

AIM

**ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE
INTERDISCIPLINARY
INSTITUTE AT
MARYLAND**

Sheena Erete, Associate Director of Research
Neda Atanasoski, Associate Director of Teaching
Hal Daumé III, Director



POLICY

AI is sending people to jail—and getting it wrong

Using historical data to train risk assessment tools could mean that machines are copying the mistakes of the past.

By Karen Hao

January 21, 2019

FORBES > MONEY > PERSONAL FINANCE

A.I. Bias Caused 80% Of Black Mortgage Applicants To Be Denied

Kori Hale Contributor @

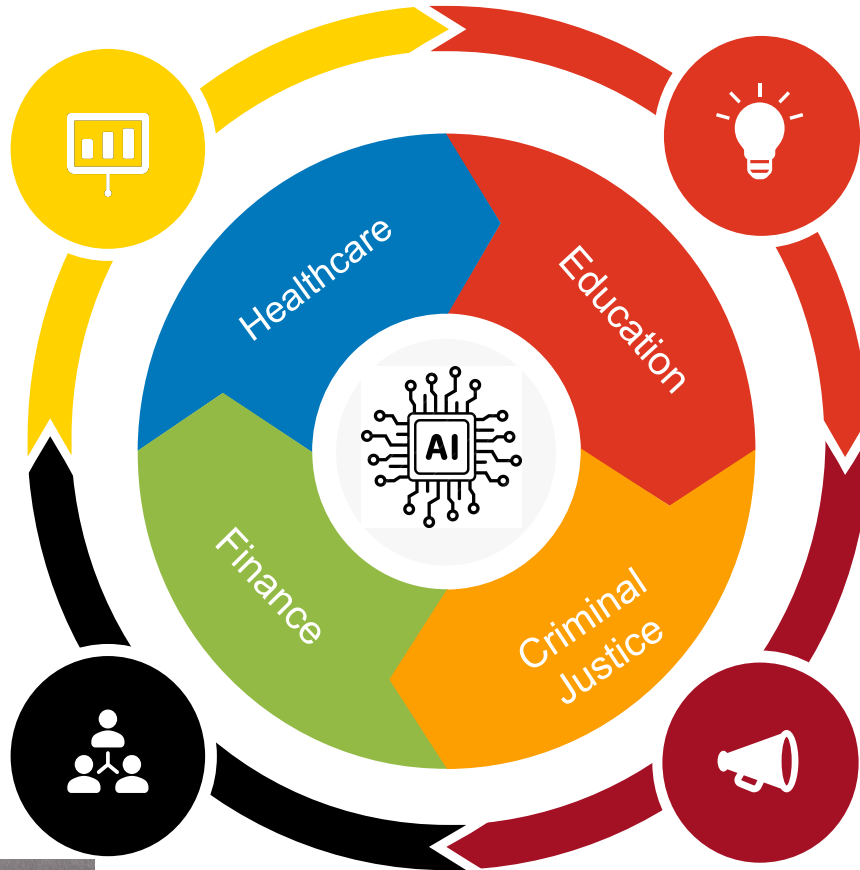
Fin the CEO of CultureBanx, redefining business news for minorities.

Follow

New study finds AI-enabled anti-Black bias in recruiting

Dawn Zapata Senior Content Producer / Thomson Reuters

18 Jun 2021 · 5 minute read



CNN INVESTIGATES

The nation's largest credit union rejected more than half its Black conventional mortgage applicants

Robert was wrongly arrested because of a racist algorithm. Are these the hidden dangers of AI?

By Flint Duxfield and Samantha Hawley

Posted Tue 25 Apr 2023 at 2:58pm



A group of people are gathered around a table in what appears to be a meeting or collaborative workspace. In the center, a man wearing a dark baseball cap with a yellow logo and glasses is smiling. Other individuals are partially visible around the table, some looking at documents. The background shows a typical office or meeting room environment with a door and some equipment.

Who Is at the table?



