

Penny Rheingans

Professor and Director, Computing, School of Computing and Information Science
University of Maine



Awards and Honors and Year Received

- Visualization Academy Induction, October 2020. Member of first cohort of Cultural Competence in Computing (3C) Fellows Program, 2021. Computing Research Association (CRA) Computing Community Consortium (CCC) Leadership in Science Policy Institute (LiSPI), 2017. Higher Education (HERS) Leadership Institute, Wellesley '14-'15. University System of Maryland Regents Mentoring Award, 2012.

Involvement in CRA Activities

- CRA Board Member, 2016-Present. Chair of committee on teaching faculty at research universities (2016-2018); coauthor of Best Practices Memo
- Laying a Foundation: Best Practices for Engaging Teaching Faculty in Research Computing Departments. Co-chair, Snowbird 2020 (cancelled) and 2022 organizing committees. Member, CRA Reimagining Governance Committee (2020-2021). Member, Taulbee Committee (2020-Present).

Other Relevant Experience

- ABET Program Evaluator, 2019-Present.

Research Interests

- Data Visualization Computing Education Broadening Participation in Computing

Personal Statement

I would be honored to continue to serve CRA, with a focus on departmental governance, teaching faculty, computing education, and inclusive excellence. As a researcher, I have made seminal contributions in perceptual foundations, uncertainty visualization, and illustrative visualization, as well as co-founding the VIS Doctoral Colloquium and co-organizing the NIH/NSF Visualization Research Challenges workshops and report. As an educator, I have developed novel programs for first-year computing, transfer student success, and diversity in technology. As a leader at the flagship campus in a small state, I bring a unique perspective on the challenges of fostering computing research at public universities.

Penny Rheingans is Professor and Director of the School of Computing and Information Sciences at the University of Maine. She received a Ph.D in Computer Science from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and an AB in Computer Science from Harvard University. She has established an internationally recognized visualization research program supported by over \$9,000,000 in external funding as PI or CoPI, including the NSF CAREER award. Dr. Rheingans has over eighty peer-reviewed publications, including the NIH/NSF Visualization Research Challenges report, published in 2006 by IEEE. Dr. Rheingans co-chaired the papers program for Eurovis 2013 (Leipzig, Germany) and 2014 (Swansea, Wales), the premier European visualization publication venue, and co-founded the IEEE Vis/Infovis/VAST Doctoral Colloquium to provide mentoring to PhD candidates in visualization at the annual conference. She served on the editorial board of ACM Transactions on Applied Perception (2003 – 2015) and IEEE Transactions on Visualization and Graphics (2007 - 2010). She currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Computing Research Association (CRA), where she has led the authoring of a Best Practices Memo on teaching faculty and co-chaired the planning committees for Snowbird 2020 (cancelled) and 2022. Her current research interests include the visualization of data important to increasing student success, visualization of predictive models, visualization of data with variability or uncertainty, perceptual and illustration issues in visualization, and learning analytics. Previously, she was Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering (CSEE) and Director of the Center for Women in Technology (CWIT) at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. In 2012, Dr. Rheingans was awarded the University System Maryland (USM) Regents Mentoring Award.