

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
Honors: Summa Cum Laude, Outstanding Senior College of Arts and Sciences
Honor Societies: Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Sigma Nu, Omicron Delta Kappa

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Rochester Institute of Technology, Rochester, New York August 2018 – Present
Graduate Research Assistant

- Conduct research on Human Computer Interaction and Accessibility at the Center for Accessibility and Inclusion Research (CAIR) Lab
- Investigate the use of automatic text simplification to provide reading assistance for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing computing professionals

Adobe Research, Remote May 2021 – August 2021
HCI Research Intern

- Conducted research on Human Computer Interaction, focusing on enhancing the accessibility of online videos for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing users by incorporating non-speech sounds in the context of automatic captioning
- Designed and conducted a user study investigating the interests and preferences of Deaf and Hard-of-hearing users for the incorporation of non-speech sounds in automatic captioning users
- Designed and evaluated a prototype for incorporating non-speech sounds when captioning online videos using automatic sound recognition tools

Facebook Inc., Remote May 2020 – August 2020
Intern – UX Researcher

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

CONFERENCE PUBLICATIONS

- [C.4] **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.2] **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.1] **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] Saad Hassan, **Oliver Alonzo**, Abraham Glasser, and Matt Huenerfauth. 2021 (to appear). "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.6] **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.5] **Oliver Alonzo**, Matthew Seita, Abraham Glasser, Matt Huenerfauth. Automatic Text Simplification Tools for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Adults: Benefits of Lexical Simplification and Autonomy. Computing Research Association (CRA) Grad Cohort Workshop for Underrepresented Minorities + Persons with Disabilities (URMD), Poster Session, March 2020.
- [P.4] **Oliver Alonzo**, Matthew Seita, Abraham Glasser, Matt Huenerfauth. 2019. Adapting 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, Poster Session, November 2019.
- [P.3] **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), Poster Session, March 2019.
- [P.2] **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, Poster Session, November 2018.
- [P.1] **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, Poster Session, October 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Rochester Institute of Technology , Rochester, NY <i>Instructor – Foundations of Human-Computer Interaction</i>	January 2021 – May 2021
Creighton University , Omaha, Nebraska <i>Teaching Apprentice – Mobile App Development</i>	January 2018 – May 2018

SCHOLARSHIPS

Ph.D. Merit Scholarship - Rochester Institute of Technology August 2018
Financial Support for Ph.D. studies

Leonardo Da Vinci Merit Scholarship - Creighton University August 2014
Full tuition scholarship for undergraduate studies awarded to one student graduating from the *Instituto de Desarrollo Integral* Leonardo Da Vinci in Santiago, Dominican Republic

TRAVEL GRANTS AND AWARDS

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

Computing Research Association (CRA) March 2020
Grad Cohort Workshop for Underrepresented Minorities + Persons with Disabilities (URMD)
Austin, TX

Computing Research Association (CRA) March 2019
Grad Cohort Workshop for Underrepresented Minorities + Persons with Disabilities (URMD)
Waikoloa, HI

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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

ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing 2021
Reviewer – Full Paper

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

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

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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

ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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

- Developed a customized theme for Norisol Ferrari's online store using Shopify, helping the store increase sales by having an established online presence
- Set up an automated testing framework for a web application
- Served as a QA tester in a team working on an intranet, reducing friction between development and user testing

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

- Assisted in research on new technologies that can have an impact in 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 the creation of a 3D banner for display at laboratory, promoting 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
MLAS 202	– Beginning ASL II , Terri Worek	Spring 2020
SWEN 610	– Foundations of Software Engineering , Dr. A. Masaud-Wahaishi	Fall 2019

ADDITIONAL SKILLS

Technical – Front-end development (HTML, CSS, JavaScript), Java, Swift, PHP, Python

Languages – English (Professional), Spanish (Native), Portuguese (Conversational), American Sign Language (Conversational)