**A new institute to develop
the next generation of artificial intelligence education,
technology, and leaders.**

**Create a hub
for inter-
disciplinary
AI
collaboration**

**Support
faculty
research**

**Offer
learning
experiences
to prepare
students for
AI-infused
world**

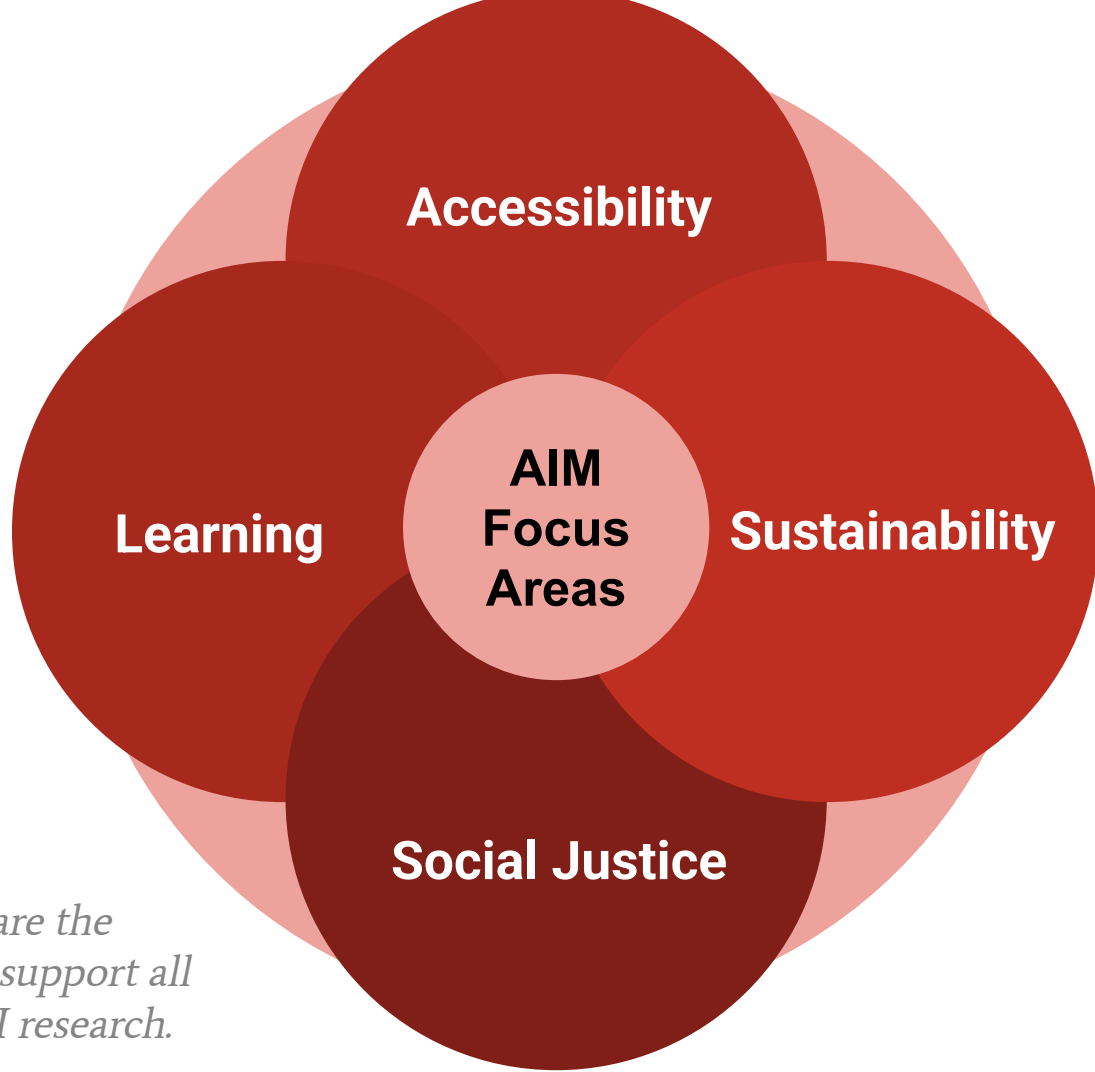
**Serve as a
magnet for
AI work and
industry in
our region**

**Advance
responsible
and ethical use
of technology
in industry,
government,
and society**

DISTINCTION

To lead in the AI space, UMD will capitalize on its existing strengths such as its interdisciplinary strengths, its location and connections to government and NGOs, and its focus on values and public good.

- The Institute is interdisciplinary, involving all schools and colleges
- The Institute has unique educational programs, making ideas and techniques from AI available across campus and into the community
- The Institute centers research that focuses on safety, responsibility, ethics, human values, and social policy



Note: While these are the topics of focus, we support all interdisciplinary AI research.

