



Ph.D. HOODING CEREMONY

MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025

DEBAUN AUDITORIUM, EDWIN A. STEVENS HALL

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ORDER OF CEREMONY

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

WELCOME

Constantin Chassapis

Senior Vice Provost for Graduate Education

OPENING

Jianmin Qu

Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

Nariman Farvardin

President

HOODING OF DOCTORAL CANDIDATES

Charles V. Schaefer, Jr. School of Engineering and Science

School of Business

Interdisciplinary Programs

CLOSING

Constantin Chassapis

ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL

The list of candidates presented in this program is accurate as of May 1, 2025, and may not reflect actual degree completion. This listing does not constitute an official record of graduation.

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CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Mohamed Abdelkader

Civil Engineering

Data- and Process-Based Methods to Enhance Streamflow
Estimation Across Scales

Advisor: Marouane Temimi

Asaad Shahid Abdul-Hamid

Systems Engineering

Systems Methodologies for Predicting, Mitigating and
Remediating Orbital Debris

Advisor: Hao Chen

Hossam Aboalela

Ocean Engineering

Piezoelectric Energy Harvesting From Flapping Elements

Advisor: Muhammad Hajj

Erfan Amini

Ocean Engineering

Optimized Nature-Based Solutions for Resilient Coastal Flood
Mitigation Under Climate Change

Advisor: Reza Marsooli

Rayan Bahrami

Mechanical Engineering

Multi-Robot Systems in Adversarial Settings: Adversary
Detection, Resilient Coordination and Cooperation

Advisor: Hamid Jafarnejad Sani

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CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Rojyar Barhemat

Civil Engineering

Artificial Intelligence-Powered Design and Monitoring of Civil Structures and Metamaterials

Advisor: Yi Bao

Hossein Basereh Taramsari

Engineering Management

Product Sustainability Management: A Multi-Dimensional Framework for System Improvement

Advisor: Roshanak Nilchiani

Panteha Behboodi

Materials Science & Engineering

Optimizing Multiple Myeloma Treatment Approaches by Elucidating Tumor-Stroma Interactions in the Bone Marrow Microenvironment

Advisor: Woo Lee

Amy Brede

Ocean Engineering

Understanding Wave Attenuation of Constructed Oyster Reefs: Trends, Field Observations and Design Approach

Advisor: Jon Miller

JD Caddell

Sociotechnical Systems

Unveiling Interpersonal Knowledge Networks in Organizations: Integrating Network Complexity and Trust

Advisor: Roshanak Nilchiani

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CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Daniel Centeno

Chemistry

Modeling of Intracellular Taurine Levels in Ovarian Cancer

Advisor: Marcin Iwanicki

Huihui Chen

Pure and Applied Mathematics

Advances in Risk Measure Theory and Statistical Estimation
for Composite Functionals in Stochastic Optimization

Advisor: Darinka Dentcheva

Jiawen Chen

Interdisciplinary Engineering

Exploring MRNA- and Cell-Based Therapies for Cystic Fibrosis

Advisor: Jinho Kim

Pengju Chen

Physics

Investigating Open Quantum Systems: Controlled Dynamics
and Information Tracking

Advisor: Ting Yu

Siwei Chen

Mechanical Engineering

Field-Free Spin-Orbit Torque Switching of 2D Dilute Magnetic
Semiconductors Via Spin-to-Spin Conversion

Advisor: EH Yang

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CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Xianbang Chen

Electrical Engineering

Boosting Power System Operation Economics via Closed-
Loop Predict-and-Optimize

Advisor: Lei Wu

Wuxinlin Cheng

Computer Engineering

Stability Analysis of Machine Learning Models on Manifolds

Advisor: Zhuo Feng

Pooya Dastpak

Civil Engineering

Stochastic Design of Geotechnical Systems

Advisor: George Korfiatis

Juan Carlos Dibene

Computer Science

Instantaneous Rolling Shutter Camera Localization and
General Planar Motion from Point Correspondences

