William Paterson University
College of Science and Health
Department of Computer Science

UPS Computer Information Technology Lecture Series*

Keynote Speaker: **Dr. Anthony James Scriffignano**

Distinguished Fellow (Stimson Center)

April 16, 2024 (Tuesday), 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM

University Commons Student Center (Multipurpose Room)
Dinner will be provided.

Please RSVP here by April 9, 2024

Data Science in the Context of Hyperdisruption:
Everything is Changing at the Same Time

Abstract

Computer and information sciences are nothing new. Several generations have now been born into a world where computers, databases, information processing, and even artificial intelligence exist. However, things are changing lately. Sometimes, when things change and you are part of that change, it can be difficult to notice. **The amount of information available on Earth, sometimes called the Datasphere, is doubling at a rate that arguably can no longer be measured**. Much of this information is unstructured, encrypted, or available only with specific access. Other data is created by devices. Data is increasingly multilingual, and efforts to "normalize" can produce subtle nuance related to the ways in which we use language. Even data itself creates data as it moves from one context to another. We are awash in data. **The amount of computing power and processing capability is also at a critical inflection point.** Massive computing power and the advent of Generative AI and Quantum computing are challenging the way that computer scientists think about tractability – or how solvable any given problem is. The space is crowded with multiple platforms and applications, many promising to do the same things, but in different ways. **Against all of this change, the world itself, connected with this massive data and technology is changing.** Global disruptions such as pandemics, nation-state actions, and social phenomena have created unprecedented challenges. Responding to any one of these challenges might be overwhelming, but the reality is

even more sobering, as there isn't time to completely respond to one disruption before another comes along, producing a sort of disrupted-disruption, or hyper-disruption. In this keynote speech, Dr. Anthony Scriffignano will explore how the massive availability of data and technology, advances in AI, and response to disruption are creating massive opportunities and ominous risks. This keynote will cover three main themes: **Our Curious World** (how the data around us continues to change), **The Risks and Our Response** (practical examples of using data and AI in the context of disrupted data and disrupted environments to make better decisions), and **Future Trends and Recommendations.** This speech will challenge our thinking about the skills leaders need to succeed.

Biography

Dr. Anthony James Scriffignano is an internationally recognized data scientist with experience spanning over 40 years, in multiple industries and domains. He has an extensive background in linguistics and advanced algorithms, leveraging that background as a primary inventor on multiple patents worldwide. He is a Distinguished Fellow and member of the Loomis Council of The Stimson Center, a nonprofit, nonpartisan Washington, D.C. think tank that aims to enhance international peace and security through analysis and outreach. He was recognized as the U.S. Chief Data Officer of the Year in 2018 by the CDO Club, the world's largest community of C-suite digital and data leaders. He has served as a member of the OECD Network of Experts on AI, working group on implementing Trustworthy AI, focused on benefiting people and the planet. He has served as a commissioner for the Atlantic Council, most recently contributing to a Report on the Geopolitical Impacts of New Technologies and Data. He is routinely invited to provide thought leadership for senior executives and high-level government officials globally. Recently, he briefed the US National Security Telecommunications Advisory Committee and contributed to three separate reports to the President, on Big Data Analytics, Emerging Technologies Strategic Vision, and Internet and Communications Resilience. Additionally, provided expert advice on private sector data officers to a group of state Chief Data Officers and the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. He recently provided similar counsel to members of the Canadian Government. He also served as a forum panelist and keynote speaker at the World Internet Conference in China hosted by President Xi Jinping and the China Development Forum, as well as other major world events. He was recently published or quoted in various publications including CIO.com, Forbes Insights, Huffington Post, Business Insider, InformationWeek, China Daily, Xinhua, PCWeek Russia, Taiwan News, Bangkok Post, Mint (India), The Hill, and others. He was profiled by InformationWeek and by BizCloud, and is a recurring CXOTalk and Churchill Club speaker. Scriffignano serves on various advisory committees in government, the private sector, and academia. He is considered an expert on emerging trends in advanced analytics, the "Big Data" explosion, artificial intelligence, multilingual challenges in business identity, and malfeasance in commercial and public-sector contexts.

Agenda

5:30 – 6:00	Guests arrival and dinner starts
6:00 – 6:20	Welcome message: **Dr. Venkat Sharma**, Dean of College of Science and Health, WPU
6:25 – 6:30	Keynote Speaker introduction: **Dr. Cyril S. Ku**, Professor of Computer Science, WPU
6:30 – 7:15	Keynote speech: **Dr. Anthony James Scriffignano,** Distinguished Fellow, Stimson Center
7:15 – 7:45	Q & A with **Dr. Anthony James Scriffignano**
7:45 – 8:00	Closing remark: **Dr. Cyril S. Ku**

All are welcome! This lecture series is open to everyone in the William Paterson University community. For further information, please contact Dr. Cyril S. Ku (kuc@wpunj.edu, 973.720.2952), Department of Computer Science, William Paterson University, Wayne, NJ.