

2022 IEEE WISC Scholarship Program Awardees

**2022 IEEE WISC Scholarship Program Chair
Lorraine M. Herger**

About the IEEE WISC Scholarship

- Begin in 2021, the program awards scholarships to deserving female students pursuing technical educations.
- Both graduate and undergraduate students are considered for the scholarships.
- Applicants are judged based on their technical interests, career goals, and contributions to the STEM community.



Types of Scholarships awarded

The IEEE WISC Premier Scholarship

- 4 awards in total, \$600 USD per award

The IEEE WISC Scholarship

- 13 awards in total, \$400 USD per award

Judges

Lorraine M. Herger, Chair, IBM Research, TJ Watson Research Center, US

Shubhi Asthana, IBM Research, Almaden Research Center, US

Houda Chakiri, Al Akhawayn University, Ifrane, Morocco

Ruchi Mahindra, IBM Research, Almaden Research Center, US

Angela Nebot, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain

Manar Abu Talib, University of Sharjah, UAE

Bhavani Thuraisingham, University of Texas, Dallas, TX

**The IEEE WISC
Premier
Scholarship
Awardees**





Debeshee Das

- Debeshee Das is currently pursuing her 4th Year of BTech in Computer Science and Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati (IIT-T), India. She has been passionate about science and technology from a young age and has consistently been a top academic performer, securing International Rank 1 in the National Science Olympiad (NSO) by SOF (Asia's Largest Olympiad) for 2 consecutive academic years (2012-13 and 2013-14). She was awarded the prestigious national level scholarships, NTSE and KVPY, by the Government of India for meritorious students. She is passionate about exploring technical ideas in-depth and has worked on research projects in explainable AI, ML model maintenance, software security, static analysis, and source code representations for AI-powered SE tasks. She has a peer-reviewed publication on Software Security Vulnerabilities in Competitive Programming at the ACM EASE 2022 conference held in June 2022 at Sweden and is currently interning at IBM India Research Lab under the AI wing. She is passionate about finding innovative ways to fill the gaps in the traditional education system and takes up various initiatives, from building relevant apps to voluntary teaching. She is an enthusiastic student leader, heading music and coding clubs, organizing technical events, while also being the Chief Editor of her institute's magazine. Additionally, she is very passionate about music, and is a graduate in Indian Classical music.

Malak Kettani



- Malak is 20 years old from Tangier, Morocco. She currently lives in Ifrane for her college studies. She is a third-year computer science student at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane. She believes that college is not only about studies. That's why she made sure she got engaged during her past 2 years at AUI in many student organizations, events, athletic teams, programs, part-time jobs, and internships. They are what form the college experience and develop one's personality. And this is what makes the college experience a special and unforgettable one.



Hannah Halin Kim

- Hannah Halin Kim is currently a PhD candidate in computer science at Duke university. Her dissertation is in the field of computer vision focusing on motion boundary and occlusion reasoning for video motion analysis. As a PhD student, she actively participates in various departmental events and student organizations at Duke. This includes serving as the departmental Graduate Student Liaison and the president of ACM-W chapter at Duke, which led her to receive the annual departmental service award at Duke Computer Science. She is also working towards the Certificate in College Teaching program at Duke. Prior to her PhD, she received her bachelor's degree at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a double major in Mathematics and Computer Science and a minor in Statistics. She is currently spending her summer as a research intern at IBM Research Africa in the AI Science team at the Kenya Lab.

Peini Liu



- Peini Liu received her M.S. degree in College of Computer at National University of Defense Technology (NUDT), in 2018. She is currently a Ph.D. student in Computer Architecture Department of the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC) and collaborating with Emerging Technologies for Artificial Intelligence group of Barcelona Supercomputing Center (BSC). Her research interests include virtualization/containerization technologies, cloud native, resource management and the convergence of HPC, Big Data and AI. Peini is passionate about her work, which has been published in high-quality conferences and journals. She has received FI grants from Generalitat de Catalunya and funding from international companies.

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Daria Alekseeva



- Daria Alekseeva received her B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Infocommunication Technologies and Networks from Saint-Petersburg State University of Telecommunications (SUT) in 2017 and 2019, correspondingly. Currently, she is a third-year doctoral candidate at Tampere University (TAU). Her research interests include recently emerged computing paradigms and wireless communication. Her main goal is to contribute to effective computing and communication research in complex heterogeneous architectures.

Rahma El Bouazzaoui



- Rahma earned her high school graduation with honors in 2019 from Azzaytoun High School in Settat, Morocco. She has always been fascinated by technology, computers, and programming, so she decided to pursue it as a major in college. I enrolled at AL AKHAWAYN University to get a bachelor's degree in Computer Science with a minor in Business Administration in Ifrane, Morocco. In the spring of 2022, she participated in an exchange program at the University of Helsinki in Finland. Ultimately, She is a senior who aspires to work in the field of computer science.



