



Northeastern University

KHOURY COLLEGE OF
COMPUTER SCIENCES
GRADUATE CELEBRATION



6 MAY 2023

PROGRAM

MATTHEWS ARENA, 9:00 A.M.

Presiding

Elizabeth Mynatt, *Dean of Khoury College of Computer Sciences*

Welcome

Benjamin Hescott, *Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience*

Opening Remarks

Elizabeth Mynatt, *Dean of Khoury College of Computer Sciences*

Keynote Speaker

Mani Sundaram, *Executive Vice President and General Manager, Security Technology Group, Akamai*

Student Speaker

Alanna Pasco

Student Awards

Khoury Oath

Elizabeth Mynatt, *Dean of Khoury College of Computer Sciences*
Benjamin Hescott, *Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience*

Announcement of the Candidates

Benjamin Hescott, *Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience*

Charge to Graduates

Benjamin Hescott, *Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience*

CEREMONY SPEAKERS

Elizabeth Mynatt

Dean of Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Elizabeth Mynatt joined Northeastern University in January 2022 after a 23-year career at Georgia Institute of Technology, where she most recently served as Regents' and Distinguished Professor in the College of Computing and executive director of the Institute of People and Technology.

Mynatt is an internationally recognized expert in the areas of ubiquitous computing and assistive technologies. Her research contributes to ongoing advances in personal health informatics, computer-supported collaborative work, and human-centered computing.

Mynatt is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, recognized for exceptional computing community leadership and for distinguished leadership and contributions to human-centered computing, with a focus on assistive technologies, wellness, and health. She is also a Fellow of the Association of Computing Machinery for contributions to human-centered computing and the development of health information technologies.

Benjamin Hescott

Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience

Benjamin Hescott is a teaching professor in the Khoury College of Computer Sciences and the Senior Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Student Experience. His research interests include computational complexity, approximation algorithms, and computational biology.

Hescott has a passion for making computer science and programming accessible to all. His teaching, mentoring, and broadening participation efforts have been recognized by many awards throughout his career, including the IEEE Computer Society Computer Science and Engineering Undergraduate Teaching Award.

Mani Sundaram

Keynote Speaker

Mani Sundaram is executive vice president and general manager of Akamai's Security Technology Group. From the company's global headquarters in Cambridge, Massachusetts, he oversees strategy and product direction for Akamai's security solutions and is responsible for the business unit's core functions of engineering, product development, and product management. He also oversees Akamai's internal Information Security organization.

Through his many roles at Akamai, Sundaram has built a depth and breadth of technical knowledge and a unique understanding of customers' needs within the fast-growing security landscape. He is responsible for guiding Akamai's next phase of innovation and growth in security. He's driving driving the company's position as the market leader in distributed denial-of-service attack prevention, web application and API protection, and bot management. He also focuses on new solutions in Zero Trust Network Access, multi-factor authentication, secure web gateway, and Zero Trust segmentation. Sundaram previously served as Akamai's chief information officer, leading the company's Global Services (customer success, professional services, support services), Information Technology, and Information Security organizations. He joined Akamai in 2007 as an architect in Professional Services, consulting with large media businesses and was instrumental in creating a new services and support paradigm for managing some of the largest online events in the world. He also assimilated Akamai's services teams around the world into a single global organization, helping to establish Akamai as a leading security provider.

Prior to Akamai, he worked in various roles in engineering, marketing, and client services at Virtify Inc. and Stratus Technologies.

Sundaram earned a master's degree in computer science from Northeastern University, a bachelor's degree in information systems from BITS Pilani, in India, and completed the Certificate of Special Studies in Administration and Management from Harvard University Extension School.

Alanna Pasco

Student Speaker

Alanna is a Boston local and Double Husky graduating from Khoury College's Align MSCS program. As an undergrad at Northeastern, Alanna studied international affairs, during which she served as a student leader on an international Dialogue of Civilizations program, and co-oped with the United Nations Refugee Agency in Jordan. During her time at Khoury College, she served as treasurer of the Khoury Master's Student Council and dedicated this past year to building equitable K-12 computer science programs as a Microsoft TEALS volunteer, where she supports teaching AP Computer Science at her former high school.