FACULTY HIRING

- 30 tenure track, 10 professional track faculty lines
- Aligned with our educational mission and research pillars
- Grow research and education capacity on campus

Educational Activities

- Mission: Create unique, interdisciplinary programs in AI for students across colleges
- BS in AI: Focus on computational science and engineering with significant exposure to humanistic and social-impacts approaches to AI
- BA in AI: Provide students with an understanding of the humanities and social sciences as critical for shaping AI's impact on society
- Course development grants, co-teaching opportunities, and experiential learning & community engaged courses



Course Development Grants

Course Development Grants



Course Development Grant

All UMD faculty (TTK and PTK) can apply for \$10,000 to develop an AI-focused course within their discipline, with funds disbursed in July and upon syllabus submission by December 2025. Awardees will showcase their courses at the UMD AI Education Symposium in Spring 2026.

AIM Experiential Learning and Community-Engaged Course Development Grant

As part of UMD's commitment to high-impact experiential learning, we encourage proposals for interdisciplinary AI courses that integrate community engagement with experiential learning. Courses should sustain community projects, enhance students' hands-on learning, and incorporate community collaboration into course design, assignments, and outcomes.

UMD faculty can be awarded up to \$25,000.



Course Development Grant Application Process

Timeline

- Applications Open: December 2, 2024
- Applications Close: February 17, 2025
- Decisions Sent: April 4, 2025
- Funds will be released in July 2025

Requirements

- Course proposal, unit approval, syllabus, and (for experiential grants) community partner letter.



Research Seed Award Program

AIM Research



Goal

- Foster innovative, interdisciplinary research to address critical societal challenges using AI

Purpose

- **Support early-stage, high-impact research** that aligns with AIM's mission to drive collaborative, innovative AI research with positive societal impact.
- **Foster interdisciplinary collaboration** among university researchers and community partners.
- **Lay the groundwork for sustained research** with the potential to secure future external funding.

Tracks



Track A

Cross-College Collaborative Awards

This track fosters interdisciplinary partnerships across colleges to encourage innovative and complex AI-related projects.

Track B

Individual Faculty and Student Awards

This track supports faculty, postdocs, and students in pursuing innovative AI research and creative projects, offering flexibility for ideas not yet suited to large-scale grants.

Track C

AIM Fellows Program

The AIM Fellows program brings internationally renowned AI scholars to the University of Maryland for a one-year residency, where they collaborate with faculty, mentor students, and tackle global challenges through AI innovation.

Application Process



Timeline

- LOI (Large Grants): February 3, 2025
- Proposals: February 17, 2025
- Notification: May 2025
- Start Date: June 1, 2025

Requirements

- Project summary, detailed proposal, budget, and justification
- Alignment with AIM focus areas and potential societal impact



How to get Involved?

A TRUE LEADER IS NOT A SEARCHER FOR CONSENSUS
BUT A HOLDER OF CONSENSUS.
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Walter Dill Scott
"The Art of Consensus"

Walter Dill Scott
"The Art of Consensus"

Major AIM Events

Oct 7 - SurvAI-Day (joint w/ SoDa): Bridging NLP and Survey Research

Oct 18 - Maryland Leadership Conference (at the IDEA Factory)

Oct 31/Nov 1 - Workshop: Getting Aligned on AI Alignment

Nov 19/20 - Distinguished Lecture Series: Leslie Kaelbling (MIT)

Jan 22 - 23 - AI+Art Symposium: "Teaching Arts in the Age of A.I."

April 1 - Distinguished Lecture Series: Safiya Noble (UCLA)

May 1 - AI + Learning Symposium

AY 2025-2026: Student engagement events and funding; faculty mixers; DLS/Symposiums



Engaging with AIM

Visit AIM

A.V. Williams Building, Room 4457

Mailing Address

AIM

University of Maryland

3400 A.V. Williams Building

8223 Paint Branch Drive

College Park, MD 20742

aim@umd.edu

301-405-9947

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Request an invitation to join our Discord server

Attend AI-related events at UMD and subscribe to our Google calendar

Request to host an event with AIM

Request to be an AIM Affiliate



Thank you!

Contact Us
aim@umd.edu