



RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATES

National Science Foundation



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The BigDataX and MedIX REU Sites invite you to a panel on “A Day in the Life of a PhD Student”, with Ioan Raicu as moderator.

Date: Friday, July 7th, 2023 at 3:30pm-5:15pm
Where: Illinois Institute of Technology, Stuart Building, Room 111
 10 West 31st Street, Chicago, IL 60616 ([link](#))

This interactive panel will introduce the daily routines and ups and downs of a PhD student. The guest speakers are PhD Students on different stages of their PhD journey. The panel members will talk about the challenges that they deal with throughout the PhD program. High-school, undergraduate and master students, bring your questions and share them with our panel speakers.

Charmi Patel: DePaul University [2022 – 2027]



Charmi Patel is a second year Ph.D. Student in College of Computing and Digital Media at DePaul University. She is currently a research assistant in Medical Informatics (MedIX) lab. Her research interests are in Computer Vision and Machine Learning applications. Her hobbies are in Photoshop/Illustrator designing and hiking.

Matt Baughman: University of Chicago [2017 – 2024]



Matt is a PhD student with experience demonstrating technical and analytical skills. He has lived in 6 countries over 3 years while studying the roles computation and philosophy play on a global scale at the Minerva Schools. He is now pursuing grad work in automated systems at UChicago. He is always open to new opportunities in research, education, and life.

Alicia Esquivel Morel: University of Missouri [2020 – 2025]



Alicia Esquivel Morel is a graduate research assistant at the University of Missouri, Columbia, USA. She pursued her master's degree as a Fulbright Scholar, and she is currently working towards her PhD in Computer Science. She has been working, mentoring, and leading undergraduate research groups in the NSF-funded Research Experience for Undergraduates at the University of Missouri. Her research interests include cloud and distributed computing, drone video analytics, simulation and emulation environments, zero trust paradigm, and machine learning. She has been working with various NSF-funded testbeds, migrating simulation experiments to real-world use cases and infrastructures, including Chameleon Cloud, FABRIC, and POWDER.

Alexandru Orhean: Illinois Institute of Tech. [2016 – 2023]



Alexandru Iulian Orhean is a PhD candidate in Computer Science (CS) in the College of Computing at Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT). He received his BE in CS in 2016 from University Politehnica of Bucharest. He has interned with Lawrence Berkeley National Lab and Google, working on ScienceSearch and Related Image Search, respectively. His research expertise resides at the intersection of Parallel/Distributed Systems and Information Retrieval, currently working on the problem of efficient and effective indexing and search in large-scale scientific storage systems. Alexandru has successfully defended his dissertation and has accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position at DePaul University's Jarvis College of Computing and Digital Media in Fall 2023.