Fatima Mohamad Dakalbab

- FATIMA DAKALBAB is a student pursuing her MSc. in Computer Science and a graduate research assistant at the University of Sharjah in the UAE. Fatima earned her bachelor's degree in information technology Multimedia with a 3.92/4 GPA. She is currently working as a graduate research assistant in the OpenUAE Research and Development Group. Her research interest includes intelligent automation, robotic process automation, Machine learning in trading, and conducting systematic literature reviews. Moreover, Fatima is currently a member of the Sharjah Google Developer Group (GDG) and Arab Women in Computing Association (ArabWIC) since 2016. In addition to being an events and workshops Co-Coordinator in the student chapter in UAE for Association for Computing Machinery (ACM).



Zobia Erum

- Zobia is a final year MPhil student (Computer Science) currently pursuing research at the University of Leicester United Kingdom, under the supervision of Prof. Dr Reiko Heckel. She is also working as Teaching Assistant and Project Supervisor for Msc students at the University.
- Her Research focuses on Model-Based development of smart contracts for DAML. The Digital Asset Modelling Language (DAML) enables low-code development of smart contract applications. Starting from a high-level but textual notation, DAML thus implements the lower end of a model-driven development process, from a platform-specific level to implementations on a range of blockchain platforms. Existing approaches for modelling smart contracts support a domain-oriented, conceptual view but do not link to the same technology-specific level.



Carla Campàs Gene

Carla Campàs Gené is a student, researcher and data scientist. Currently a Junior at the Polytechnic University of Catalonia (UPC), Carla has worked in some of the most influential technological companies, obtaining a position in most high-profile internships of the sector (including Google and Meta). Having an affinity for research, she has collaborated with the Department of Information Systems and Services' (ESSI) research group within UPC, focusing on NLP for feature integration between opensource applications. Although Carla has just started her career in research, she hopes to help improve state of the art technologies using DL techniques. She is also a Data Scientist at an up-and-coming startup Deale, currently working on innovative unsupervised solutions for Question Answering within specific domains. Although Carla has started, though hard-work, passion and perseverance, a career she is proud of, she has noticed a lack of representation in the community. Being the only female Data Scientist at Deale and finding herself in a sea of men in class, has motivated her. She wants to ensure that young women are knowledgeable of the opportunities that exist and motivate them to pursue a career in the sciences.

Marian-Bernice Haligah



- Marian Bernice Haligah works as a Computer Science and Information Systems faculty intern at Ashesi University. Here, she assists faculty in teaching undergraduate students as well as partake in departmental projects such as building websites. She graduated from Ashesi University Ghana in 2021 with a first-class honour in BSc. Management Information Systems. By pursuing an undergraduate degree in MIS, she gained a strong understanding of the interconnectedness of information technology and organizational strategy. In today's rapidly changing business world, she believe this understanding is essential, as an organization's ability to compete depends on how quickly it can respond to change through the successful deployment of information technology. Her growing interest in digital innovation propelled me to create augmented reality technology as part of my final year project at university. By taking on this project, she undertook research that extended beyond the course offerings of Ashesi University and built and tested a system prototype that sought to investigate the impact of augmented reality on tourism in Ghana. This and many more are part of the reasons she aspires to be a systems analyst because the impact of technology transcends national borders and changes the world, and her desire to be an agent to use this powerful tool to create change and make a global impact.



