AI & Data Science Showcase

Hosted by: The Department of Computer Science in collaboration with the HPE Data Science Institute

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Registration:

Participants must register for the showcase using the
AI & Data Science Showcase Registration Form

Important Registration Dates:
- Registration opens: November 1st, 2024
- Registration closes: November 20th, 2024

Withdrawal Policy:

If a participant or team needs to withdraw from the competition, they must notify the organizing committee by email at least one week before the final presentation date (by November 27th, 2024).

Overview:

The AI & Data Science Showcase Competition offers a platform for undergraduate and graduate students to demonstrate their research and technical skills in the rapidly evolving fields of data science and artificial intelligence (AI). This event is designed to foster collaboration, innovation, and the discovery of new knowledge. It will provide participants with an opportunity to present their work to a distinguished panel of judges, showcasing their contributions to data science and AI technologies.

Dr. Nouhad Rizk and Dr. Claudia Neuhauser are spearheading this event to engage students in the research process, with a focus on facilitating innovative solutions and discoveries in computing, data science, and AI.

Participation Guidelines:

Eligibility:
- Open to undergraduate and graduate students (MS, PhD) currently enrolled at the University of Houston.
- Teams can be cross-disciplinary, encouraging members from diverse fields of study to participate.
- Each team must consist of a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 5 participants.

Categories:

Undergraduate Category:
   - Teams will consist of undergraduate students from any discipline. Cross-disciplinary teams are encouraged to bring diverse perspectives.

Graduate Category:
   - Teams will consist of graduate students (MS, PhD) from any discipline. Cross-disciplinary teams are encouraged to foster diverse skill sets and knowledge.

Original Work and Data Usage:
* The work must be completed between May 2024 until now and should not have been submitted previously as a class project or to another competition.
* Pre-existing code or datasets are allowed, provided they are publicly available and appropriately credited.
* If external datasets are used, they must be publicly accessible, and participants must adhere to the terms of use.

Tools & Software:
Participants can use any legally licensed open-source tools, libraries, or frameworks to create their projects, such as Python, R, etc.

Submission Guidelines:
* Participants must submit their projects using the designated AI & Data Science Showcase Poster Submission Form.
* Documents to be submitted:
    1. Poster (using the provided template)
    2. PowerPoint Presentation (based on the poster)
* Important Notes:
    o All submissions must be uploaded as either .pdf or .pptx files.
    o Posters must use the poster template provided here:
      Poster Template
    o Prepare the PowerPoint of your poster and submit it. **Your poster printout is not required.**
    o Projects must be submitted by the specified deadline. Late submissions will not be considered.
    o Code and data files are not required. Submissions should include only the poster and a presentation that reproduces the poster.
    o Please include your designated Team number on each slide and poster. You will find the unique team number in the acknowledgment email sent after registering for the competition.

Intellectual Property:
- Unless stated otherwise, participants retain the rights to their projects. However, the organizing body may request permission to highlight or promote projects for marketing purposes.

Judging Criteria:

Projects will be evaluated on:
- Innovation: How original and creative is the project?
- Feasibility: Can the project be implemented or scaled in real-world applications?
- Impact: What is the potential influence of the project on its target domain?
- Presentation: How well is the project communicated through the poster and oral presentation?

The judging criteria will be detailed on the day of the event.

Mentorship and Code of Conduct:
- Mentorship:
  Participants are encouraged to seek guidance from mentors. However, mentors should not contribute directly to the project's core development.
- Code of Conduct:
  Participants are expected to maintain a respectful and inclusive environment. Any form of discrimination, harassment, or unethical behavior will result in immediate disqualification.

Awards & Prizes:

The competition will celebrate outstanding contributions through recognition and exposure within the academic community.

Top Awards:
1. Featured Publication on the UH-HPE Data Science Institute (DSI) website, showcasing the research and achievements of each winning team.
2. Certificates of Achievement for all members of each winning team.
3. Opportunity for winning teams to present their projects at future HPE DSI events.

Each winning team and its members will receive Top Awards, acknowledging their contributions to data science and AI research.

Number of Awarded Teams:
- The number of winning teams will be determined and disclosed after registration closes, based on the number of participants in each category (undergraduate and graduate).

Modification of Rules and Decision Finality:
- The organizing committee reserves the right to modify rules or judging criteria as needed, with any changes communicated in advance.
- Decisions made by the judging panel are final and binding.

Important Notes:

- The final presentations will be held on December 2nd, 2024.
- Presentation timings will be updated soon.
- Final presentations will be held at PGH, room #232.

For More Information, Contact:
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