently he has begun investigating the intersection of open-source hardware, Internet-of-Things data collection, and open-science practices to advance a vision of a fully open and traceable research pipeline from hypothesis to answer.

Marina Sirota

Marina is currently an Associate Professor at the Bakar Computational Health Sciences Institute at UCSF. Prior to that she has worked as a Senior Research Scientist at Pfizer where she focused on developing Precision Medicine strategies in drug discovery. She completed her PhD in Biomedical Informatics at Stanford University. Dr. Sirota's research experience in translational bioinformatics spans over 10 years during which she has co-authored over 80 scientific publications. Her research interests lie in developing computational integrative methods and applying these approaches in the context of disease diagnostics and therapeutics with a special focus on studying the role of the immune system in disease. The Sirota laboratory is funded by NIA, NLM, NIAMS, Pfizer, March of Dimes and the Burroughs Wellcome Fund. As a young leader in the field, she has been awarded the AMIA Young Investigator Award in 2017.

Session 4

Kari Jordan

Dr. Kari L. Jordan (she/her) is the Executive Director of The Carpentries, a non-profit project that teaches foundational coding and data science skills. In this role she advocates for The Carpentries mission, vision, and values through strategic relationships and championing people first, access for all, and community collaboration. Prior to this, she was the Carpentries Senior Director of Equity and Assessment, responsible for overseeing and implementing programs in the areas of equity and inclusion, assessment, and strategic engagement and implementation of community development programs. Kari holds a PhD in Engineering Education and a MA in Education from The Ohio State University, as well as a MS and BS in Mechanical Engineering from Michigan Technological University. Kari is an Adjunct Professor at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in the Department of Engineering and Technology, College of Aeronautics. She also teaches Zumba Fitness and Les Mills Bodypump.

Justin Kitzes

Justin Kitzes is an Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences at the University of Pittsburgh. His research broadly examines how human alteration of natural habitat impacts species abundance and diversity at large spatial scales. His specific research interests are (a) bioacoustics, including developing and deploying acoustic recording hardware and machine learning classification models, (b) conservation, including conducting acoustic field surveys of populations at risk, and (c) spatial macroecology, including developing theory and models to explain general biodiversity patterns. Dr. Kitzes received his Ph.D. from the University of California, Berkeley (Environmental Science, Policy, and Management) and his B.S. and M.S. degrees from Stanford University (Earth Systems).

Ciera Martinez

Ciera Martinez is currently the Research Lead of Biodiversity and Environmental Sciences at the Berkeley Institute for Data Science. Her research focuses on data intensive research projects that aim to understand how life on this planet evolves in reaction to the environment and climate. A long-time open science advocate, Ciera has been involved in training for open data, education, and software. As a 2019 Mozilla Open Science Fellow, she connected her love of data and museums and worked on projects aimed at understanding and increasing the usability of biodiversity and natural history museum data. She received her PhD from UC Davis in the Plant Biology Dept. researching the genetic mechanisms regulating plant architecture. She then went on to be a NSF Postdoctoral Fellow at UC Berkeley in the Molecular and Cellular Biology Dept. studying genome evolution and was a BIDS Postdoc Fellow for three years where she worked on undergraduate research practices, data science training, community development, and best practices for data science and computational research.