Seeking Equity through Computer Science Education Research

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Presented by The Digital Learning Lab

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12:00 noon – 1:00 pm, Public Service Building Conference Room
(next to the UCI Parking Office, above the UCI Police Station)

Abstract: Computer Science Education is experiencing a surge in interest at the elementary level. The CS for All effort, started in major urban school districts but magnified through White House support, has a goal of equity in Computer Science Education at a national level. In order to succeed in this endeavor, we need to explore what equitable education would look like, how we would measure it, and what solutions will help get us closer to the goal. In this talk, I’ll introduce CANON (Computing for ANyONe) Lab and how we are contributing to this cause. We will introduce work we have done on assessments, curriculum development, and learning strategy development, all towards the goal of equity in computing education in elementary school.

Bio: Diana Franklin is a Research Associate Professor in Computer Science and Director of Computer Science Education at UChicago STEM Education. She leads five projects involving computer science education involving students ranging from pre-K through university. She is the lead PI for quantum computing education for EPIQC, an NSF expedition in computing. Her research agenda explores ways to create curriculum and computing environments in ways that reach a broad audience. She is a recipient of the NSF CAREER award, NCWIT Faculty Undergraduate Mentoring Award, four teaching awards, three best paper awards (ICER ’17, IPDPS ’14, and Computing Frontiers ’13), and an Honourable Mention from CHI ’18. Franklin received her Ph.D. from UC Davis in 2002. She was an assistant professor (2002-2007) and associate professor with tenure (2007) in Computer Science at the California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, during which she held the Forbes Chair. From 2008-2015, she was tenured teaching faculty at UC Santa Barbara. Her research interests include computing education research, architecture involving novel technologies, and ethnic and gender diversity in computing. She is the author of A Practical Guide to Gender Diversity for CS Faculty, from Morgan Claypool.