Service Statement

Service Philosophy

A key motivator for my service is out of a sense of responsibility to play a role in running the institutions that are part of my professional life. After obtaining tenure I significantly increased my role in service positions in order to do my part in the functioning of my department, college, university, professional organizations, and the federal government. I have also been fortunate to be able to participate in leadership roles. In these roles I have tried to go beyond maintaining existing processes by working on making improvements. In doing so, I have had to learn new sets of skills to strategically analyze situations, make plans, implement best practices, and evaluate outcomes. Given my experiences, I believe I am ready to contribute at higher levels of responsibility both in academic and professional roles.

University Service

My most involved role at the University so far has been in running the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Informatics (IGPI). In 2015 I inherited a 10-year-old program that would for four years be under the Iowa Informatics Initiative (UI3), part of a University cluster initiative. With the support of one administrative staff person who also managed all of UI3 and $4,000 a year I implemented a series of changes to strengthen the program, including having formal annual student reviews, with students receiving letters with clear expectations, professional training workshops for students, and a regular series of faculty talks. Four years later the program had grown more than 35% (almost half of the students being female), we had graduated more PhD students than in the previous 10 years, and significantly lowered time-to-degree (TTD) (e.g., TTD for 2019 PhD graduates <= 5 years, TTD for 2014 PhD graduates averaged 7 years). In the meantime, I also led the program's self-study, received an external review, and put together a strategic plan based on recommendations from the review and faculty input. After the University decided to end UI3 for reasons unrelated to IGPI in the summer of 2019, the program spent about two years in limbo without a physical location or staff and without clarity on whether it would continue. The program is now managed by the Department of Computer Science where I now oversee it as Director of Graduate Studies. Since then, I led a complete rewrite of the program's Policies and Procedures and made significant changes to its degree structure in order to simplify the program, provide clarity to students, and add flexibility to the PhD program.

In terms of service fully within the Department of Computer Science I have been in the Undergraduate Informatics Committee, helping make decisions on our undergraduate informatics degree since 2018. The most important aspect of this role was leading a redesign of the undergraduate informatics curriculum, which went into effect in the Fall of 2021. This redesign was motivated by identifying weaknesses in our prior curriculum and involved developing learning objectives and mapping them to a redesigned set of courses, which we expect will make the program more attractive to students, and its graduates more attractive to potential employers and better prepared for graduate school.

Another significant effort within the Department was in facilitating the development of its Strategic Plan. This process occurred during the 2019-20 academic year and involved facilitating

sessions in faculty meetings to identify current strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, analyzing these, and developing a plan based on the analysis. The process took several faculty meetings and iterations.

In the summer and fall of 2020, together with a colleague and the Department's Executive Officer, I developed the Department's Broadening Participation in Computing Plan, which was verified by the Computing Research Association (CRA). It was among the first 20 plans to be verified across the country. Developing the plan involved training from the CRA, data gathering and analysis, and feedback from departmental faculty and mentors from institutions that already had a plan.

In terms of service to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, my most recent contribution was being a member of the Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee during the spring of 2021 semester. Previously, I served in the College's Faculty Assembly (2012-15), reviewed student technology fee proposals (2015-16), and was a member of the review committee for the Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (2015).

At the University level, I have served in various capacities at the Obermann Center and the Delta Center, two units that support interdisciplinary research on campus.

Service to Profession

The bulk of my service to the profession has been directed at two conferences in my field: Interaction Design and Children (IDC) (the premier conference on child-computer interaction), and CHI (the most prestigious human-computer interaction conference). For IDC, I was Papers Chair in 2003, Papers Co-Chair in 2004, Workshops Co-Chair in 2008 and 2011, Co-Chair in 2013, Steering Committee Chair in 2014-15 when I helped transition the conference to be sponsored by ACM SIGCHI, and Doctoral Consortium Co-Chair in 2016-17 and 2022. For CHI, I was Subcommittee Co-Chair in 2012-13 and Papers Co-Chair in 2016-17. The work as Papers Co-Chair for CHI was quite significant in that it involved managing the review of thousands of submissions, working with the rest of conference leadership, dozens of subcommittee chairs, and hundreds of associate chairs who recruited all reviewers. In 2021, I was Program Co-Chair for CLIHC, the Latin American Conference on Human-Computer Interaction.

I have also contributed to professional journals and magazines, being an Editorial Board member for *Interacting with Computers* since 2009 and for the *International Journal of Child-Computer Interaction* since its inception in 2013. Between 2011 and 2020 I edited the *Universal Interactions* forum for ACM SIGCHI's *interactions* magazine.

Besides reviewing for numerous conferences and journals I have also been in National Science Foundation panels and have contributed as a reviewer for Ford Foundation Fellowships under the National Academies.

At the Federal level, I served for six years (2015-21) as a member of the US Census Bureau's Scientific Advisory Committee, delivering recommendations to the Census Bureau twice a year, one set of which were cited in an important US Supreme Court majority opinion (DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE ET AL. *v.* NEW YORK ET AL., decided June 27, 2019).