Advisor: Enrique Dunn

Junteng Du

Chemical Engineering

Advanced Strategies for High Performance All-Solid-State
Batteries

Advisor: Jae Chul Kim

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CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Shawn Dullen

Systems Engineering

Achieving Effective Performance Using Set-Based Design Framework During the Concept Stage and Early Development Stage of the Lifecycle

Advisor: Dinesh Verma

Alex Dworzanczyk

Mechanical Engineering

High Mach Number Aerobreakup

Advisor: Nicholas Parziale

Misagh Esmaeilpour

Environmental Engineering

Multiscale Study of Flow in Porous Media and the Applications to Subsurface Water and Energy Systems

Advisor: Cheng Chen

Sadaf Farsinejad

Chemical Biology

Cell Cycle Suppression in Ovarian Cancer is Associated with Integrin- β 4 and ECM-Driven Cisplatin Resistance

Advisor: Marcin Iwanicki

Malvika Garikapati

Physics

Low-Noise Quantum Frequency Conversion and Applications

Advisor: Yuping Huang

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SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Pengwei Guo

Civil Engineering

Artificial Intelligence-Powered Design and Characterization of
High-Performance Fiber-Reinforced Cementitious Composites

Advisor: Weina Meng

Shengfeng Huang

Civil Engineering

Beyond Tunnel Vision: Leveraging Machine Learning for
Predictive Analysis of Tunnel Boring Machine Performance

Advisor: George Korfiatis

Yewei Huang

Mechanical Engineering

Inference with Factor Graphs for Single- and Multi-Robot
Perception and Navigation

Advisor: Brendan Englot

Mohammad Rahul Islam

Systems Engineering

A Novel Scalable, Low-Burden and Privacy-Preserving
Affective Mobile Sensing System for Mental Health
Monitoring in Real-World Settings

Advisor: Sang Won Bae

Meng Jiao

Systems Engineering

Learning from Sparse and Graph-Structured
Electrophysiological Data for Brain Disorder Diagnosis

Advisor: Feng Liu

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CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Berina Mina Kilicarslan

Civil Engineering

Enhancing Hydrological Models to Support Flood Inundation
Mapping and Water Resources Management

Advisor: Marouane Temimi

Meenu Kumar

Chemistry

Investigation of Gas-Phase Ion-Neutral Interactions by Ion
Mobility Separation Technique and Mass Spectrometry

Advisor: Athula Attygalle

Lili Li

Physics

Compressive Photon Measurement for Machine Learning

Advisor: Yiping Huang

Ruhao Li

Materials Science and Engineering

Utilizing Interfaces and Nanostructures in New Hybrid
Electrolyte Designs for Enhanced Ion Transport

Advisor: Pinar Akcora

Xueshen Li

Biomedical Engineering

Fast, Intelligent and Pathological Optical Coherence
Tomography Scanning Using Deep Learning for Human
Coronary Imaging

Advisor: Yu Gan

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SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Zhan Li

Physics

High-Q Resonators and Single Photon Nonlinearity on Thin
Film Lithium Niobate

Advisor: Yuping Huang

Geoffrey A. Lichtenheim

Sociotechnical Systems

Transforming E-Governance with Cloud-Based AI: A Systems
Methodology for Implementation

Advisor: Mo Mansouri

Hongshan Liu

Biomedical Engineering

Deep Learning-Based Segmentation in Coronary Optical
Coherence Tomography Images

Advisor: Yu Gan

Sam Liu

Biomedical Engineering

Leveraging Linear and Angular Momenta Analyses to
Understand Control and Performance of Sporting Movements

Advisor: Antonia Zaferiou

Kazi Mita

Ocean Engineering

Climate Impacts and Adaptation Assessment for Fluvial,
Coastal and Compound Flooding

Advisor: Philip Orton

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CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Seyed Sepehr Mohajerani

Physics

Fabrication and Acoustic Manipulation of Quantum Emitters in
2D Semiconductors

Advisor: Stefan Strauf

Ehsan Nasiri

Mechanical Engineering

Hybrid Force/Motion Control and Telemanipulation Strategies
Using Redundancy Resolution Methods for Surgical and
Manufacturing Applications

