Candace Ross

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Education

2015– June 2020	**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**, Ph.D. Student. received M.S. in computer science in Spring 2018
2013–2015	**Howard University**, B.S., Summa Cum Laude, 2015. computer Engineering
2011–2013	**United States Naval Academy**. computer Engineering, completed 59 credit hours before transfer

Research Experience

May-August 2018	**Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence (AI2)**, *Seattle, WA*. I worked on building multimodal, joint representations for vision and language tasks such as visual question answering (VQA).
June– August 2014	**Harvard Medical School**, *Boston, MA*. I used machine learning to predict episodic memory recall using psychophysics data.
May 2013– June 2015	**Army Research Laboratory**, *Adelphi, MD*. My research focused on extracting and predicting social context in multilingual corpora.
May–July 2013	**Carnegie Mellon University**, *Pittsburgh, PA*. I used machine learning methods and qualitative approaches to understand and predict regional gang affiliations.

Publications and Technical Reports

Candace Ross, Andrei Barbu, Battushig Mayanganbayar, Yevgeni Berzak, Boris Katz. *Grounding language acquisition by training semantic parsers using captioned videos*. The 2018 Conference on Empirical Methods on Natural Language Processing (EMNLP) 2018, Brussels, Belgium, 2018.

Candace Ross. *Grounded Semantic Parsing using Captioned Videos*. Massachusetts Institute of Technology Masters Thesis, 2018.

Barbra Chin, **Candace Ross**, Michelle Vanni. *Mixed Methodology to Predict Social Meaning for Decision Support*. The Army Research Laboratory Technical Report, 2013..

Awards/Honors

2017-present	**Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellow**.
2017-present	**National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellow**.
2017-present	**Alfred P. Sloan Minority Ph.D. Scholar**.
2017	**Graduate Woman of Excellence**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.
2015-2016	**Lemelson Engineering Presidential Fellowship**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.
2015-2016	**Office of the Dean of Graduate Education Diversity Fellowship**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA.

2013-2015	**College Qualified Leaders Student**, *Army Research Laboratory*, Adelphi, MD. Department of Defense program that places undergraduates in government research labs.
2013-2015	**Trustee Tuition Scholarship for Engineering and Architecture**, *Howard University*, Washington, D.C.

Professional Development

October 2018	**Facebook Vivid in Research**, Facebook Headquarters, Menlo Park, CA.
September 2017	**Google Student Research Summit**, YouTube Headquarters, San Bruno, CA. oral presenter
July 2017	**Workshop on Women and Underrepresented Minorities in Natural Language Processing**, *Association of Computational Linguistics*, Vancouver, CA. poster presenter
June 2017	**National Society of Blacks in Computing Conference**, Atlanta, GA. student travel grant recipient
March 2017	**Institute for African-American Mentoring in Computer Sciences (iAACMS)**, *University of Florida*, Gainesville, FL. oral presenter; student travel grant recipient
November 2014	**Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students**, San Antonio, TX. poster presenter; student travel grant recipient
January 2017	**Black Women in Computing Conference**, Washington, DC. student travel grant receipent

Organizations & Activities

2016-Present	**Working Group for the MIT Academic Council**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA. As a subset of the Academic Council, we work on increasing diversity and inclusion on campus.
2016–Present	**President of Black Graduate Student Association**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA. Our organization seeks to unify to community of black graduate students on campus, as well as to organize events for the broader MIT community.
2016–Present	**Graduate Resident Tutor**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, Cambridge, MA. I serve as a live-in mentor for Chocolate City, a community of 30 undergraduate men of color.
2016-Present	**MIT Summer Research Program Mentor**, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*, semanticCambridge, MA. I mentor visiting undergraduate students to prepare them for graduate applications and research.
2015-Present	**Recruiting for Center for Brains, Minds and Machines**, Based in Cambridge, MA.
2014-2015	**Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers**, *Howard University*, Washington, D.C..
2013-2015	**Division I Women's Lacrosse**, *Howard University*, Washington, D.C..
2011-2013	**National Society of Black Engineers**, *United States Naval Academy*, Annapolis, MD.
2011-2013	**Midshipmen Black Studies Club**, *United States Naval Academy*, Annapolis, MD.
2011-2013	**Division I Women's Lacrosse**, *United States Naval Academy*, Annapolis, MD.