



2018 *informs* 
BUSINESS
ANALYTICS
CONFERENCE



INFORMS 2018 ECPN

Sunday, April 15, 2018 | Baltimore, Maryland

The Early Career Professionals' Network (ECPN) is hosting a highly selective interactive colloquium designed to help practice-oriented graduate students and early-career practitioners in their analytics/O.R. career. ECPN combines two former events, the Professional Colloquium (IPC) and Early Career Connections (ECC). Analytics and O.R. graduate degree programs develop motivated, analytical, and technically-sound graduates. However, these programs do not necessarily cover the "softer" and "higher-level" skills necessary for success in technical careers. This colloquium presents the perspective of experienced practitioners who have bridged the gap in order to give attendees (who are either early in their career or soon to graduate) a jump-start in their new careers.

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Jie Chen

Bachelor of Management, Marketing, East China University of Science and Technology
MS, Business Analytics Candidate, University of Southern California

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Business Analytics, Data Science, Marketing Analytics

More About Me: I am a data-driven data analyst and a digital marketing enthusiast who is always passionate about transforming data into actionable business insights.



Chinmay Dalvi

Bachelors of Technology in Production Engineering from College of Engineering, Pune
Master's student in Industrial Engineering at University of Houston

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: My main area of interest is utilizing operations research and analytics concepts in the supply chain or healthcare sector.

More About Me: Before my pursuit of Masters in Industrial Engineering, I worked as an engineer at Vedanta Resources for two years where I supervised and managed the production operations of the Precious Metal Refinery. Besides my experience in operations, I coordinated with the Logistics and Security Team for dispatch of Precious metals products such as gold and silver bars due to which I was able to gain knowledge in these sectors. During my bachelor's degree, I interned at JCB India Ltd for about one year as part of my college curriculum, where I was able to learn about their manufacturing and assembly techniques and how the theoretical concepts I learned while pursuing my bachelor's was utilized in the industry. I have also learned analytics and simulation software such as SAS, Simio, Python, and MATLAB while pursuing my Masters in Industrial Engineering.



Hafsa Dawood

Bachelors, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Osmania University
Masters, Business Analytics, University of Southern California, Marshall School of Business

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Data Science and Analytics, Tech Consulting

More About Me: I have a passion for all things data and love digging through data sets to discover new insights. Currently, I'm pursuing a Masters in Business Analytics at USC Marshall School of Business. As a master's student, I am leading the Business Analytics Student Association's Consulting Analytics Group as its Director.

I have over 3.5 years of work experience in Information Technology Services and Consulting. I started my career with Infosys and had the opportunity to work across domains. I have helped the clients of Infosys, namely Ausgrid (Electricity infrastructure company, Australia) and NTN (Manufacturer of bearings, Japan), implement and develop an EAI solution using TIBCO suite of products. For a period of 21 months, I led the offshore team in the operations, production, and support of TIBCO Business to Business Gateways of Telstra (Telecommunications and media company) from Melbourne, Australia.

On a personal note, I believe in breaking stereotypes especially about Muslim women in technology. I hope to inspire women from my background to work toward achieving their full potential.



Robert Doerning

BS: Biomedical Engineering: University of Cincinnati
MBA: University of Cincinnati
MD: University of Cincinnati, MS-BANA (in progress): University of Cincinnati

Assistant Professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Cincinnati

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Healthcare analytics: machine learning applications in the clinical arena, specifically predictive modeling for the emergency department and in observational medicine. Usage of analytics to improve medical student and resident education.

More About Me: I am a recent graduate of the Emergency Medicine residency program at the University of Cincinnati and started in the MS-BANA program at UC as a junior faculty in an effort to learn how to deliver better clinical care through various analytics tools. Aside from being a part-time student and full-time clinician, I also work as a flight physician with UC AirCare, a SWAT physician with the Cincinnati SWAT team, and a volunteer ski patroller at my local ski slope in Indiana. In my free time I enjoy skiing, sand volleyball, rock climbing, and brewing my own beer.



Dario Donatelli

BS in Mechanical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University
1st year MBA at Tepper School of Business specializing in Business Analytics

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: I have an internship with Target Corporation working in a distribution center for this upcoming summer. I will be doing operations research to optimize inventory levels to help better plan for the transition to omni-channel retail fulfillment.

More About Me: I am originally from Pittsburgh, PA. I spent 6.5 years in the Marine Corps with a specialty in Aviation Maintenance operations. I have experience performing reconciliation between those performing data analysis and those imputing data. In military aviation, data is notoriously unclear, as much of it requires manual input from individuals that don't fully understand the full usage and reasons for data collection. For the last two years of my career, I lived in Bahrain and have traveled throughout the region for my work. I am happy to be back at my alma mater and learning about the data analysis field and about what big data can do now and in the future.



