

“A Journey through HCI: Achievements and Trends”

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Bio: Sergiu Dascalu is a Professor in the Computer Science and Engineering Department at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). He has a PhD in Computer Science from Dalhousie University, Canada, and his main research interests are in software engineering and human-computer interaction. He has served as PI or co-PI on several projects funded by federal agencies such as NSF, NASA and ONR and has published over 150 peer-reviewed papers. Sergiu was involved in the organization of many international conferences and was an invited speaker at various events and universities in the US and abroad. Since joining UNR in 2002 he has advised over 10 PhD and 40 Master students and received several awards for his research and teaching, including the 2011 UNR Donald Tibbitts Distinguished Teacher of the Year Award and the 2014 UNR College of Engineering Faculty Excellence Award.

Abstract: In this talk we will take a quick journey through the fascinating, rich, and fast changing landscape of Human-Computer Interaction (HCI). First, we will look at some past major breakthroughs in HCI technology, such as the personal computer and the smart phone, and then we will explore several main components of the current HCI panorama, including computer games, social networking, virtual reality, and mobile devices. Next, based on some recent advances, such as new assistive technologies, natural user interfaces, and autonomous vehicles, we will attempt to envision how the HCI scenery of the future might look like. Ultimately, this exploration is intended to be about our relationships with computers, and the growing presence of computer-based devices in our daily lives. Time permitting, several examples of HCI research at the University of Nevada will also be presented, including recent projects on 3D visualizations for scientific applications, brain-computer interfaces, and interactive educational games.

Contact Dr. Soo-Yeon Ji (sji@bowiestate.edu) if you have any question.