

Dr. Travis Desell has recently joined the faculty of the Department of Software Engineering in GCCIS. He was formerly an associate professor of computer science at the University of North Dakota. His research focus lies at the intersection of large scale distributed computing, citizen science and machine learning. He has developed successful volunteer computing projects which rely on novel machine learning techniques, such as MilkyWay@Home, which utilizes over 25,000 volunteered computers to optimize 3D models of the Milky Way Galaxy, and the EXACT algorithm on the Citizen Science Grid, where over 12,000 volunteered computers are evolving the structure of convolutional neural networks for computer vision tasks. He also has developed neural networks to analyze data of some of the largest data sets in their respective fields, such as recurrent neural networks for analysis and prediction of manned and unmanned aviation data in the National General Aviation Flight Database (NGAFID), and convolutional neural networks for detection of camouflaged wildlife in the Wildlife@Home data set. He has been PI or Co-PI on over \$5.5 million in competitive external grants, and has authored or co-authored 10 journal articles and 40 conference proceedings.