SCS WEDNESDAY WIRE | NOVEMBER 16, 2022
A midweek update from the SCS Dean's Office

SCS NEWS
— CMU junior Ruby Redlich's interest in genetics and sleeping patterns first awakened when she took an introductory computational biology class with Andreas Pfenning, an assistant professor in the Computational Biology Department. She joined the Pfenning lab last fall. Under the mentorship of Pfenning and Amanda Kowalczyk, a Neuroscience Institute postdoctoral fellow, she started developing her own [research into the evolution of different sleeping patterns and how they related to genetic markers](#).

— Bloomwood Stories, an Human-Computer Interaction Institute (HCII)-designed video game that helps members of underresourced or historically marginalized populations feel more confident handling health issues, won the [Best Student Award at last month's International Conference on Meaningful Play](#).

— Games can teach, change people's minds, help them with difficult conversations and inspire action. To create a home for transformational games and to strengthen CMU's research and development of them, [SCS is launching the Center for Transformational Play](#). The research center will invite collaborations with faculty, students and staff from the HCII; the Entertainment Technology Center (ETC); Heinz College; the College of Fine Arts; the Integrative Design, Arts and Technology (IDeATe) Network; the Neuroscience Institute; and programs focused on psychology and sociology. Simcoach Games is a sponsor and Jessica Hammer, the Thomas and Lydia Moran Associate Professor of Learning Sciences in the HCII and ETC, directs this new center.

— Researchers in SCS and the University of California, Berkeley, have designed a [robotic system that enables a low-cost and relatively small legged robot to walk and climb in any kind of terrain](#) – even in the dark.

CONGRATULATIONS . . .
. . . to SCS! As CMU's [29th Annual Food Drive to benefit the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank](#) wrapped up on Monday, SCS raised the most during the two-week campaign with a total of $10,415 in donations!

. . . to the SCS team that won a 2022 [AI4AI Meta Research Award](#) for their work to [reduce the cost of artificial intelligence techniques that better automate and optimize the computational performance of machine learning systems](#). Zhihao Jia, an assistant professor in the Computer Science Department, earned the nearly $50,000 award with Ph.D. students Yue Zhao and Zhihao Zhang for their proposal, "An AI-Assisted System for Sustainable and Affordable AI."

HAPPENING TODAY!
— [Pittsburgh Robotics Network's Discovery Day 2022](#) is happening now at the Convention Center in Downtown Pittsburgh. The event is free and open to the public until 5 p.m. with a "Robo Happy Hour" networking event from 5:30 until 8 p.m. A [$25 registration fee](#) is required for this evening's event.

Until next week,
---- Martial

REMEMBER YOUR RESOURCES
Connect with a [Dean's Advisory Committee](#) if you have questions or concerns you want to share.
Connect with a representative leader from [SCS Council](#) if you'd like to submit a topic for Council to consider.
Coronavirus [Updates & Information](#) and [FAQs](#)
[SCS Alerts & Resources](#) | [For Students](#) | [For Faculty & Staff](#) | [For Researchers](#)