**7th Doctoral Consortium on Sociotechnical Issues in Biomedical Informatics**

November 14th, Washington, DC.

**SPONSORS**
American Medical Informatics Association (AMIA)
National Science Foundation (NSF)

**OVERVIEW**
The Doctoral Consortium is a forum in which doctoral students can meet and discuss their work with each other and with a panel of experienced researchers, including Craig Kuziemsky (The University of Ottawa), Madhu Reddy (Penn State University), Katie Siek (Indiana University, Bloomington), and Aleksandra Sarcevic (Drexel University).

We welcome applicants from a broad range of disciplines and approaches that inform medical informatics, including the social sciences, humanities, computer and information sciences, clinical sciences, law, and related fields. Applicants should be past the candidacy stage and near their thesis proposal defense. The Consortium committee will select approximately 10-12 participants who will be expected to give short, informal presentations of their work during the Consortium.

The Consortium will be held in conjunction with the American Medical Informatics (AMIA) 2014 Annual Symposium in Washington DC. In addition to the symposium, participants will also be registered for the Workshop on Interactive Systems in Healthcare (WISH 2014) (http://wish2014.wordpress.com), which will take place on November 15, 2014.

Consortium participants are expected to present their work at the Poster Reception at WISH 2014.

**BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM**
There are several benefits to students participating in the Consortium including:

1. Students will receive valuable feedback on their research from both their peers and faculty who have been in the field for a number of years.
2. The Consortium will cover registration costs for accepted participants for the AMIA 2014 symposium. We will also be able to reimburse a portion of the hotel and airfare for domestic (US) participants. We gratefully acknowledge funding provided by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to support the Doctoral Consortium.
3. Accepted papers will have an extended abstract printed in the AMIA advanced and onsite programs. The papers will also be listed on the Consortium website.
4. Participants will have the opportunity to meet and network with peers and senior AMIA members.
5. Participants will be able to present their work at the Poster Reception at the pre-conference WISH 2014 workshop and receive feedback from workshop participants.

**SCHEDULE**
Submissions due: September 9, 2014
Notification of acceptance: October 1, 2014
Camera-ready papers due: October 15, 2014
Doctoral Consortium: November 14, 2014
AIMS & OBJECTIVES
The AMIA Doctoral Consortium aims to support the research done by doctoral students through constructive remarks and feedback from prominent researchers in association with other students. It will also include a discussion of general questions related to doctoral research. In particular, the Consortium will focus on the following issues:

- Formulating the problem
- Analyzing and evaluating the state of the project
- Describing research methodologies, including underlying principles and approaches
- Discussing utility of the approach, as well as validation of the results
- Critically evaluating one’s own and others’ work, including identifying the target audience and beneficiaries
- Defining the contribution

DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM TOPICS
Although we welcome a wide variety of topics and interests, they must address not only technical but also organizational or social issues in healthcare. For instance, the issue of knowledge management should be approached from not just a technical but also an organizational perspective.

The topics for submissions include (but are not limited to):

- Technology adoption and use
- Support for cooperative work
- Technology governance and management
- Knowledge management
- Information needs and behaviors
- Application implementation issues
- Clinicians’ and patients’ perceptions and attitudes towards health informatics
- Dynamics of project and evaluation teams
- Evaluation and research methods for studying information systems in healthcare
- Implications of treating the virtual patient
- Reasons for patterns of acceptance, diffusion, and use of information and communication technologies in healthcare
- Records and rationalization in healthcare
- Key ethical, legal, social and policy challenges related to healthcare technologies
- Sociotechnical issues related to healthcare technologies

SUBMISSION PROCESS
Applications for participation at the Doctoral Consortium should include:

(a) A letter from your advisor describing the state of your research progress.
(b) A 5-page description of the applicant’s dissertation research in the AMIA submission format (http://www.amia.org/sites/amia.org/files/amia-2014-submission-template.doc) converted to PDF before submission that includes the following:
• an extended abstract suitable for publication. The abstract is limited to 2500 total characters, including spaces and punctuation. (This limitation is set to meet AMIA’s guidelines for publication in the on-site program)
• formulates the research question
• identifies the significant problems in the field of research
• outlines the current knowledge of the problem domain, as well as the state of existing solutions
• presents any preliminary ideas, the proposed approach, and the results achieved so far
• sketches the research methodology that is being applied
• points out the contributions of the applicant to the solution of the problem, and states in what aspects the suggested solution is different, new, or better as compared to existing approaches to the problem
• presents preliminary results, if any; and
• discusses problems the applicant would like the consortium to address

(c) Submissions should be emailed electronically to amia.phd.consortium@gmail.com by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on September 9, 2014.

REVIEW PROCESS
Submitted papers will be reviewed for originality, significance, technical soundness, accuracy, and clarity. Participants will be chosen with an emphasis on diversity of topics, participants, approaches, and institutions. Admission is limited to 10-12 doctoral students.

REGISTRATION
Because one of the Consortium goals is to enculturate participants into the AMIA community, participants must also register for WISH 2014 and AMIA conference. As noted above, the Consortium will cover registration costs for both events for all accepted submissions.

FACULTY MEMBERS
Katie Siek, Ph.D.
School of Informatics and Computing
Indiana University

Craig Kuziemsky, Ph.D.
Telfer School of Management
The University of Ottawa

Aleksandra Sarcevic, Ph.D. (Co-Chair)
College of Computing and Informatics
Drexel University
Office: 215-895-0460
Email: aleksarc@drexel.edu

Madhu Reddy, Ph.D. (Co-Chair)
College of Information Sciences and Technology
The Pennsylvania State University
Office: 814-863-6316
Email: mreddy@ist.psu.edu

More information is available at the Doctoral Consortium home page:
http://faculty.ist.psu.edu/reddy/amia/

For any questions about the Consortium, please contact amia.phd.consortium@gmail.com.