Advisor: Long Wang

Mina Nouri

Civil Engineering

Enhancing Urban Traffic Monitoring: Methods for Anomaly
Detection and Data Imputation

Advisor: Mohammad Ilbeigi

Ayodeji Omoniye

Chemical Engineering

The Design of Bimetallic Catalysts for the Upgrading of
Carboxylic Acids

Advisor: Alyssa Hensley

Yue Qi

Materials Science and Engineering

Molecular Fundamentals of Metal Nanoparticles for Catalytic
Selective Hydrogenation and Oxidation of Hydrocarbons

Advisor: Simon Podkolzin

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CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Patrick Rehai

Physics

Quantum Parametric Detection for Hyperdimensional Sensing

Advisor: Yuping Huang

Abdelali Sajia

Physics

Pushing the Boundaries of Resolution: New Methods for
Passive Two-Source Super-Resolution

Advisor: Xiaofeng Qian

Ishira Samarasinghe

Chemistry

Structural Dynamics of Tautomeric Forms and Artifacts of
Aniline and Related Compounds Under Atmospheric Pressure
Chemical Ionization Mass Spectrometric Conditions

Advisor: Athula Attygalle

Steven Michael Sheets

Environmental Engineering

Mechanisms of Dechlorination and Denitration During
Alkaline Hydrolysis of Polychlorinated Polynitrobenzenes

Advisor: Xiaoguang Meng

Justin Louis Sitr

Mechanical Engineering

Design, Modeling and Control of Low-Cost Underwater
Vehicle-Manipulator Systems

Advisor: Long Wang

CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Daniel Tafone

Physics

Remote Material Characterization with Single Photon LiDAR

Advisor: Yuping Huang

Chao Tang

Physics

Frequency Conversion and Dispersion Engineering on Thin
Film Lithium Niobate

Advisor: Yuping Huang

Renhong Tang

Materials Science and Engineering

Gold Nanorod Arrays on Single Crystal Sapphire Optical
Fiber for Sensing at Elevated Temperatures: An Integrated
Numerical and Experimental Study

Advisor: Henry Du

Yuntian Teng

Civil Engineering

Non-Darcian Flow, Multiphase Flow and Hydration
Thermodynamics in Subsurface Energy and Environmental
Systems

Advisor: Cheng Chen

Mitchell Tillman

Biomedical Engineering

Mechanics of Whole-Body Balance and Momentum Control
During Straight-Line Gait and 90-Degree Turns

Advisor: Antonia Zaferiou

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SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Shuqiao Wang

Chemical Engineering

Dopant Effects on the Catalytic Performance of Ethane
Oxidative Dehydrogenation Over NiO-Based Catalysts

Advisor: Alyssa Hensley

Weilun Wang

Electrical Engineering

On Optimal Planning and Operation of Smart Grid Edge
Devices: Electric Vehicles and Distributed Energy Resources

Advisor: Lei Wu

Ruiran Wang

Computer Engineering

Fast Data Dissemination In Blockchain Networks

Advisor: Shucheng Yu

Weihan Wang

Computer Science

Monocular and Binocular Visual-Inertial System Initialization
and Real-Time Dense 3D Mapping

Advisor: Philippos Mordohai

Bingyang Wen

Electrical Engineering

Trustworthy Deep Learning via Causal Intervention,
Information Theory and Visual-Linguistic Attention and
Applications to Alzheimer's Disease Detection

Advisor: Koduvayur Subbalakshmi

CHARLES V. SCHAEFER, JR.
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Nan Wu

