USC Viterbi

School of Engineering
Thomas Lord Department of Computer Science

A New Era, A New Name

Almost 50 years since its founding in 1976, computer science at the University of Southern California (USC) has marked a new era with a new name: the **Thomas Lord Department of Computer Science**.

The naming gift is part of the Frontiers of Computing, the largest and most comprehensive academic initiative in the university's history.

More Than a Building

The department will be housed in **a new centralized hub for computer science at USC**, the Dr. Allen and Charlotte Ginsburg Human-Centered Computation Hall, expected to open in spring 2024.

The gift also supports a new chair, the Donald M. Alstadt Chair of Advanced Computing, awarded to **Gaurav Sukhatme**.

Faculty Research Highlights

Supported by a $1.9M grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), researchers from Kaiser Permanente and **Bistra Dilkina** are using machine learning to better understand the risks of early substance use in youth populations.

A team of researchers led by **Maja Matarić** was awarded a National Science Foundation (NSF) Convergence Accelerator grant to create inclusive coding technology for people with disabilities.

Lars Lindemann and **Souti Chattopadhyay** are building trustworthy AI-based code generation, funded by the USC + Amazon Center for Secure and Trusted Machine Learning.

Jyo Deshmukh received a University Research Program grant from Ford Motors for monitoring learning-enabled components in cyber-physical systems.

Recent Faculty Accolades

Maja Matarić
American Academy of Arts and Sciences

Nenad Medvidović
University of California, Irvine, Information and Computer Sciences Hall of Fame

Xiang Ren
Okawa Foundation Research Grant Award

Vatsal Sharan
NSF CAREER Award, "Computational Foundations of Modern Machine Learning"

Swabha Swayamdipta
Intel Rising Star Award, Allen Institute for AI Young Investigators Award

By The Numbers

FACULTY AND RESEARCH

$34M+
in research expenditures*

$19M+
in research proposals requested

93
full-time faculty

50
full-time tenure-track faculty

21
new full-time faculty hired since 2022

6
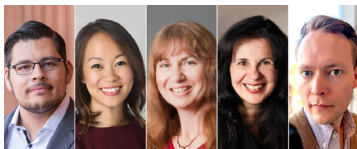members of the National Academy of Engineering

2
members of the National Academy of Sciences

1
Turing Award Winner

ENROLLMENT

1,800
undergraduate students

3,600
master's students

400
doctoral students

40% of undergraduate students identify as female

TEN NEW TENURE-TRACK FACULTY

Erdem Bıyık
Assistant Professor
Robot learning, human-robot interaction, multi-agent systems

Ruishan Liu
Assistant Professor
Machine learning for healthcare and biomedicine

Evi Micha
Assistant Professor
Algorithmic fairness and computational social choice

Willie Neiswanger
Assistant Professor
Machine learning, AI for science, optimization

Seo Jin Park
Assistant Professor
Parallel computing

Ibrahim Sabek
Assistant Professor
Machine learning for data-intensive systems

Daniel Seita
Assistant Professor
Robotics, computer vision, machine learning

Yue Wang
Assistant Professor
Computer vision, computer graphics, robotics

Jieyu Zhao
Assistant Professor
Machine learning, natural language processing

Yue Zhao
Assistant Professor
Machine learning and data mining

*Includes expenditures incurred by computer science faculty at the Information Sciences Insititute and the Institute for Creative Technologies