

Rama Adithya Varanasi

rv288@cornell.edu | www.rama.contact

Research Interests

Human Computer Interaction • Future of Work • Social Computing • Education.

Education

- 2017-23 **Ph.D.**, Information Science, *Cornell University*.
Advisers: Dr. Nicola Dell & Dr. Aditya Vashistha
- 2015-17 **M.S.**, Information Science & Technology, *Pennsylvania State University*.
Adviser: Dr. Jack Carroll
CGPA: 3.89
- 2009-13 **B.Tech.**, Information Technology, *SRM University*.
CGPA: 3.96

Appointments

- Apr'22- **Google**, Responsible AI.
Jan'23 Research Intern.
- Mar'21- **Microsoft Research**, Technology In Emerging Markets (TEM).
July'21 Research Intern.
- July'20- **Microsoft Research**, Technology In Emerging Markets (TEM).
Dec'20 Research Intern.
- May'13- **Standard & Poor's (S&P)**, AI Labs.
July'15 UX Designer.
- Dec'12- **McGrawHill Financials**, Key Developments.
Mar'13 UX Intern.

Academic Awards

- 2022 DLI fellowship, *Cornell University*.
2022 Honorable mention award, *CHI'22*.
2021 Outstanding service award, *Cornell University*.
2020 Dissertation award, *QuIRI Institute*.
2018 Engaged doctoral fellowship, *Cornell University*.
2017 International research travel award, *Einuadi Center for International Studies*.
2016 Student research award, *Bloomberg Inc*.
2015 ACE award for outstanding performance and innovation, *Standard & Poor's*.
2014 Changemaker of the year award (Education), *Standard & Poor's*.

Publications

PEER REVIEWED

- CHI'23 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Goyal, T. Exploring Responsible AI Inequities Among Practitioners In The Field. *Proceedings of the 2023 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. [In-submission]
- CHI'22 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Siddarth, D., & Seshadri, V, & Bali, K, & Vashistha, A. Feeling proud, feeling embarrassed: Experiences of low-income women with crowd work. *Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*. [Honorable Mention]
- CHI'22 **Varanasi, R. A.**, & Pal, Joyojeet., Vashistha, A. Accost, Accede, or Amplify: Attitudes towards COVID-19 Misinformation on WhatsApp in India. *Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
- COMPASS'21 Jain, P.*, **Varanasi, R. A.***, & Dell, N. "Who is protecting us? No one!" Vulnerabilities Experienced by Low-Income Indian Merchants Using Digital Payments. *COMPASS, 2021*.
- CSCW'21 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Vashistha, A., Kizilcec, R. F. & Dell, N. Investigating Technostress Among Teachers in Low-Income Indian Schools. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction: CSCW, 2021*.
- CHI'21 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Vashistha, A., & Dell, N. Tag a Teacher: A Qualitative Analysis of WhatsApp-Based Teacher Networks in Low-Income Indian Schools. *Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*
- ICTD'20 **Varanasi R. A.**, Vashistha, A., Parikh, T., & Dell, N. Challenges and Issues Integrating Smartphones into Teacher Support Programs in India. *In Proceedings of the 2020 International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development*.
- CSCW'19 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Kizilcec, R. F., & Dell, N. (2019). How Teachers in India Reconfigure their Work Practices around a Teacher-Oriented Technology Intervention. *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction: Vol. 3, Issue CSCW, Article 220. 2019*.
- ICHI'18 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Dicicco, E., & Gambino, A. (2018). Facebook Reactions: Impact of Introducing New Features of SNS on Social Capital. *In International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction (pp. 444-451). Springer*.
- SM&S'17 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Hanrahan, B. V., Wahid, S., & Carroll, J. M. (2017). TweetSight: Enhancing Financial Analysts' Social Media Use. *In Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Social Media & Society (p. 22). ACM*.