Mechanical Engineering

Filler Patterning in Stereolithography Vats with Acoustic Waves

Advisor: Kishore Pochiraju

Danna Yan

Chemical Engineering

High-Voltage-Stable Complex Oxide Cathodes for Advanced Lithium-Ion Batteries

Advisor: Jae Chul Kim

Fan Yang

Electrical Engineering

Resource Allocation and Privacy for Next-Generation Wireless Ad Hoc Networks

Advisor: Cristina Comaniciu

Guang Yang

Electrical Engineering

Human-Aware Mobile Robot Navigation: Learning-Based Methods

Advisor: Yi Guo

Yunxuan Yi

Pure and Applied Mathematics

Sequential Stochastic Dominance and Approximations

Advisor: Darinka Dentcheva

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SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Cengcang Zeng

Electrical Engineering

Signal Processing for Distributed RF Sensing with Non-Orthogonal Waveforms

Advisor: Hongbin Li

Shiwei Zeng

Computer Science

Data-Efficiency and Robustness in Machine Learning

Advisor: Jie Shen

Kylee Zgeib

Chemical Biology

Molecular Characterization of Dedifferentiation-Induced Oncogenic Stemness in the Intestinal Epithelium

Advisor: Ansu Perekatt

Lan Zhang

Civil Engineering

A Machine Learning Framework for Public Transportation Infrastructure System Flow Estimation, Characterization, and Prediction

Advisor: Kaijian Liu

Zipei Zheng

Physics

Broadening LiDAR's Applications Across Fields: An Exploration on Biomedical Imaging

Advisor: Yuping Huang



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SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Da Zhong

Computer Science

Privacy Disparity in Machine Learning: Causes, Mitigation and
New Privacy Threats

Advisor: Hui Wang

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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Kexin Gu

Business Administration

Three Essays on Institutional Investors: Innovation Strategy,
Cultural Familiarity and AI Bias

Advisor: Alexander Rodivilov

Zequan Li

Financial Engineering

Interpreting Machine Learning Models in Empirical Asset
Pricing

Advisors: Steve Yang and Ying Wu

Cheng Lu

Financial Engineering

Advancement of Reinforcement Learning in Asset Allocation
and Pricing

Advisor: Majeed Simaan

Cheuk Yin Jeffrey Mo

Financial Engineering

Design of Reinforcement Learning Control in Agent-Based
Modeling: An Investigation of Systemic Risks in the Interbank
Lending Market

Advisor: Steve Yang

Jiali Qi

Business Administration

Digital Co-Creation in Platform-Centric Ecosystems: Three
Studies of the Gaming Industry

Advisor: Aron Lindberg

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SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Hongju Ren

Business Administration

Three Essays on Influence of Social Culture/Networks on
Investors' Behavior

Advisor: Anand Goel

Ruijing Yang

Financial Engineering

Three Essays on Optimal Execution Under Capital Ratio
Constraints

Advisors: Zachary Feinstein and Somayeh Moazeni

Zhiyuan Yao

Financial Engineering

Application of Reinforcement Learning in Financial Trading
and Execution

Advisors: Chihoon Lee and Ionut Florescu

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INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS

Zihan Chen

Data Science

Three Essays on Graph-Based Deep Learning Models in
Business Analytics

Advisor: Jingyi Sun

Jacob Erickson

Data Science

Can Social Platforms Foster Constructive Political Dialogue?
Three Essays on Digital Infrastructures and Online Spaces

Advisors: Bei Yan and Hui Wang

Lun Li

Data Science

Workforce Analytics in the Era of Big Data

Advisors: Rong Liu and Theodoros Lappas

James D. Pleuss

Data Science

Data-Driven Approaches to Nutritional Epidemiology and
Dietary Assessment

Advisor: Samantha Kleinberg

Chloe Weiers

Data Science

Quadratic Equations in Wreath Products of Abelian Groups

Advisors: Alexander Ushakov and Antonio Nicolosi



INTERDISCIPLINARY PROGRAMS

Mingsong Ye

Data Science

The Use of Machine Learning and AI to Improve
Computational Performance in Large-Scale Optimization and
Time Series Applications

Advisor: Edward Stohr

Yangyang Yu

Data Science

Aligning Multi-Modal Object Representations to Human
Cognition

Advisor: Jordan Suchow



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