# iSchool Assembly

# Friday, September 4, 2020, 9:30 AM – 11:20 AM

# Online (Zoom)

**Preliminaries**

* Call to order
* Review and approval of minutes from May:   
  <https://internal.ischool.umd.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Assembly_05012020_Minutes.docx>
  + Motion: Bill Kules
  + Second: Vedat Diker
* Review and approval of this agenda
  + Motion: Vedat Diker
  + Second: Bill Kules

**Assembly Items**

1. *Dean’s Update [Keith]*

* Welcome!
* Register to vote – we’re using some of our Ambassadors to help with the voting process [Go to <https://elections.maryland.gov> to register for a mail-in/absentee ballot]
* Welcome to our new folks: Corie Brown; Jane Njihia; Joseph Ramsey; Jillian Scarson; Christopher Tang; Jason Baron; Diana Marsh; Ryan O’Grady; Victoria Van Hyning
* If you’re going to come to campus, you need to watch a video, and get tested and upload results, and register and say that you have been symptom-free for 14 days
  + iSchool Campus Visit Form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdU3UsaztGihw10v8nXo3xOM9gxsidMdbXL6_BKvHaO98NshQ/viewform>
  + More information about the College processes: <https://ischool.umd.edu/coronavirus>
* We’ll be starting the iSchool Service Center this Thursday so we have a physical presence on campus. We’ll have two people in the undergraduate suite in Hornbake North. There’ll be a buzzer that students will need to ring and masks will be required of all. Thanks, everyone, for volunteering to serve on the desk. We believe we have 7 iSchool students in the dorms, so our Service Center isn’t likely to be very busy.
* We have a designated iSchool contact tracing liaison, Kate Izsak. Please let Kate know if you’ve been diagnosed with COVID-19. You need to let both the university and us (Kate) know if you have been diagnosed with coronavirus.
* Other changes:
  + We have a new University president, Darryll Pines: He wants to know what we’re doing and what our goals are. We’re preparing a report for him. We have a section on what we’re doing on inclusion and diversity. Keith will email us a draft pdf in the iSchool update today.
  + Melekte will be going down to three-quarters time for family reasons temporarily. Please let us know if you have similar demands in your lives.
  + Due to family reasons, Amanda Lazar is going to be working remotely for the indefinite future.
* Melekte will be doing a town hall meeting on our budget – we are in an interesting financial situation. FY2021 is looking pretty good. We have a growth in personnel, but not a growth in funding. We’re trying to take actions now to improve our future budgets. [See Keith’s slides for more information on the budgets]. We’ll update you at least twice a year.
* We ran a few virtual panels over the Summer and many people attended. The next one will be 9/23, moderated by Jen, with panelists Amanda, Eun-Shim Nahm, and Galina: *engaged: Considering Technology and Access for Older Adults*.

1. *Introduction: Brooke Fisher, ADVANCE Professor*

* Brooke is our ADVANCE professor for a second year
* She has been at the University for 11 years and has advanced along the ranks from Assistant to Full Professor
* I’m here to help any faculty with any support areas you may need
* I connect you with the larger ADVANCE program on campus
* I encourage you to take advantage of our resources on campus
* I’ve been arranging brown bag seminars for iSchool folks
* I’ll be sending out a survey to faculty to get your feedback
* We’ll hold more brown bags on Zoom
* My research area is crisis communication so I have some insight on the current situation ☺
* Brooke Liu, [bfliu@umd.edu](mailto:bfliu@umd.edu); <https://www.advance.umd.edu/>

1. *Shady Grove undergraduate minors [Galina/Tetyana]* [see slides for more info]

* We’ve been thinking about two additional minors:
  + Risk Management, Ethics and Privacy
  + Technology Innovation & Social Entrepreneurship
* We feel these would fit nicely into our existing curriculum and help with recruitment
* We’d really appreciate your feedback on these!
* Interested in working with us to develop the courses?
* We’ll share our Google Sheet that we’ve drafted: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pumms0ve2AWZkgz9qffx0y8g44w3xL0LIGPgYtDk82M/edit?usp=sharing>
* We would love to hear from you!

