

# Sarah Elizabeth Gillespie

PHD STUDENT · KHOURY COLLEGE OF COMPUTER SCIENCES

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## Education

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### Northeastern University: Khoury College of Computer Sciences

Boston, MA

#### PHD COMPUTER SCIENCE

2023 - present

- Advisor: Dr. Christo Wilson
- Khoury Distinguished Fellowship
- Member and Organizer, Khoury Women's PhD Group
- Coursework: Usable Security and Privacy, Medical Device Cybersecurity, Human-Computer Interaction, Wireless and Mobile Systems Security, Regulation of Technology in the Digital Economy, Web Development, Statistical Methods for Comp Sci

### Smith College

Northampton, MA

#### BA QUANTITATIVE ECONOMICS; STATISTICAL AND DATA SCIENCES

2018 - 2022

- Double Major: Quantitative Economics and Statistical and Data Sciences
- Special Study: Algorithm fairness teachable unit supervised by Professor Katherine Kinnaird

## Professional Experience

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2023-

Present **PhD Candidate & Research Assistant**, Khoury College of Computer Sciences, Northeastern University

Spring

**Teaching Assistant: CS4700 Network Fundamentals**, Khoury College of Computer Sciences, Northeastern

2026

University

2022-2023

**Metrologist / Quality Engineer**, Sartorius Stedim Biotech

2020-2021

**Market Monitoring Intern**, ISO New England Inc.

2019

**Intern**, Juris Productions

## Publications

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### PUBLISHED

Gunawan, J., **Gillespie, S.E.**, Choffnes, D., Hartzog, W., Wilson, C. 2025. Promises, Promises: Understanding Claims Made in Social Robot Consumer Experiences. Proceedings of the 2025 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '25).

Michel, S., Kaur, S., **Gillespie, S.E.**, Gleason, J., Wilson, C., Ghosh, A. 2025. "It's not a representation of me": Examining Accent Bias and Digital Exclusion in Synthetic AI Voice Services. Proceedings of the 2025 ACM Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAcCT '25).

**Gillespie, S.E.**, Wilson, C. 2024. Investigating the Datafication of Your Car. IEEE Security 8th Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection (ConPro '24).

### IN REVIEW

Privacy in the Rearview: Empirical Analysis of Connected Vehicle Data Exposure

### IN PREP

Heterogeneity of Vehicle DSAR Responses: Crowd-sourced DSARs from vehicle companies

AI Social Robots: safety analysis regarding response content, self-harm, and privacy

## Awards, Fellowships, & Grants

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- 2026-2028 **Trainee Fellowship: Platforms for Exchange and Allocation of Resources (PEAR)**, National Science Foundation Research Traineeship Program
- 2023-2024 **Khoury Distinguished Fellowship**, Northeastern University, Khoury College of Computer Sciences
- 2022 **Five College Statistics Prize for outstanding service to statistics**, Smith College, Statistical and Data Sciences Program

## Presentations

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### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- May 2026 - co-author presenting. *Automatic Transmission: An Empirical Study of Data Privacy in the Connected Vehicle Ecosystem*. Embedded Security in Cars (ESCAR) USA 2026, Detroit, Michigan, USA.
- April 2026. *Privacy in the Rearview: Empirical Analysis of Connected Vehicle Data Exposure*. Khoury Security and Privacy Day, Boston, MA, USA.
- May 2024. *Investigating the Datafication of Your Car*. IEEE Security 8th Workshop on Technology and Consumer Protection (ConPro '24), San Francisco, CA, USA.

### CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

- ACM CHI 2025 and 2026 - Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems
- PETS 2025 - Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium
- CS Law 2024 - Computer Science and Law Conference
- IEEE S&P 2024 - IEEE Symposium on Security and Privacy

## Outreach & Professional Development

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### SERVICE AND OUTREACH

- 2023- Present **Khoury Women's PhD Group**, Organizer Boston, MA,  
USA
- 2025 **Mon(IoT)r Lab**, Student Recruitment Boston, MA,  
USA
- 2021 **Smithies in Statistical and Data Sciences**, President Northampton,  
MA, USA

### DEVELOPMENT

**Algorithm Fairness Teachable Unit**, Smith College Special Study supervised by Professor Katherine Kinnaird. Developed comprehensive curriculum on creating transparent, trustworthy, and fair machine learning algorithms with focus on preventing discrimination against protected classes. Curriculum includes different definitions of fairness, mathematics behind trust scores, and hands-on implementation labs.

### RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Consumer Protection and AI Ethics
- Algorithm Auditing
- Privacy and Tracking
- AI Social Robots
- Dark Patterns
- Datafication and IoT Devices