The Atlanta University Center (AUC) Data Science Initiative facilitates and coordinates data science-focused research, activities, and programs across Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Medicine, and Spelman College, and the AUC Robert W. Woodruff Library. Leveraging the AUC’s rich history in social justice, the Initiative works to develop promising practices that diversify the data science workforce and advance data science on topics that impact Black America.

Our Purpose

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By The Numbers

- Serve 8,000+ AUC students and 1,200 AUC faculty, researchers and staff
- Awarded $10,795,000+ in project-based grants
- Raised $750,000+ from industry sponsors

Goals

- Become the largest producer of African Americans with expertise and credentials in data science
- Lead national efforts to address race, gender, and social justice aspects of data science

Achievements

- Over 500 AUC students and 400 AUC faculty in data science activities
- Over 85 students in the AUC Data Science Club
- Over 230 faculty, staff and graduate students in 2021 workshops
- Supported 11 faculty to establish the Data Science and Analytics Minor framework
- Awarded 44+ research and curriculum mini-grants to AUC faculty
- Over 1100 registrants at three virtual data science symposiums
- Over 1300 attendees at the virtual Data Science Seminar Series
  - 4,000 views online (Facebook/YouTube)
- Over 1,700 subscribers to our eNewsletter

Leadership Team

- Director: Talitha Washington
- Administrative Director: Bettina Gardner
- Deputy Director: H. Justin Ballenger
- Communications Specialist: Tommy Taylor Jr
- Executive Assistant: Eboni Dotson
- Data Analyst: Manoah Farmer

Our Sponsors

- Data Science Initiative Information Sheet
- datascience.aucenter.edu
- 504 Fair Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30313
- 404-725-6383
- aucdatascience@aucenter.edu
Programmatic Impacts

The AUC Data Science Initiative provides a significant impact on the HBCU data science landscape. By establishing partnerships with our industry partners, we have catalyzed the pathway of data science across our academic landscape.

FACULTY AND STAFF ENGAGEMENT

Travel and Training Support Program - supported 135+ learners with $86,000 to attend conferences or complete coursework

Mini-Grants Program - awarded 40 faculty with $277,000 to develop data science-related research and curriculum

Curriculum Building - guide the development of the undergraduate data science minor at three AUC member schools and the AUC Data Science and Analytics Minor framework, including new courses, Data and the African Diaspora and the Graduate STEM Foundations Course

W.E.B. Du Bois Data Science Symposium - 550+ attendees at the 2022 one-day symposium that featured 35+ faculty speakers

SPECIAL TOPIC WORKSHOPS

Using Data to Drive Reform Through Prosecutorial Performance - 40+ researchers from 11 HBCUs to develop data-driven solutions to advance equity in prosecutor's offices

Enhancing Data Science Education by Leveraging Data Sets from the African Diaspora - with funding from National Science Foundation (#2137382) for $99,000, 70+ workshop attendees developed promising practices for undergraduate data science modules that incorporate social and racial justice

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

AUC Data Science Club - 85+ student members, the Club regularly hosts workshops and industry engagement opportunities

AUC Student Data Science Symposium - 2021 Symposium featured 13+ student talks and had 333+ attendees from 19+ HBCUs and 20+ companies

HBCU Data Science Resume Book - contains 70+ resumes from 18+ HBCUs from students interested in data science, distributed to our sponsors

AUC Virtual Computer Lab - in partnership with The Coca-Cola Foundation and SAP, the Lab provides a virtual desktop that provides instructional and research support

PreFreshman Experience (PFx) - 90+ incoming AUC students, 17 faculty, and 18 research mentors developed ways to Keep Communities Safe Through Data in the summer of 2022

Open Doors x Open Source (ODxOS) - trained 30+ recent graduates with 6 faculty to upskill in open source software development with funding of $250,000 from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates - students conduct summer research in the applications of data science to chemistry, led by Dr. Seyhan Salman (Clark Atlanta University), with funding of $218,000 by the National Science Foundation award #2150206

Summer Workshops - 400+ AUC faculty, staff, and graduate students upskilled in a variety of interactive data science training

Social Media

Follow and engage with the AUC Data Science Initiative online:

Facebook: facebook.com/aucdsi
Twitter: twitter.com/aucdatascience
Instagram: instagram.com/aucdatascience
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/aucdatascience
YouTube: youtube.com/c/AUCDataScienceInitiative

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