1. *Journalism/iSchool “data journalism” professional master’s program [David L.]* [see slides for more info]

* Increasing adoption of data journalism
* Master of Professional Studies (MPS) in Data Journalism (partnership between the iSchool and Philip Merrill College of Journalism)
* Data Storytelling
* Two-year fully online program (30 credits)
* Please provide feedback about market demand, opportunities to improve the proposed course outline, opportunities for capstone projects, internships, and employment opportunities
* Help us network
* Actively participate: Recommend individuals for an advisory board and/or teach a class!
* We’re putting together a draft of the proposal – you’ll be hearing more about it.
* Please help us to make this the best data journalism program!
* Questions: [dloshin@umd.edu](mailto:dloshin@umd.edu)

1. *Social Data Science Center at UMD (SoDa) Launch [Brian B. / Katie S.]* [see slides for more info]

* We’ve been doing a soft launch for two years – formal launch will be at the end of this month
* This has now been set up as a formal center by the University
* We have three years of funding
* You can get more involved if you’re interested
* Website: <https://socialdatascience.umd.edu/>
* Basic premise: Increasingly dependent on data about humans and human behavior
* Different ethical, sampling, etc. issues when you’re collecting data about humans
* We need advances in data and measurement to deal with these challenges
* Data about humans is critical, special, and requires advances in research
* Survey methodology; Data & measurement; Information and data management; Data visualization; Data analytics; etc.
* We have an inaugural set of faculty from JPSM, Sociology, Economics, Mathematics; Epidemiology/Biostats; iSchool; UMIACS
* Let Brian know if you’d like to be an affiliate of the Center
* Center will focus on data-intensive social science
* Research incubator: Develop major grant proposals; Seed grants; Seminars, workshops, & conferences; Training modules – contact Katie Shilton if you’re interested!
* Reading group; Talk series; Other ideas?
* There will be calls for participation in projects
* There’s some funds available for seed grants – we want to encourage collaboration
* Academic programs: Degree and non-degree offerings; Onsite and online programs; Graduate and undergraduate degrees
* BS in Social Data Science, joint program with JPSM and four other departments in BSOS – this will come to Assembly in the Fall or early Spring. Will blend work in social sciences, information science, and data analytics.
* Formal launch events toward the end of the month – see: <https://socialdatascience.umd.edu/events/>
* There’s a stream of funding from Facebook
* We’re looking for folks who are excited about this topic
* Email Brian ([bsbutler@umd.edu](mailto:bsbutler@umd.edu)) if you’d like to get involved

1. Future of Work @ the iSchool Working Group Updates [Sarah Grun]

* Working group members: Sarah, Beth B., Joan, Niklas, Mia, Allan, Cece, Ron, Mega, Jeff, & Kathy
* Increase the effectiveness of how we work in the iSchool
* Remote work, on campus work, facilities management
* Listening sessions coming soon
* Faculty and staff survey coming soon
* Reach out to any working group member with thoughts, questions, ideas
* Information will be treated as anonymous

1. Summer anti-racist efforts in iSchool [Bill]

* The killing of George Floyd sparked a lot of discussion and prompted two things in the iSchool:
* 1) Priya started an anti-racism reading group over the summer. About 15 to 20 students, faculty, and staff participated in the 10-week program.
  + The syllabus Priya developed (and to which participants added) is online: <https://go.umd.edu/iSchool-Antiracism-Syllabus>. There are also weekly notes available: <https://go.umd.edu/iSchool-Antiracism-Notes>
  + We talked about a work of art and readings each week.
  + Three of our sessions were led by participants.
  + Next steps: Let’s talk! [Some possibilities: 1-credit course; faculty workshops, in coordination with ARTS]
* 2) Bill started the Anti-Racist Teaching Seminar (ARTS), a 10-week program attended by 15 to 20 participants
* Facilitated by Bill, Tammy, Eric Hung, and incoming doctoral student Nisa Asgarali-Hoffman
* We had about 18 course initiatives where people were working on this
* Fall Plans: We are going to run monthly workshops and present 2 to 3 iSchool-wide webinars [Impacting the iSchool Curriculum with ARTS; Facilitating classroom conversations (with ODI)].
* ODI sessions: September 14th at noon and September 15th at 3:00 PM; They’re also planning to put out a set of recorded lectures about facilitating these conversations.
* New ideas and participants are invited! If you’re interested, please reach out to Bill or any of the other facilitators.
* Nisa is launching the iSchool Graduate Student of Color Collective (iSGSOCC) – a supportive space for graduate students of color at the iSchool. Contact Nisa ([sasgara1@umd.edu](mailto:sasgara1@umd.edu)) for more information!