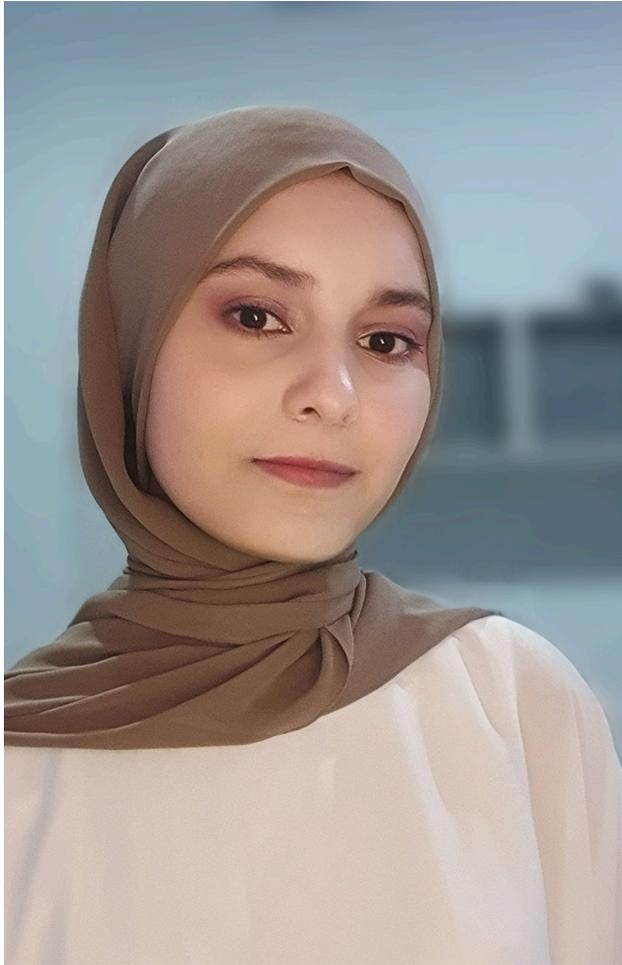
Amanjot Kaur

- Amanjot Kaur is a final year doctoral student in Computer Science and Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar. Her research interests are Fog, Edge, and Cloud computing. The topic of her Ph.D. research is “Mapping and Scheduling of Real-Time jobs on the Hierarchical Fog Architecture.” Her research will address critical questions in relation to how intelligent techniques could be used to support resource management in distributed fog networks. She is interested in utilizing fog techniques to improve human lives, such as smart cars, smart healthcare, augmented reality, etc. She is particularly interested in applications where fog can add value. Before coming to IIT Ropar, she had an experience as an OBIEE Developer at IBM Gurgaon. Before that, she completed a post-graduate computer science and engineering degree at PEC University, Chandigarh. She finished her graduation in Computer Science and Engineering at Thapar University, Patiala.

Seba Mohammad Al Mokdad



- Seba Al Mokdad is a junior Computer Science student studying at the University of Sharjah, a member of the Google Developer Student Club, and a research assistant at OpenUAE. She is currently working on 3 research projects related to the medical field .Seba is an accomplished coder and programmer who constantly search for new opportunities to learn and develop her skills



Takua Mokhamad

- Takua Mokhamed is a computer science master's student at the University of Sharjah in the UAE. With a 3.95/4 GPA, she earned her bachelor's degree. She had a blockchain specialization. She has two years of expertise developing blockchain apps on Hyperledger Fabric and Ethereum, two of the most popular blockchain platforms. She also has knowledge in AI and machine learning. She also works as a Graduate Research Assistant at the OpenUAE Research and Development Group at the University of Sharjah. Inter-blockchain communication, blockchain networks for Solar PV Electric Vehicle Charging Stations, blockchain platform performance analysis, advanced persistent threat detection, and Artificial Intelligence, and natural language processing are some of her research interests. Her experience as a Research Assistant has provided her with a wealth of knowledge, and she has a wide variety of programming and writing skills. Takua believes in the ability of women to have greater chances in a better society by admitting it.

Jenny Leana Fotso Ngompe



Leana is a part of the African Leadership Academy's (ALA) graduating class of 2019 and is currently a rising sophomore at Barnard College of Columbia University. While at ALA, Leana was the Director of Internal Marketing and Human Resources in her student enterprise Afrofem. Afrofem is a student enterprise that aims to centralize feminist concepts onto the African continent, Leana became a devoted activist on campus after joining this student enterprise. In this role, Leana developed Afrofem's current website www.afrofemm.com. During the summer Leana took part in JP Morgan's Technology Work Experience Program where she learned more about encryption software and graphic design. This furthered Leana's understanding of how technology is a part of major banking corporations like JP Morgan. In her first year at Barnard College, Leana became the freshmen representative of the African Students Association at Columbia University where she ensured that the freshman class was included in the evolution and growth of the organization. She also worked closely with the admissions office and became a social media intern. As a sophomore, Leana intends to declare herself a double major in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Computer Science.



Hala Sanih

- A freshly junior undergraduate student at the university Al Akhawayn in Ifrane, Morocco, Hala is extremely engaged on campus life. Starting by being engaged in clubs, humanitarian ones specifically (she was the general secretary of the Lions International Club Aui and she is now the president of the Unicef club AUI) , she managed to get a part time job once the number of credits she got allowed it (Leader at the Student Activities Office). It was the beginning of an amazing journey where she sharpened the skills required to be a good leader. She started enjoying the teamwork, and she understood that "Communication is key" is not just a meaningless quote.
- Some of her favourite classes so far were Analysis of Algorithms and Computer Architecture and Organization. These are two classes where she had to surpass myself and self learn a bunch of concepts. It also knew that she was interested in both the software and the hardware sides of computing.

Falade Oluwaseun Stella



- Falade Oluwaseun is 2nd Year Graduate Student under the supervision of Prof. Al-Rizzo Hussain at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She received her Bachelor's degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering and a Master's degree in Advanced Control and Systems Engineering from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom, in 2015 and 2017 respectively. She worked as a Teaching Assistant in the Electronic Circuits Research Lab at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Her interests focus on Telecommunications; Vehicle to Vehicle Communications and eventually using the Knowledge gained to plunge into the Robotics world. She is also a Grace Hopper Scholar for 2022.

Kanupriya Varshney



Kanupriya Varshney is a Ph.D. scholar in the electrical department at IIT Ropar in India since 2020. Currently, she is working in neuromorphic computing field to improve memory storage and speed for computing. She has attended conferences held by EDS on computing. She has also presented paper in I2CT, MEMRISYS, VLSID conferences. She has done her undergrad at Banasthali Vidyapith, Rajasthan in 2019. During graduation days, she had made sensorbased projects with the help of Arduino in her minor and major projects. These projects not only helped her to show her technical skills but also her teamwork, leadership, and communication qualities. After graduation, she enrolled in a research program directly and have done vast coursework that helped her increase my horizon of knowledge. She learned various tools such as LTspice, MATLAB, COMSOL Multiphysics, cadence virtuoso, and TCAD sentaurus. Being good in academics, she tried to balance it with cocurricular activities like playing sports, singing, and doing social service.