Nitish Ghosal

Bachelor of Technology in Mechanical Engineering, GGSIPU
MS Business Analytics Candidate, Carl H. Lindner College of Business, University of Cincinnati

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Marketing/Consumer Analytics, Predictive Analytics, Text Mining & NLP, Artificial Intelligence, Product Development

More About Me: After completing my undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering, I joined Accenture as an analytics consultant where I worked for three years providing CRM & advanced analytics solutions to clients in retail, e-commerce, utilities, telecom, and retail banking. I have applied machine learning to a diverse range of business problems such as credit default prediction, customer churn modeling, targeting analytics, customer segmentation, and market basket analysis. I am currently a graduate student in the Business Analytics program at University of Cincinnati. My past work experience coupled with my academic coursework has helped me to develop a deep understanding of statistics and machine learning & its application to industry problems and has prepared me for a career as a data scientist. My goal is to utilize my skills to help organizations make intelligent data-driven decisions and maximize their potential by building scalable data products that make a positive impact on people's lives.



Sarah Greenwood

BS Data Mining and Information Analysis, University of Michigan
Master's Candidate, Masters of Science in Analytics, Northwestern University

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: I have found that my interests are driven more by the problem statement, rather than the tools used in the solution. Specifically, I find that I am most fascinated by the solutions that bring clarity to human decision making, ideally through seamless integration in everyday life.

More About Me: 2015 Venture for America Fellow; Masters of Science in Analytics Fellowship Recipient



Brooke Kennedy

Bachelor of Arts, Computer Science at Bellarmine University
Master of Science in Analytics Candidate at Northwestern University

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Big Data and Machine Learning

More About Me: I am excited to kick off my career in data science. I am extremely interested in applying my knowledge in the context of social good and help solve problems that face society by way of data science.



Hamed Kianmehr

Master of Science–Industrial Engineering, Tarbiat Modares University
Research Assistant, Binghamton University

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Data Analytics, System Dynamics, Big data

More About Me: PhD candidate with particular interests in system dynamics modeling and data mining in healthcare domain. Prior to enrolling in the Systems Science and Industrial Engineering Department in Binghamton University, I worked for eight years as a data analyst in the business administration and management industry. I also hold a master's degree and a BA in Industrial Engineering.



Shanchuan (Frank) Li

MS in Business Analytics, Emory University, Goizueta Business School
Graduate Research Assistant, Emory University, Goizueta Business School

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Business Analytics, Machine Learning, Deep Learning, Computer Vision, Data Visualization

More About Me: I am currently a student and research assistant in Emory University's MS in Business Analytics program. Learning the advanced techniques allows me to become a better problem solver and data storyteller. With my former experience in financial services and consulting, I aim to serve as a data scientist who bridges the gap between the business world and the modern technology world. Avid reader of *The Economist*, amateur swimmer and amateur piano player.



Agnes Liu

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Minor in Mathematics, The University of Texas at Austin
Master of Science in Business Analytics (pursuing), Emory University, Goizueta Business School

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Business Analytics, Data Analytics, Business Intelligence, Data Science

More About Me: My passion is to apply advanced data analytic tools in business to provide data-driven solutions and to mine data for insights to drive better decision.



Jeh Lokhande

Master of Science in Analytics, Georgia Institute of Technology (Ongoing)

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Data Science - Predictive Modelling, Optimization, Machine Learning, Visualization

More About Me: Graduate Student in Analytics at Georgia Tech, with two years of professional experience as an analytics consultant for Unilever and Liberty Mutual. Love data, soccer, and travelling (in that order).



Juan Ma

PhD in Industrial Engineering and Management, Oklahoma State University
Senior Operations Research Analyst, Turner

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Theory, algorithms, and computation in combinatorial optimization: resilient network design, service system design under information uncertainty, and advanced analytics in media industry.



Seyed Shahab Mofidi

PhD Candidate, Department of Industrial & Systems Engineering, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI)
 Doctoral Research Assistant at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Data-driven Models, Machine Learning, Data Mining, Applied Optimization Research, Supply Chain Logistics and Warehouse Facility Design, Network Optimization Algorithms, Recommender Systems

More About Me: I am an industrial engineer, researcher, and PhD candidate whose childhood obsession with taking toys apart has never faded, but rather translated into the study of how complex systems perform and how they can be improved. I've spent the past couple of years advancing my knowledge in the field of industrial engineering. After obtaining two degrees in this field (BS and MS), and working for industries, I am delighted to pursue my PhD in Industrial and Systems Engineering department at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. My research interests encompass advanced analysis techniques ranging from mathematical modeling and applied optimization research to data mining and machine learning techniques that supports decision making. During my study, I am honored to be the recipient of RPI Founders Award (2016), national fellowships from the Industrial and Systems Engineering Institute (2016, 2017), the Material Handling Education Foundation (2015, 2016, and 2017).