WORKSHOP PAPERS

- 2019 **Varanasi, R. A.**, & Dell, N. Understanding Technology Reconfiguration Practices by Teachers at the Margins of Intersectionality. *In Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
- 2018 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Parikh, T., & Nicola Dell. Solidarity in Education: Organizations' Use of Technology to Support Low-income Schools. *In Proceedings of the 2017 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW '17). ACM*.

*Both authors have contributed equally

- 2018 Lim, S., **Varanasi, R. A.**, & Parikh, T. (2018, February). GLIDE (Git-Learning IDE; Integrated Development Environment): In-class Collaboration in Web Engineering Curriculum for Youths. *In Proceedings of the 49th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education* (pp. 1112-1112). ACM.
- 2017 **Varanasi, R. A.**, Yan S., & Borge M. (2017, January). Making Design Practices Visible to Young Learners. *Learning sciences conference 2018. Information Science & Technology, Pennsylvania State University.*

Presentations

INVITED TALKS

- 2022 Internship lecture, *Google.*
- 2022 Guest lecture, *Teach for India, Meghshala.*
- 2021 Internship lecture, *Microsoft Research.*
- 2021 Visiting lecture, *State Government of India.*
- 2020 Guest lecture, *SRM University.*

CONFERENCE TALKS

- 2022 Feeling proud, feeling embarrassed: Experiences of low-income women with crowd work. *CHI'22.*
- 2022 Accost, Accede, or Amplify: Attitudes towards COVID-19 Misinformation on WhatsApp in India. *CHI'22.*
- 2021 "Who is protecting us? No one!" Vulnerabilities Experienced by Low-Income Indian Merchants Using Digital Payments. *COMPASS'21.*
- 2021 Investigating Technostress Among Teachers in Low-Income Indian Schools. *CSCW'22.*
- 2020 Challenges and Issues Integrating Smartphones into Teacher Support Programs in India. *ICTD'20.*
- 2019 How Teachers in India Reconfigure their Work Practices around Educational Technology Interventions. *CSCW'19.*
- 2018 Teaching cognitive apprenticeship design thinking through learning by failure. *Learning sciences conference 2018. I.S.T., Pennsylvania State University.*
- 2016 Understanding the challenges with traditional design evaluation methodologies in after-school learning environments. *3rd International Rutgers' conference,'16.*

Funding

- 2022 DLI fellowship, *Cornell University.* (**\$ 5,000**)
- 2020 Dissertation grant, *QuIRI Institute.* (**\$ 2,000**)
- 2018 Engaged Doctoral fellowship, *Cornell University.* (**\$ 15,000**)
- 2017 International research travel grant, *Einuadi Center for International Studies.* (**\$ 1,000**)
- 2016 Graduate research grant (w/ Dr. Benjamin V. Hanrahan), *Bloomberg Inc..* (**\$ 42,000**)

Service

- 2022 Co-organizer. *HCI Across Borders workshop, CHI'22.*
- 2021 Reviewer. *CHI'22. (Outstanding review).*
- 2020 Assistant SC. *CHI'21.*
- 2020 PC. Late Breaking Work track, *CHI'21.*
- 2020 Co-president. *Information Science, Cornell University.*
- 2019 Co-chair. *IndiaHCI'19.*
- 2019 Co-organizer. *HCI across borders workshop, CHI'19.*

Teaching Experience

- Jul'21 IS4940 guest lecture. *Cornell University.*
- Jan'18 Instructor for graduate-level startup studio projects for a year. *Cornell University*
- Jan'16 Instructor at the summer web development workshop. *Penn State University*
- Jan'13 Teacher at Math & Science for low-income govt. school for a year. *Teach for India*

Mentoring

- 2022 Akanksha Gavade (now *B.S. in CS, Lehigh University*)
- 2021 Alymer Britto (now *M.S. in CS, CMU*)
- 2021 Annie Sidotam (now *M.A. Educational Planning, UCL*)
- 2020 Pranjal Jain (now *Ph.D in Computational Science, Swansea University*)
- 2020 Nitya Agarwala (now *B.S. in CS, Dartmouth College*)