

September Achievements Faculty, Staff and Students. **CONGRATULATIONS and WELL DONE!**

Congratulations to Rifatul Islam on grant funding. This is a collaborative project by the University of Texas at San Antonio (PI: John Quarles) in collaboration with Kennesaw State University (Co-PI: Rifatul Islam), supported by a \$475K budget over a span of 36 months from DEVCOM Army Research Laboratory. The project aims to address the prevalent issue of cybersickness among army personnel during Extended Reality (XR) exposures. This initiative responds to the significant challenges posed by cybersickness, as observed with tools like the Army's \$22 billion Integrated Visual Augmentation System (IVAS) headset, which has been reported to induce severe symptoms. Rifatul's team will primarily lead the development of personalized cybersickness prediction and reduction efforts.



Lili Zhang, Ph.D. has been recognized with the 2023 KSU Alumni Service Award, given to a person who demonstrates exceptional service to KSU by volunteering their time and expertise. She received her Ph.D. in Analytics and Data Science from Kennesaw State University and has made significant contributions to the School of Data Science and Analytics as a leading expert in imbalanced learning and graph analytics. Through her voluntary work as a guest speaker, mentorship of Ph.D. students, co-authorship of papers, and personal donation to endow The Dr. Lili Zhang Endowed Doctoral Scholarship, she exemplifies an exceptional commitment to giving back to her alma mater and supporting the academic growth and success of current students.



Elliot Larez, a junior and member of the KSU Journey Honors College, is a student researcher who has immersed himself in what the lab has to offer. The computer science major has worked at the lab for two semesters, setting up software systems, running demonstrations and introducing the lab to other students who may want to use its devices for their academic projects.



Congratultionas to Professor of Software Engineering Dr. Hassan Pournaghshband. He spent a week in May at the University of Georgia after being selected for the prestigious Governor's Teaching Fellows Spring Symposium, a series of events dedicated to improving teaching skills in Georgia's colleges and universities.



Congratulations to Yan Huang and Joy Li for securing a new NSF Grant. Yan will be the PI and Joy a Co-PI for a \$400k NSF collaborative grant with GSU. KSU is the lead institution in the grant. The project is entitled: "IUSE: EDU: Innovative and Inclusive Undergraduate XR Engineering Education to Cultivate Future Metaverse Workforce.

Congratulations as the Principal Investigator, Dr. Abhishek Parakh successfully secured a collaborative \$400K NSF grant titled Collaborative Research: SaTC: EDU: QUINTET: Quantum Internet Education and Training Synthesizer. The project will develop a state-ofthe-art experiential learning-based adaptive platform for quantum internet education. The project is in collaboration with UNO and will last 2 years. Kennesaw State University is the lead institution.

Congratulations to our Hackathon Winners!

<mark>Assurant:</mark> *First Place - Team A24 - Maryam Baban, Ibrahima Gueve

*Second Place - Team Lazerds - Kael Anderson, Jaime McBride, Leonardo Saltysiak

*Third Place - Team A21 - Nathan Louissaint, Tariq Balogun, William Little

GPC/NAPA: *First Place - Team Bogosort - Trisha Nguyen, Khang Nguyen, John Huynh

*Second Place - Team KLP of Al Club - Lucas Papadopoulos, Keshaun Berry, Phillip Bell

*Third Place - Team G14 - Alexis McGruder, David Bazan, Julia Johnson

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