

Talie Massachi

tmassachi@gmail.com

<https://linkedin.com/in/taliem> | <https://talie.town> | <https://github.com/Shmaltalk>

Research Interests

Building social support through social media. Building clinical and personal tools to increase the availability of mental health services. Personalized affect detection, prediction over private messages.

Education

Brown University, Providence, RI August 2019 – Present
PhD Candidate, Computer Science
Advised by: Jeff Huang

Brandeis University, Waltham, MA August 2014 – May 2018
B.S. Computer Science (High Honors), Psychology
Minor: Mathematics
Thesis: [Image Priors for Image Colorization](#)
Advised by: James Storer

Publications

Sochiatrist: Signals of Affect in Messaging Data [PDF](#) [Video](#) CSCW 2020
Talie Massachi, Grant Fong, Varun Mathur, Sachin Pendse, Gabriela Hofer, Jessica Fu, Chong Wang, Nikita Ramoji, Nicole Nugent, Megan Ranney, Daniel Dickstein, Michael Arme, Ellie Pavlick, Jeff Huang

Racing Heart and Sweaty Palms [PDF](#) IVA 2017
Mathieu Chollet, *Talie Massachi*, Stefan Scherer

Work Experience

Brown University: PhD Student and Research Assistant August 2019 – Present

- Manage a team of three students working on research projects focusing on affect detection and emotional disclosure over social media and private messaging
- Collaborate with psychologists and clinical researchers to develop systems to increase the availability of mental health services

Constructor.io: Software Engineer *Python, C, SQL* June 2018 – June 2019

- Implemented Boolean expression simplification algorithm for performant query expansion
- Designed and developed APIs for creating, updating, and retrieving synonym data
- Prototyped system to broaden results for unsuccessful searches through token removal
- Refactored synonym storage to use a relational database

University of Southern California: Research Assistant C# June 2016 – August 2016

- Designed and implemented real-time functionality to improve virtual reality system aiming to treat public speaking anxiety
- Developed and ran an experiment with 25 participants to measure the effect of audience response on speaker emotional state

Research Projects

Chime [Website](#) January 2020 – Present
A social, mood-tracking mobile app encouraging social support through emoji-only communication.

Sochiatrist [Website](#) August 2019 – Present
A data extractor for social messaging data used to predict signals of mental health. It has been used in clinical studies to extract data, with explicit consent, from over 350 study participants.

Service

Brown University

Sheridan Teaching Center Grad Liaison, *Computer Science Department* September 2021 – Present
Communications Director, *Graduate Labor Organization (GLO)* October 2020 – Present
Grad Student Diversity Initiative, *Computer Science Department (unofficial)* September 2020 – Present
PhD Admit Events Organizer, *Computer Science Department* February 2020 – March 2020

Brandeis University

Undergraduate Department Representative, *Computer Science Department* May 2017 – May 2018
Lead Organizer, *Codestellation (Brandeis Hackathon)* May 2016 – May 2018
President/Treasurer, *BITMAP (Brandeis Computer Science club)* May 2015 – May 2018

Teaching Experience

Brown University

Graduate Teaching Assistant, *User Interfaces and User Experience* August 2020 – December 2020

Brandeis University

Teaching Assistant, *Introductory Java and Python* September 2015 – December 2017
Mentor, *Introductory Computer Programming* September 2016 – December 2016

Reviewing Experience

CHI (2022), CIKM (2020)

Invited Talk

Affect in Social Media Messaging, Center for Digital Health (CDH) Seminar Series, Brown University.
December 2020.

Honors and Awards

| | |
|--|------|
| Invitation & travel grant for CRA-W Grad Cohort Workshops | 2021 |
| GHC Scholarship for Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing | 2016 |

Student Mentoring

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| John Roy , Brown University undergraduate | January 2020 – Present |
| Lauren Choi , Brown University undergraduate | January 2020 – August 2021 |
| Eindra Kyi , Visiting summer research assistant | June 2020 – September 2020 |
| Jordan Idehen , Brown University summer research student | July 2020 |
| Catherine Li , Brown University undergraduate | January 2021 – Present |
| Neil Xu , Brown University undergraduate | May 2021 – Present |
| Cat Mai , Visiting summer research assistant | June 2021 – September 2021 |
| Zainab Iftikhar , Brown University PhD student | August 2021 – Present |