SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE | JUNE 8, 2022
A midweek update from the SCS Dean's Office

As [Juneteenth Freedom Day](#) approaches, stay up to date on CMU events and programming planned for June 15-17 by visiting the [Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer's web page](#). Also, the City of Pittsburgh will host the [Western Pennsylvania Juneteenth Homecoming Celebration June 17-19](#) downtown in Point State Park and Market Square, featuring the biggest free Juneteenth entertainment events in Allegheny County.

FOR FACULTY…
— [Reply by Monday, June 13](#)! Back by popular demand: be sure to sign up for the Faculty Summer Book Recommendation Reading List being rebooted this summer by the SCS Dean's Undergraduate Student Advisory Council to engage with incoming first-year SCS students. Contact Veronica Peet with questions.

SCS NEWS + AWARDS
— [From THE LINK](#): SCS researchers believe by better understanding the mindset of climate-change deniers, scientists and others who recognize climate change as real could potentially design better strategies for communicating with doubters and possibly change their minds. Kathleen Carley, a professor in the Institute for Software Research (ISR) and director of the [Center for Computational Analysis of Social and Organization Systems](#), and Aman Tyagi, who earned his Ph.D. in engineering and public policy in 2021, tackled conspiracy theories in a 100-week sojourn through Twitter. They collected 38 million unique tweets for analysis from more than 7 million unique users by searching for "climate change," "#ActOnClimate" and "#ClimateChange."

— CMU's Livehoods project, which redefined how people look at location data, recently [earned the Test of Time Award from the International Conference on Web and Social Media](#). The team includes Norman Sadeh, a professor in ISR and head of the [Livehoods](#) project; Jason Hong, a professor in the Human-Computer Interaction Institute (HCII); Justin Cranshaw, a then-Ph.D. student in ISR's Societal Computing program; and Raz Schwartz, a visiting scholar from Bar-Ilan University in Israel. They analyzed 18 million public tweets embedded with location data from cities like New York, San Francisco and Pittsburgh. The data was anonymized and only public places were used. Private residences were intentionally omitted.

— With a [new three-year, $10.5 million U.S. Army contract](#) – the largest award to Auton Lab – Artur Dubrawski, a professor of computer science in the Robotics Institute (RI) and director of the Auton Lab, will lead with Kyle Miller, senior project scientist in RI and co-principal investigator, a multi-institution effort to extend the capabilities of predictive maintenance techniques and eventually apply them to everything from ground vehicles to power generators and possibly the early detection and treatment of human disease. Stephen Smith, a research professor in RI, and Mario Berges of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering are on the CMU team.

CONGRATULATIONS!
— Eric Xing, a professor in the Machine Learning and Computer Science departments and the Language Technologies Institute, has been [named a 2022 American Statistical Association (ASA) fellow](#) for his pioneering contributions to machine learning research, entrepreneurship in artificial intelligence and leadership in AI education. He is also the founding director of the Center for Machine Learning and Health. Notably, ASA fellows must have an established reputation and have made outstanding contributions to statistical science. Xing is among 48 fellows elected in 2022.

— Computer systems increasingly manage and control networks such as trains crisscrossing a country or planes taking off and landing at airports. Failures in these systems not only disrupt critical infrastructure but can also put people's lives at risk. Andre Platzer, a professor of computer science in SCS's Computer Science Department, [wants to make computer assistance systems so safe that people can trust them with their lives](#). For his work in this area, Platzer has been named an [Alexander von Humboldt Professor for Artificial Intelligence](#) at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) in Germany. The professorship is Germany's most valuable international research award. Platzer will head the Institute for the Reliability of Autonomous Dynamical Systems at KIT and continue to work with CMU.

— Genomics expert and [SCS alum Michael Schatz](#) was named to [Time Magazine's 2022 list of the 100 most influential people](#) for his work to fill in the gaps of the human genome sequence with the Telomere-to-Telomere Consortium (T2T). Schatz, a Bloomberg Distinguished Professor at Johns Hopkins University, earned a bachelor's degree in computer science from SCS in 2000.

Until June 22,
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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