



The Weekly Update is the primary means of communicating general announcements and events to students by the SCI Student Services group. The Weekly Update will be sent to all students each week from the beginning of the Fall semester until commencement in May.

> Announcements

Disability Resources and Services (DRS) Newsletter

Did you know that there is a DRS Student Newsletter with resources and information about upcoming events pertaining to DRS? For example, this newsletter provides information on AccessComputing, an NSF-funded alliance providing mentoring and some limited funding for career development activities for students with disabilities in computing-related fields.

You can access an [archive of these newsletters here](#), and you can [email Disability Resources and Services](#) to learn how to get on the mailing list for the newsletter.

Free Opera Tickets!

An IS faculty member, Mike Lewis, and his wife Katia (a CMU faculty member), have graciously offered to pay for tickets for SCI grad students to see the opera [La Traviata](#). Performances available for the free tickets are either March 19 at 7 p.m. OR March 22 at 7:30 p.m. While this opera can have a variety of sets and interpretations, [here is a sample](#) (from the Met) of a famous portion of this opera.

If you are interested, please join the Pittsburgh Opera and SCI and CMU School of Computer Science colleagues by [reserving your free ticket here!](#)

SCI Doctoral Students are invited to participate in 3MT Competition!

The University of Pittsburgh School of Computing and Information invites you to participate in the [Three Minute Thesis \(3MT®\) Competition](#). The winner of the SCI competition will advance to the [University-wide 3MT competition on April 1st](#).

The 3MT is an academic competition that challenges PhD students to describe their research within three minutes to a general audience. We would like to encourage all PhD students who have passed their thesis proposal defense AS WELL AS those who are at the pre-proposal phase (but have substantive ideas) to participate. Please note that only those who have passed their proposal defense can advance to the University-level competition, but there will be winners chosen at the SCI-level in both the pre-proposal and post-proposal phases, and **there will be prizes!**

The SCI 3MT competition will be held on Monday, March 25th, 2024 from 1:15 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. in 130 Bellefield. Join us for lunch, share your work, and learn more about what your peers are up to!

If interested, please use this form to RSVP by NO LATER THAN Wednesday, March 20th, at 11:59 p.m.

School of Computing and Information Graduate Student Organization (SCIGSO) elections coming up!

We are asking all SCI graduate students to vote for officers for SCIGSO. Officer terms will begin this term and run through the end of December 2024. SCIGSO has funds and is able to host events, fund

conference travel, etc. in ways that it sees fit to benefit our graduate students. Look for an email sent to you directly inviting you to vote soon!

Events

T.L. Saaty Decision Making Hackathon | March 22-24, 2024

Registration is now open for the T.L. Saaty Decision making hackathon. Learn how to master decision-making techniques and harness the power of generative AI to tackle complex challenges. The winning team wins \$2,000! .

Pitt's Big Idea Center for Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship | Jan. - Apr. 2024

The Big Idea Center is Pitt's hub for student innovation and entrepreneurship on campus. The center is an on-campus, inclusive innovation catalyst that develops the innovative and entrepreneurial skills of the Pitt student community. The Big Idea Center hosts a variety of training sessions, lectures, competitions, and more, including advice for international students. Please access the [Big Idea Center calendar](#) for what they have to offer and to register for sessions.

SCI Spring 2024 Graduation Ceremony for Graduate Students | April 27th 2024

There is a School-wide ceremony as well as some departmental celebrations. The School-wide ceremony is the formal ceremony for SCI, where graduates will be called to the stage and receive a scroll representing their diploma as well as a gift.

Departmental celebrations are more informal, offering students from that particular department a chance to talk with graduates of their degree programs, faculty and staff specifically in their areas of study, acknowledge accomplishments and awards, etc.

For detailed information and RSVP links, please [access the SCI Graduation Web page](#).

For a full list of upcoming SCI events, visit the [SCI calendar](#).

Deadlines

Don't forget to check the Registrar's calendar page for upcoming deadlines!

Please access the [Registrar's Calendar Page](#) for more information.

Pitt SCI

