

**School of Computer Science and Engineering
Presentation**

Dr. Allan Knight

**CSE Faculty Candidate
Friday, March 13, 2020
Time 10:00am-11:00am
JB 389/391**

Partnering with Students: Enhancing the university experience with student-driven research

Abstract:

"School is often done *to* students instead of *with* them." -- Julia Torres, Denver teacher librarian. This quote sums up the overarching philosophy that drives my teaching, mentoring, outreach, and research efforts: instead of being an "adversary" to students, professors should advocate for them instead. I approach teaching as a partnership with students in which I am committed to their success in school and after graduation. This partnership encompasses a variety of activities, such as applying different teaching and testing techniques, providing extracurricular resources to meet the needs of a diverse student body, and pursuing research that is student-centered and student-driven. Research in Computer Science, while often conducted by students, does not always involve students as the subject of research. My research interests combine traditional research with student well-being, seeking to answer questions such as: Can machine learning be used to recognize students' psychological distress? Can we change the way we think about programming languages to help students of all backgrounds learn it more easily? What research projects enable undergraduate and graduate students to potentially pursue business endeavors? How can we change our recruitment message to more effectively recruit and retain students from diverse populations and backgrounds?