

PURDUE POLYTECHNIC RESEARCH IMPACT FOCUS AREA

COMMUNITY & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

polytechnic.purdue.edu/research

This cross-cutting research area will highlight the impact and role of users' and stakeholders' engagement in sociotechnical systems. By establishing relationships with local partners and focusing working relationships with local community organizations, we aim to empower individuals to identify and solve local and regional issues, engage with diverse communities at multiple scales, and increase civic participation in our research in the short and long term.



Foci include: user research, facilitation & evaluation, ongoing engagement.

FACULTY CHAMPIONS



Colin Gray
assistant professor
of computer graphics
technology

Austin Toombs
assistant professor of
computer graphics
technology



CURRENT PROJECTS



TECHNOLOGY & FITNESS

Alka Harriger, professor of computer and information technology, and Brad Harriger, professor of mechanical engineering technology, partnered with other faculty in the creation of professional development programs in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) for middle school teachers and new research into the development of computational thinking among middle school students across three learning contexts.



ANALYZING COMMUNITIES

Sabine Brunswicker, associate professor of teaching, learning and innovation, and her research team examine the structure and culture of open source communities to help them be more productive. The team analyzes millions of lines of code to find collaborative patterns, examines the stability of underlying code over time, models the evolution of a group's code, and compares how its technology compares to other products.



RECOGNIZING NEW OCCUPATIONS

Professionalization, the process of achieving widespread recognition and higher socioeconomic status for emerging occupations, used to take decades. Yubo Kou, a postdoctoral research associate in computer graphics technology, is researching how social media and online communities are changing the speed with which professionalization takes place.

GET INVOLVED: contact Colin at gray42@purdue.edu or Austin at toombsa@purdue.edu.

PURDUE
UNIVERSITY

Polytechnic Institute

EA/EOU

INVOLVED FACULTY EXPERTISE:

- » Data Visualization & Analytics
- » Design
- » Social Factors
- » STEM Education Research
- » User Experience