EXECUTIVE BRIEF

SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE

Inspiring and preparing a generation of diverse data scientists who can make our world more equitable, informed and secure.

OVERVIEW

The only school of its kind at a Carnegie R1 U.S. Hispanic Serving Institution, UTSA’s School of Data Science offers data-intensive degree programs and research across many disciplines. The school’s world class faculty and core staff work in tandem with hundreds of students to discover, teach, learn and use data science and AI for positive societal and economic impact.

Located in downtown San Antonio at the intersection of the city’s cultural and technology districts, the school is a cornerstone of the university’s 10-year strategic growth plan.

THE CHALLENGE

» The need for data science/AI talent is unmet and lacking in representation—fewer than 15% of data scientists are from underserved groups. It is essential to increase the quality and accessibility of data science education to ensure equity, foster an informed citizenry and unlock the potential of a new generation of data innovators.

» The value of data created in our highly connected world is untapped ($1.3T annually in the U.S.). Providing the right physical and virtual environments for diverse teaching and research teams is critical for new data-informed discoveries.

THE POTENTIAL

UTSA is strategically positioned to advance underserved groups in data science as a significant portion of its students come from these groups. The School of Data Science is also well positioned to advance discovery and impact through data science and AI research programs for health, humanities, security, transportation and more.

THE IMPACT

Through our education programs and research—as well as our collaboration with innovative companies, entrepreneurs and government agencies—UTSA is playing a lead role in meeting the persistent national growth in data science and AI jobs, projected at 26.5% in Texas alone over the next decade. Through interdisciplinary research, we are addressing global issues in areas including health, poverty and sustainability.
SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE

COMPONENTS

» 1,000+ students, researchers and faculty engaged in
  • Data science and analytics/AI teaching and learning in 5 graduate degree programs, 5 undergraduate degree programs, multiple certificate programs and experiential learning
  • Data discovery and application in science, technology, engineering, math, business, education, public health, social sciences, humanities, and the arts

» 2 UTSA institutes
  • Matrix AI Consortium for Human Wellbeing
  • Open Cloud Institute

» 2 research collaboratories with the
  • U.S. Census Bureau
  • UT Health San Antonio

» 13 additional labs advancing the Internet of Things (IoT), data engineering/fusion, robotics and more

» Los Datos Conference and Draper Data Science Business Plan Competition annually in the spring, Distinguished Speaker Seminars, 'pop-up' demos and talks

» Conference center to host national events

PHILANTHROPIC OPPORTUNITIES

There are multiple opportunities for organizations to enrich the future of students and their ambitions to do good with data/AI.

» Strategic Members of the School of Data Science
» Datos Para Todos Scholarships
» Datos Para Todos In-Residence Program
» Endowed Positions
» Capital Naming Opportunities

There are also opportunities for individuals to become Friends of the School of Data Science.

BENEFITS TO SAN ANTONIO AND TEXAS

» Increased access for San Antonio and South Texas residents interested in data science/AI

» More data-informed teams to address pressing environmental, health and socioeconomic challenges in Texas

» Greater capability to advance the racial and ethnic diversity of the data science workforce

STRATEGIC MEMBERS

» Dell Technologies
» Frost Bank
» H-E-B

SPONSOR MEMBERS

» FEDITC
» MITRE
» National Security Administration

FOR MORE INFORMATION

David Mongeau
Founding Director and Professor of Practice, University College
david.mongeau@utsa.edu
sds.utsa.edu

Updated as of January 17, 2024