1. WAYWO: What are You Working On [Sarah Grun/Katrina]

* WAYWO team:
  + Co-Chairs: Katrina Felon & Caro Williams-Pierce
  + Members: Sarah Grun, Galina Madjaroff, Susannah Paletz, and Michelle Simon
* Goal: Connecting with each other and being aware of what each other are working on
* Two-pronged approach:
  + Flavor 1: Lunch Bunch Ask Me Anything (no preparation allowed – just 2 to 5 minutes off the cuff “about me” and then ask them anything)
  + Flavor 2: Lunch Bunch Lightning Talks (prepare a max. of 5 slides)
* We’re also going to slowly infuse Flipgrid (<https://flipgrid.com/79cec050>), an asynchronous video communication platform (“Tiktok for schools”) with time limits – e.g., 2 minutes max per video
* Examples: Jonathan Lazar; Sarah Grun
* You’re going to get an email soon asking you to sign up

1. Announcements

* Doug: We had the Adjunct Orientation last Thursday – they asked if we could do this more often. We’re going to be doing a cocktail hour on the first Friday of each month. The adjuncts invite the entire faculty so we all can meet together. We’ll be sending out an announcement.
* Bill: The iConsultancy finds MIM, HCIM, InfoSci projects – it has gone very well. We have one glitch – a client just dropped out at the last minute. You can get the services of a team of students over the next academic year, particularly with in-depth research and product design support. Let me know if you or any of your colleagues could use this support.
* Susan: RIGs (Research Improvement Grants) proposals are due September 15th. (<https://internal.ischool.umd.edu/research/research-improvement-grants/>)
* Sarah: We have another iSchool Friday Lunch today – hope to see you there!