Amir T. Namin

MS in Engineering Management, Northeastern University
 PhD Candidate in Industrial Engineering, Northeastern University

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Modeling, Dynamic Simulation, Optimization, Data Mining, Data Analysis System Thinking, System Dynamics, Cost Modeling, 3D Printing, 3D Printing Application in Healthcare, Sustainability in 3D Printing

More About Me: I received my bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Purdue University. During my undergraduate studies at Purdue, I was assigned to an energy project of a sustainable energy research program. Throughout this initiative my colleagues and I designed and performed simulation analyses on a backup battery system for solar cell panels to provide electricity for student dormitories – not only was this project a strong educational experience for me but it also sparked my interest for continuous learning and research. I subsequently completed my Engineering Management master's degree at Northeastern University in 2013 and later began my PhD in Industrial Engineering at Northeastern University in September 2014. The focus of my research has been on modeling, dynamic simulation, process optimization, smart manufacturing, 3D printing and their applications in the medical field. Over the past years I have had the opportunity to attend several conferences, including the RAPID conference in 2017 where I received the Additive Manufacturing Fundamental Certification from SME. The curriculum at Northeastern has helped advance my statistical, optimization, and economic decision-making skills while exploring the applicability of additive manufacturing in the healthcare industry through a variety of conferences and professional networks.



Somrita Sarkar

MSc Mathematics, University of Calcutta, India
 MS in Analytics Candidate, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Customer analytics, analytics for social good, analytics in public sector

More About Me: Avid reader, travel enthusiast, occasional writer



Mira Shukla

BS Mathematical Sciences: Operations Research and Statistics (Matriculation Date: May 2018)
 MS Healthcare Policy and Management (Matriculation Date: May 2019)
 Carnegie Mellon University

Research and Practice Areas of Interest: Healthcare analytics & improving healthcare industry systems through applying operations research

More About Me: I am a senior at Carnegie Mellon University graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Mathematical Sciences: Operations Research and Statistics and a Master of Science in Healthcare Policy and Management. I have recently started to evaluate hospital performance in New South Wales, Australia using data envelopment analysis. I am also using a model originally created for credit scoring to help evaluate the risk of diabetes in patients based on certain medical indicators.



Vahab Vahdat

MSc in Industrial Engineering, Northeastern University, Boston, MA
PhD candidate of Industrial Engineering, Northeastern University, Boston, MA (May 2018)

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Applications of Operations Research in Healthcare Process Improvement: patient flow, layout design and planning, ambulatory care services, resource allocation. Operations Research: discrete-event simulation and system dynamics, linear and non-linear optimization, large scale optimizations, machine learning.

More About Me: I started my studies at Northeastern University in 2013. During these years, I was involved in several process improvement projects that deployed different operations research methods applied in ambulatory care. Instead of increasing resources to provide better services, our approaches looked into redesigning the use of current resources to be more efficient and productive and providing higher quality of care services.

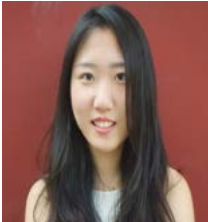


Vivek Vasudeva

PhD in Supply Chain and Operations Management (Graduated in 2015)
McCombs School of Business, The University of Texas at Austin

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: I am very interested in mixed-integer programming, as well as non-linear programming.

Current Position: I currently work as an operations research analyst at Turner Broadcasting System, Inc. in Atlanta, GA.



Siyu Wang

BA in Economics, Claremont McKenna College
MS in Business Analytics Candidate, UC Davis

Research or Practice Areas of Interests: Data Visualization & Machine Learning

More About Me: Aspiring analytics professional based in San Francisco Bay Area. Coming from a liberal arts background with experience in marketing, entrepreneurship, and economic research. Passionate about statistics, economics, and art.



Tim Yang

BS Mathematics/Economics at UCLA (2017)
BS Statistics at UCLA (2017)

Master of Business Analytics Candidate at MIT Sloan School of Management and the Operations Research Center (2018)

Research or Practice Areas of Interests:

- » Sports Analytics – Clustering patterns of attacks for La Liga and European Champions League
- » Real Estate Analytics – Applying machine learning methods to estimate housing prices in the Netherlands and Mexico
- » Credit Risk Analytics – Applying machine learning methods to detect/predict housing mortgage delinquency
- » Educational Analytics

More About Me: Passionate about using analytical methods to create value in the sports and education industry. Multicultural educational background from China, the U.S., and UK. Always embrace new experiences and challenges.