STUDENT AWARDS

Khoury Community Service Award

Kristine Umeh, MS, Computer Science

Khoury Teaching Award

Haotian Shen, MS, Computer Science

Khoury Research Award

Sumukh Vasisht Shankar, MS, Data Science

Huntington 100

Kriston Barnes, MS, Computer Science

Satwik Kamarthi, MS, Artificial Intelligence

PROGRAM NOTES

Celebrating Khoury College's 40th Anniversary

As one of the first colleges of computer science, the 2022-2023 academic year marks Khoury College's 40th anniversary. In the world of computer science, 40 years is a lifetime, since so much has changed and evolved in the field during this time.

"The decisions made by Northeastern and Khoury College have allowed us to become one of the first standalone colleges of computer science, to chart a path with combined majors, to span the global network," Dean Elizabeth Mynatt said at the college's 40th anniversary launch celebration this past fall. "Whenever possible, we've taken the nontraditional, the strategic, the visionary route."

When Northeastern carved out the College of Computer Science from existing colleges in 1982, few universities offered undergraduate CS degrees, let alone graduate degrees or dedicated programs. The college began with 11 (mostly math) professors and immediately began to build both its reputation and its undergraduate and eventually graduate ranks.

From its early years, a hallmark of the college has been its co-op program and combined majors. Khoury College now collaborates with 805 co-op partners and offers 43 combined computing majors, more than one fifth of Northeastern's total and more than double the next-closest university.

In 2018, Amin Khoury endowed the college, known since 2002 as the College of Computer and Information Science, with a \$50 million naming gift. In the years since, the Khoury College of Computer Sciences has established itself as the fastest-growing CS college in the country, with 7,600 enrolled students and more than 11,000 alumni. The college offers its programs at 14 campuses from Seattle to Boston to London, with more on the horizon. As it expands its reach and research activities, Khoury College remains steadfast in its mission of making CS accessible and available to all.

Khoury College Oath for Computing

Today, I join the ranks of computer scientists worldwide.

I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings.

I will design and build computing systems that enhance the quality of daily life for individuals and for society.

I will protect the dignity of users and others affected by computing systems, respecting the diversity of all cultures and safeguarding against threats to health and safety.

I will respect the privacy and rights of all people and recognize the special role I have in judiciously collecting, storing and using their information, and creating systems that aim to shape their behavior.

I will work for fair wages, honorably guarding my reputation and my colleagues in our work practices while respecting the intellectual contributions of others.

I will improve the public understanding of computing and its consequences.

May I always act to preserve the finest traditions of my field, and may I long experience the joy of inventing the future through my endeavors.

Historical Notes on Academic Dress

Academic dress appears to have originated at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge more than 600 years ago, and to this day, the most colorful gowns in the world are those worn at Oxford functions. European institutions show great diversity in their academic regalia, since each adopted or initiated its own dress. In contrast, American colleges and universities follow a single system of academic apparel. In 1894, a group of leading American educators met to draft guidelines on apparel, known as the Intercollegiate Code, which were adopted the following year and amended slightly in 1932.

The distinctions set up by the Intercollegiate Code are simple. Gowns for the bachelor's degree are to be fashioned from "worsted stuff" with a yoke, pleated front, and intricate shirring across the shoulders and back. Worn closed, the bachelor's gown is distinguished primarily by its long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown has the same yoke effect and long, crescent-shaped sleeves; it may be worn open or closed. The doctor's gown, which may also be worn open or closed, has velvet panels draped around the neck. Three horizontal velvet bars are stitched on full bell-shaped sleeves. This velvet trimming may be black or in the color that indicates the field of study to which the degree refers.

Northeastern University's distinctive doctoral gown is crimson with black velvet panels and sleeve bars. The crimson cap, or mortarboard, bears a gold metallic tassel. In accordance with academic custom, recipients of the doctor's degree, members of the university's governing boards, and government officials in the procession are entitled to wear the official regalia. The bachelor's and master's hoods have a similar shape, while the doctor's hood has a rounded base. The length of the hood indicates the level of academic achievement, with the doctor's hood being longest; the width of the border distinguishes the degree, with the doctor's being widest. The color of the border indicates the field of study; the lining color indicates the institution conferring the degree.

At Northeastern, where only the master's and doctor's hoods are worn, a black chevron on a crimson background is used for the lining. When colors were first assigned to signify a particular field of study, historical associations were retained as much as possible. For example, white, for arts, refers to the white fur edging of the Oxford hood; red, for theology, to the traditional color of the church; and green, for medicine, to the color of herbs. The tassel on the mortarboard may be black or in a color that indicates the graduate's major field of study.

Graduate names will be listed on the university-wide programs on May 7, 2023.