

OLIVER ALONZO

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EDUCATION

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York GPA: 3.97
Ph.D. Computing and Information Sciences, Expected 2023
Advisor: Matt Huenerfauth, Ph.D.

Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska GPA: 4.00
B.S. Computer Science & Informatics, May 2018
Minors: Graphic Design & Media, Musical Theatre

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant August 2018 – Present
Center for Accessibility and Inclusion Research (CAIR)

- Conduct research on human-computer interaction and accessibility focused on the human-centered design of AI-powered technologies, including reading assistance tools based on automatic text simplification to support Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing adults
- Design, conduct and analyze research studies employing a variety of methods including surveys, interviews and focus groups, as well as usability and methodological studies
- Develop dissemination plans and author technical papers for publication at conferences and journals relevant to human-computer interaction and accessibility

HCI Research Intern May 2021 – August 2021
Adobe Research

- Designed and conducted a study investigating the interests, needs and preferences of Deaf and Hard-of-hearing adults for the inclusion of non-speech sounds in automatic captioning
- Developed a prototype to include non-speech sounds when captioning online videos using AI-based sound detection tools, and evaluated it through a study with hearing video creators
- Presented the research findings to various teams across the organization and authored a technical paper for submission to an academic conference

UX Research Intern May 2020 – August 2020
Facebook Inc.

- Conducted a literature review to inform the design of prototypes developed in collaboration with a cross-functional team of researchers, product designers and content strategists
- Designed and conducted a prototype study, presenting and distributing findings to key stakeholders in the team, and to other teams who could benefit from the findings
- Recommended actionable product changes and future research to measure the impact of the recommendations as well as to expand the findings

PEER-REFEREED CONFERENCE PAPERS

- [C.1] **Oliver Alonzo**, Jessica Trussell, Matthew Watkins, Sooyeon Lee, Matt Huenerfauth. 2022. "Methods for Evaluating the Fluency of Automatically Simplified Texts with Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Adults at Various Literacy Levels." In *Proceedings of the 2022 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'22)*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. *Conference acceptance rate of 25%*
- [C.2] **Oliver Alonzo**, Jessica Trussell, Becca Dingman, Matt Huenerfauth. 2021. "Comparison of Methods for Evaluating Complexity of Simplified Texts among Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Adults at Different Literacy Levels." In *Proceedings of the 2021 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'21)*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. *Conference acceptance rate of 26%*

- [C.3] **Oliver Alonzo**, Lisa Elliot, Becca Dingman, Matt Huenerfauth. 2020. "Reading Experiences and Interest in Reading-Assistance Tools Among Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Computing Professionals." In *Proceedings of the 22nd International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS '20)*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. *Conference acceptance rate of 28%*
- [C.4] **Oliver Alonzo**, Matthew Seita, Abraham Glasser, Matt Huenerfauth. 2020. "Automatic Text Simplification Tools for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adults: Benefits of Lexical Simplification and Providing Users with Autonomy." In *Proceedings of the 2020 ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'20)*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. *Conference acceptance rate of 25%*
- [C.5] **Oliver Alonzo**, Abraham Glasser and Matt Huenerfauth. 2019. "Effect of Automatic Sign Recognition Performance on the Usability of Video-Based Search Interfaces for Sign Language Dictionaries." In *Proceedings of the 21st International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS '19)*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. *Conference acceptance rate of 26%*

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- [J.1] **Oliver Alonzo**, Lisa Elliot, Becca Dingman, Sooyeon Lee, Akhter Al Amin, and Matt Huenerfauth. 2022 (to appear). "Reading-Assistance Tools Among Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Computing Professionals in the U.S.: Their Reading Experiences, Interests and Perceptions of Social Accessibility." *ACM Transactions on Accessible Computing*.
- [J.2] Saad Hassan, **Oliver Alonzo**, Abraham Glasser, and Matt Huenerfauth. 2021. "Effect of Sign-recognition Performance on the Usability of Sign-language Dictionary Search." *ACM Transactions on Accessible Computing* 14, 4, Article 18 (December 2021).

