

EDUCATION

Georgia Institute of Technology, Ph.D. Candidate, Human-Centered Computing, Atlanta, GA Aug 2022 - est. May 2027

- Dissertation: *When the Dream to 'Break into Tech' Breaks*
- Advisor: Besty DiSalvo
- Committee: Tawanna Dillahunt, Becki Grinter, Judith Uchidiuno, Bhumika Chauhan

School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Boston, MA Aug 2009 – May 2011

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Georgia Institute of Technology, Graduate Research Assistant, Culture and Technology Lab Aug 2022 – Present

PUBLICATIONS

Lara Karki, Idel Martinez-Ramos, Sabine Verdult, Dana Priest, Asher Brown, Felienne Hermans, and Betsy DiSalvo. 2026. “Constructing (and Deconstructing) Perceptions of Programming Language Legitimacy.” *In preparation for CSCW*.

Lara Karki, Aarti Israni, Tawanna Dillahunt, Julie Hui, Dana Priest, Asher Brown, and Betsy DiSalvo. 2026. Recognizing, Supporting, and Futuring Diverse Pathways in Computing Work. In Adjunct Proceedings of the 5th Annual Symposium on Human-Computer Interaction for Work (CHIWORK Adjunct '26), June 22–25, 2026, Linz, Austria. ACM, New York, NY, USA, 4 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3805029.3818267>.

Lara Karki, Aarti Israni, Tawanna Dillahunt, Julie Hui, Asher Brown, Dana Priest, and Betsy DiSalvo. “Recognizing, Supporting, and Futuring Diverse Pathways in Computing Work.” Accepted Workshop for CHIWORK 2026.

Lara Karki, Kayla Uleah, Carl DiSalvo, Sierra Traynail Ross, Jadin Butler, Selamawit Husein, Emanuel Bryant, Dana Priest, Justin Booker, and Betsy DiSalvo. 2025. “I get hives when I come on here’: Persisting Through Platform-Delivered Microaggressions on LinkedIn.” Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact. 9, 7, Article CSCW232 (November 2025), 36 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3757413>

Lara Karki, Dana Priest, et al. 2025. “A Window into DataWorks: Developing an Integrated Work-Training Curriculum for Novice Adults”. In Proceedings of the 56th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education V. 1 (SIGSETS 2025). Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 568–574. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3641554.3701826>

Carl DiSalvo, Annabel Rothschild, **Lara L. Schenck**, Ben Rydal Shapiro, and Betsy DiSalvo. 2024. When Workers Want to Say No: A View into Critical Consciousness and Workplace Democracy in Data Work. Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact. 8, CSCW1, Article 156 (April 2024), 24 pages. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3637433>

Lara L. Schenck and Betsy DiSalvo. 2023. From Data Work to Data Science: Getting Past the Gatekeepers. In Proceedings of the 2023 ACM Conference on International Computing Education Research - Volume 2 (ICER '23), Vol. 2. Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 1–2. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3568812.3603468>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Georgia Institute of Technology, *Instructor of Record* Atlanta, GA

- Cognitive Science & LLMs (Summer Seminar) May 2026 – Present
- AI & Hiring Research Seminar (CS 8903) Aug 2025 – Present

Georgia Institute of Technology, *Graduate Teaching Assistant* Atlanta, GA

- Creative Design Practice (CS 8803); Instructor: Carl DiSalvo Jan 2026 – May 2026
- Intro to Ph.D. Studies (CS 8803); Instructor: Betsy DiSalvo Aug 2025 – Dec 2025

Additional Teaching National

- DataWorks @ Georgia Tech, *Career Development Founder & Facilitator* – Atlanta, GA 2022 – 2025

- University of Southern California, *Adjunct Instructor; WordPress Development* – Los Angeles, CA 2018
- Pratt Institute of Design, *Adjunct Instructor; UI/UX Prototyping in Code and Coding I-II* – New York, NY 2015 – 2016

PRESENTATIONS

(Invited) Q: Are LLMs making me dumber? A: It's up to you, Allegheny County DPittsburgh	2026
Recognizing, Supporting, and Futuring Diverse Pathways in Computing, CHIWORK 2026, Linz	2026
Platform Delivered Microaggressions on LinkedIn, CSCW 2025, Bergen	2025
Cognition and LLMs, Responsible AI Group, Merck, Rahway (invited)	2025
A Window into DataWorks, SIGCSE TS 2025, Pittsburgh	2025
Re-thinking Skill in Times of Technological Change, Critical Computing Group at Georgia Tech	2024
Platform Delivered Microaggressions on LinkedIn, STS Symposium at Georgia Tech (invited)	2023
CSS Algorithms, StrangeLoop, St. Louis	2019
Is CSS a Programming Language?, Abstractions, Pittsburgh	2019
CSS Algorithms, JS Conf US, San Diego	2019
Writing CSS Algorithms, CSS Camp, Barcelona	2019
Algorithms of CSS, CSS Day, Amsterdam (invited)	2019
Bridging the Gap Between Design & Development at WordCamp US, Nashville	2018
The Algorithms of CSS at CSSConf EU, Berlin	2018
Let's Build A Gutenberg Block Workshop at WordCamp EU, Belgrade	2018
Why the Designer Failed FizzBuzz at SassConf, Austin	2015
Freelancing, Real Talk at WordCamp, New York City	2014

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Merck, *Commercial AI Capabilities Intern*, Rahway, NJ June 2025 – Aug 2025

- Initiated human-centered AI initiative, contributing 4-pillar roadmap for Merck commercial leadership developed through 25-stakeholder interviews and ethnographic observation; identified adoption, empowerment, human-AI collaboration, and governance priorities; designed research protocols identifying user segments and barriers in Gen AI product adoption.

Penske Media Corporation, *Principal Software Engineer*, Los Angeles, CA June 2018 – May 2022

- Identified gap in design and engineering processes causing slow platform migrations and poor cross-functional communication; built business case, secured executive buy-in, then led full-scale implementation, increasing re-platforming capacity by 60%
- Led change management via documentation, training, and communication channels for 80-person product & engineering team.

Lara Schenck LLC, *Founder & Technical Consultant*, Pittsburgh, PA and New York, NY Aug 2011 – June 2018

- Managed and executed end-to-end client engagements across branding, design, development, strategy, and technical training; Established thought leadership through speaking at 19+ international industry conferences (audiences of 500+ and 40k+ recording views), developing and teaching online courses, and publishing tutorials and online.

GRANTS & FELLOWSHIPS

National Science Foundation , Graduate Research Fellowship (\$159,000)	2023-2027
Georgia Institute of Technology , Pathbreakers Fellowship (\$34,000)	2024
Georgia Institute of Technology , President's Fellowship	2022

MENTORSHIP

Kunyeul Lee, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present
Grace Gong, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present
Justin W. Thomas, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present
Minhaz Jisan, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present
Eric Oliphant, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present
Marine Regnault, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present
James T. Roberts, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present
Saurabh Kalia, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present
Alicia N. Bochnak, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025 – Present

Ding (Dean) Ding Tian, M.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025
Yashika Reddy, B.S. Computer Science, Georgia Tech	2025
Dana Priest, Training Coordinator, DataWorks, Georgia Tech	2022 – 2025
Selamawit Husen, Data Fellow, DataWorks, Georgia Tech	2023 – 2025

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Reviewer	2023 – Present
GROUP (2026), TOCE (2023, 2025, 2026), CHI (2025), CSCW (2025), SIGCSE (2024, 2025), DIS (2023)	