

THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL & COMPUTER ENGINEERING SPEAKER SERIES

PRESENTS

The Role of Technology in Understanding Perspectives on Aging and Health



Amanda Lazar
Assistant Professor, College of Information
Studies
University of Maryland

Monday, 2/18, 9:55 am
Room W122, Engineering Building 2

LECTURE ABSTRACT

Health conditions and disabilities are increasingly seen as involving factors beyond the individual. In this talk, I draw on perspectives from Human-Computer Interaction and Gerontology to examine the material, social, and societal context of technology use for older adults and people with dementia. I describe ways in which technology can help us understand and shift attitudes towards aging as well as cognitive impairment, and my ongoing and future work in this area. I will argue for a view of aging that takes into account the ways that technologies position older individuals and, in turn, the way that this view can inform the design of new technologies to enrich the experience of growing older.

SPEAKER BIOSKETCH

Amanda Lazar is an Assistant Professor in the College of Information studies at the University of Maryland, College Park with an affiliate appointment in the Department of Computer Science. Her research in the areas of Human-Computer Interaction and Health Informatics has received Best Paper and Honorable Mention Awards at CHI, CSCW, DIS, and UbiComp. She studies how technologies designed for health and well-being position and support marginalized populations. She received her PhD from the University of Washington in the Biomedical and Health Informatics program and her BS in Electrical Engineering at the University of California, San Diego. Her work is supported by the National Science Foundation and NIDILRR.

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