Employing Social Media to Improve Mental Health: Harnessing the Potentials and Avoiding the Pitfalls

Thursday October 15, 12:00-1:00 US Eastern
(Zoom link HERE)

Presenter: Munmun De Choudhury (Georgia Tech)

Munmun De Choudhury is an associate professor of Interactive Computing at Georgia Tech. Dr. De Choudhury is best known for laying the foundation of a line of research that develops computational techniques to responsibly and ethically employ social media in understanding and improving our mental health. To do this work, she adopts a highly interdisciplinary approach, combining social computing, machine learning, and natural language analysis with insights and theories from social, behavioral, and clinical science. Dr. De Choudhury has been recognized with the Complex Systems Society – Junior Scientific Award in 2019, twelve best paper and honorable mention awards from the ACM and AAAI, and extensive coverage in popular press like the New York Times, the NPR, and the BBC. Dr. De Choudhury also regularly keynotes and speaks at various invited meetings, workshops, and conferences, such as the 2020 International Conference on Computational Social Science, and has advised social media companies, non-profits, advocacy and governmental organizations, including Facebook, Twitter, Google, The Aspen Institute, The Pacific Northwest National Lab, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. In 2020, Dr. De Choudhury served as the General Chair of the 14th AAAI International Conference in Web and Social Media, the flagship conference on studies of social media. Earlier, Dr. De Choudhury was a faculty associate with the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society at Harvard, a postdoc at Microsoft Research, and obtained her PhD in Computer Science from Arizona State University.