



Presents

Grace Series Talk

Grace Series Talks are Empowerment Talks for Grad and Undergrad Students in Computer Science and Software Engineering

Tuesday, February 19, 2019
7pm – 8pm
Location: Osborne Conference Room
ECSS 3.503



Self-Determination

By: **Dr. Sydeaka Watson**

Korelasi Data Insights, L.L.C.

Others will often impose their own limited characterizations of who we are and what we are capable of. “They” might say we aren’t good enough, smart enough, loud enough, quiet enough, or (insert your favorite negative characteristic here) enough to reach our highest potential. When we allow these lies to become our truths, we underestimate ourselves, allowing doubt to steer us away from opportunities that could challenge us to soar. It’s up to us to re-write the narrative that defines who we are and the power that lies within us.

Dr. Sydeaka Watson is a Senior Data Scientist at Korelasi Data Insights, L.L.C., an independent analytics consulting company. She earned a Ph.D. in Statistics from Baylor University and has several years of teaching experience at various colleges and universities. In her 5 years as Research Assistant Professor in The University of Chicago Biostatistics Laboratory, she consulted with over 110 biomedical research teams in The University of Chicago Medical Center, specializing in experimental design of clinical research studies and data analytics. Her current research projects focus on artificial intelligence applications, including computer vision.

Dr. Watson previously served as chairperson of the American Statistical Association (ASA) Committee on Minorities in Statistics (2013-2015). She was co-PI of National Science Foundation and National Security Agency grant awards to fund the ASA Committee on Minorities in Statistics Diversity Workshop and Mentoring Program. Sydeaka also volunteers in the Dallas chapters of Girls Who Code and Black Girls Code.

***Free Food *Prizes**

CONTACTS are Computer Science Faculty:

Dr. Pushpa Kumar and Dr. Janell Straach