BOOK CHAPTERS

- [B.1] Peter Yeung, **Oliver Alonzo**, Matt Huenerfauth. 2020. "Interest and Requirements for Sound- Awareness Technologies among Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Users of Assistive Listening Devices." *Universal Access in Human-Computer Interaction. HCII 2020. Lecture Notes in Computer Science*. Springer, Cham. (Peer-reviewed conference paper, published as book chapter)

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

- [P.1] **Oliver Alonzo**. The Use of Automatic Text Simplification to Provide Reading Assistance to Deaf and Hard-of-hearing Individuals in Computing Fields. ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS'21), Doctoral Consortium. October 2021.
- [P.2] **Oliver Alonzo**, Matthew Seita, Abraham Glasser, Matt Huenerfauth. Automatic Text Simplification Tools for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adults. CRA Grad Cohort Workshop for Underrepresented Minorities + Persons with Disabilities (URMD), March 2020.
- [P.3] **Oliver Alonzo**, Matthew Seita, Abraham Glasser, Matt Huenerfauth. 2019. Automatic Text-Simplification Tools to Provide Reading Assistance for People who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing in Computing Fields. RIT Graduate Education Week Showcase, November 2019.
- [P.4] **Oliver Alonzo**. Reading-Assistance Tools for Self-Directed Learning by Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Computing Workers. Computing Research Association (CRA) Grad Cohort Workshop for Underrepresented Minorities + Persons with Disabilities (URMD), March 2019.
- [P.5] **Oliver Alonzo**, Abraham Glasser, Peter Yeung, Matt Huenerfauth. 2018. Investigating Reading-Assistance Tools for Self-Directed Learning by Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Computing Workers. RIT Graduate Education Week Showcase, November 2018.
- [P.6] **Oliver Alonzo**, Abraham Glasser, Peter Yeung, Matt Huenerfauth. 2018. Investigating Reading-Assistance Tools for Self-Directed Learning by Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Computing Workers. AI@GCCIS: Golisano College Research & Innovation Showcase, October 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor – Foundations of Human-Computer Interaction January 2021 – May 2021
Rochester Institute of Technology

Teaching Apprentice – Mobile App Development January 2018 – May 2018
Creighton University

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Technical Paper Reviewer 2021
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'22)

Technical Paper Reviewer 2021
ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW)

Late Breaking Work Reviewer 2020
ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI'21)

Technical Paper Reviewer 2019
ACM SIGCHI's Annual Symposium on Computer-Human Interaction in Play (CHI Play)

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Communications Chair April 2019 – May 2020
CAIR – Rochester Institute of Technology

HONORS AND AWARDS

AWARE-AI NSF Research Traineeship Program January 2022
Rochester Institute of Technology

Doctoral Consortium October 2021
ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS'21)

Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society March 2021
Rochester Institute of Technology

John N. Mordeson Award for Excellence in Computer Science (Top Graduate) May 2018
Creighton University

Outstanding Senior College of Arts and Sciences May 2018
Creighton University

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Front End Developer Intern May 2017 – July 2017
Intellisys D. Corp., Santiago, Dominican Republic

- Developed a customized theme for Norisol Ferrari's online store using Shopify
- Set up an automated testing framework for a web application
- Served as a QA tester in a team working on an intranet,

Research and Development Intern March 2015 – May 2016
DoIT – Creighton University, Omaha, Nebraska

- Assisted in research on new technologies that could impact classrooms across campus
- Developed web application for immersive display of 3D images using Unity, reducing the risk of bringing nursing students into a delicate hospital room
- Assisted in creating a 3D banner for display to promote the launching of the new space

GRADUATE-LEVEL COURSES

CISC 807	– Teaching Skills Workshop , Dr. Yin Pan	Fall 2019
CISC 810	– Research Foundations , Dr. Pengcheng Shi	Fall 2018
CISC 820	– Quantitative Foundations , Dr. Linwei Wang	Fall 2018
CISC 830	– Cyberinfrastructure Foundations , Dr. Minseok Kwon	Spring 2019
CISC 849	– Human Behavior Understanding from Large-scale Data , Dr. Yu Kong	Fall 2019
CISC 863	– Statistical Machine Learning , Dr. Rui Li	Spring 2019
ENGL 681	– Intro to Natural Language Processing , Dr. Cecilia Ovesdotter Alm	Spring 2019
HCIN 600	– Research Methods in HCI , Michael McQuaid	Fall 2018
ISTE 798	– Qualitative Research Methods , Kristen Shinohara	Spring 2020
SWEN 610	– Foundations of Software Engineering , Dr. A. Masaud-Wahaishi	Fall 2019

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Technical – Python, R, Front-end development (HTML, CSS, JavaScript), Java, Swift, PHP
Languages – English (Professional), Spanish (Native), Portuguese (Conversational), American Sign Language (Conversational)