# Adjourn:

* Motion: Vedat Diker
* Second: Tammy Clegg

**In attendance:**

| **#** | **Last Name** | **First Name** | **Present?** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Adle | Morgan |  |
| 2 | Ai | Wei | Yes |
| 3 | Allen | Naielia | Yes |
| 4 | Amamcherla | Sravya |  |
| 5 | Antoun | Chris |  |
| 6 | Aragon | Claudia | Yes |
| 7 | Armstrong | Jackie | Yes |
| 8 | Baron | Jason | Yes |
| 9 | Baugh | Dave | Yes |
| 10 | Bezbabna | Tetyana | Yes |
| 11 | Bonsignore | Beth | Yes |
| 12 | Boston | Carol | Yes |
| 13 | Botlero | Lucinda |  |
| 14 | Boyd-Graber | Jordan | Yes |
| 15 | Brown | Corie | Yes |
| 16 | Butler | Brian | Yes |
| 17 | Campbell | Susan | Yes |
| 18 | Chan | Joel | Yes |
| 19 | Choe | Eun Kyoung | Yes |
| 20 | Christian-Lamb | Caitlin | Yes |
| 21 | Christopher | Dan |  |
| 22 | Clegg | Tammy | Yes |
| 23 | Cole | Joan | Yes |
| 24 | Cortes | Luis | Yes |
| 25 | Dacquisto | Emily | Yes |
| 26 | Dibert | Noah | Yes |
| 27 | Diker | Vedat | Yes |
| 28 | Domingo | Beth | Yes |
| 29 | Duffy | Pam | Yes |
| 30 | Elmqvist | Niklas |  |
| 31 | Faccio | Fabian | Yes |
| 32 | Fellows | Andy | Yes |
| 33 | Fenlon | Katrina | Yes |
| 34 | Fotouhi | Babak | Yes |
| 35 | Frias-Martinez | Vanessa |  |
| 36 | Gao | Ge |  |
| 37 | Geraghty | Lisa |  |
| 38 | Gilbert | Sarah | Yes |
| 39 | Gill | Marybeth |  |
| 40 | Golbeck | Jen |  |
| 41 | Gorham | Ursula | Yes |
| 42 | Greenberg | Steve |  |
| 43 | Greene | Dan | Yes |
| 44 | Grun | Sarah | Yes |
| 45 | Harry | Charlie | Yes |
| 46 | Hassan | Naeemul |  |
| 47 | Heidenblad | Donal | Yes |
| 48 | Henderson | Kibbi |  |
| 49 | Hill | Renee | Yes |
| 50 | Hinckle | Mia | Yes |
| 51 | Hung | Eric | Yes |
| 52 | Izsak | Kate | Yes |
| 53 | Jaeger | Paul |  |
| 54 | Janzen | Shawn | Yes |
| 55 | Johnson | Liv (Celeste) |  |
| 56 | Jordan | J. Bern | Yes |
| 57 | Kacorri | Hernisa | Yes |
| 58 | Kraus | Kari | Yes |
| 59 | Kules | Bill | Yes |
| 60 | Kumar | Priya | Yes |
| 61 | Lawley | Katy | Yes |
| 62 | Lazar | Amanda | Yes |
| 63 | Lazar | Jonathan | Yes |
| 64 | Le | Eric | Yes |
| 65 | Leitch | Alex | Yes |
| 66 | Lin | Yen | Yes |
| 67 | Loshin | David | Yes |
| 68 | Lutters | Wayne | Yes |
| 69 | Marciano | Fernando | Yes |
| 70 | Marciano | Richard |  |
| 71 | Marsh | Diana | Yes |
| 72 | Marzullo | Keith | Yes |
| 73 | Mason | Daisy |  |
| 74 | McGuire | Kevin | Yes |
| 75 | Mealo-Wentz | Jo Anne |  |
| 76 | Mohamed | Abdirisak | Yes |
| 77 | Muppalla | Naga | Yes |
| 78 | Napier | David |  |
| 79 | Ndumu | Ana | Yes |
| 80 | Njihia | Jane | Yes |
| 81 | Nnamdi | Ezeigwe | Yes |
| 82 | O’Grady | Ryan | Yes |
| 83 | Oard | Doug | Yes |
| 84 | Oliveros | Allan | Yes |
| 85 | Padron | Ron | Yes |
| 86 | Paletz | Susannah | Yes |
| 87 | Patrick | David | Yes |
| 88 | Penn-Diallo | Cecelia | Yes |
| 89 | Pietrucha | Nicole | Yes |
| 90 | Piety | Phil | Yes |
| 91 | Ramsey | Joe | Yes |
| 92 | Reitz | Galina | Yes |
| 93 | Robinson | Rochelle | Yes |
| 94 | Roderer | Nancy | Yes |
| 95 | Ruiz | Francisco | Yes |
| 96 | Sanchez | Claudia | Yes |
| 97 | Sauter | Mols |  |
| 98 | Scarson | Jillian | Yes |
| 99 | Sherren | Joseph | Yes |
| 100 | Shilton | Katie | Yes |
| 101 | Simon | Michelle | Yes |
| 102 | Skakun | Sergii | Yes |
| 103 | Smith | Dustin | Yes |
| 104 | St. Jean | Beth | Yes |
| 105 | Stilwell | Joana | Yes |
| 106 | Subramaniam | Mega | Yes |
| 107 | Surla | Stacy |  |
| 108 | Tang | Christopher | Yes |
| 109 | Tausczik | Yla |  |
| 110 | Taylor | Craig | Yes |
| 111 | Truneh | Melekte | Yes |
| 112 | Van Hyning | Victoria | Yes |
| 113 | Vanderheiden | Gregg | Yes |
| 114 | Vitak | Jessica | Yes |
| 115 | Wang | Ping | Yes |
| 116 | Waters | Jeff | Yes |
| 117 | Weaver | Kathy | Yes |
| 118 | Weintrop | David | Yes |
| 119 | Williams-Pierce | Caro | Yes |
| 120 | Winter | Susan | Yes |