

Ha-Kyung (Hidy) Kong

152 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623

✉ hidy.kong at rit dot edu | 🏠 www.hidykong.com | 📧 hidykong | 📺 hidykong

Rochester Institute of Technology

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

Rochester, NY

Fall 2023 -

Education

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

PHD IN COMPUTER SCIENCE

Advisor: Dr. Karrie Karahalios

Champaign, IL

Aug 2019

Calvin College

B.S. IN COMPUTER SCIENCE (WITH HONORS DISTINCTION)

B.A. IN MUSIC (WITH HONORS DISTINCTION)

Grand Rapids, MI

May 2013

Research Interests

My research in Human-Computer Interaction aims to facilitate communication through visualizations. I design, build, and evaluate interactive systems to study people's perceptions and usage of data visualization in various domains including healthcare and the media.

Research and Professional Experience

Assistant Professor

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

- Taught courses including data structures, discrete math, UX design, and visual analytics
- Advised individual students and capstone groups, served on various committees
- Conducted research on infographics with master and undergraduate students

Seattle, WA

Fall 2019 - Spring 2023

Research Assistant

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA CHAMPAIGN

- Iteratively developed the design for a Family Behavior Support app (FBSapp) and implemented the app in Swift
- Held bi-weekly meetings with special education professors and graduate students to develop the FBSapp

Champaign, IL

Fall 2016 - Spring 2019

Research Intern

ADOBE CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES LAB

- Studied presenters' preferences and uses of visual cues that guide the audience's attention to a particular area of a visualization. Developed a visual cue taxonomy and a visual cue webtool (VisualQ).
- Studied frames and slants in visualization titles and how they affect visualization interpretation.

San Francisco, CA

Summer 2016, 2017

Website Developer

CALVIN COLLEGE

- Designed and implemented the parsing of a hymn database website
- Worked with different types of XML files and published books on Amazon and iBook

Grand Rapids, MI

Summer 2012 - Spring 2013

Publications

Journal articles (peer-reviewed)

- [J.9] Puranik, A., Chen, E., Peiris, R., & **Kong, H. K.** (2026). “Not a Collaborator or a Supervisor, but an Assistant: Striking the Balance Between Efficiency and Ownership in AI-incorporated Qualitative Data Analysis.” In Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact, 1(CSCW).
- [J.8] **Kong, H. K.**, Zainab, F., Turner, A., Bekemeier, B., & Backonja U. (2025). “Trends in and effectiveness of infographics for health communication: A scoping review.” Health Communication. (18% acceptance rate)
- [J.7] Cullen, R., Heitkemper, E., Backonja, U., Bekemeier, B., & **Kong, H. K.** (2024). “Designing an infographic webtool for public health.” In Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association (JAMIA).
- [J.6] Do, H., **Kong, H. K.**, Tetali, P., Karahalios, K., & Bailey, B. (2023). “Inform, Explain, or Control: Techniques to Adjust End-User Performance Expectations for a Conversational Agent Facilitating Group Chat Discussions.” In Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact, 1(CSCW).
- [J.5] Do, H., **Kong, H. K.**, Tetali, P., Lee, J. & Bailey, B. (2022). “To Err is AI: Imperfect Interventions and Repair in a Conversational Agent Facilitating Group Chat Discussions.” In Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact, 1(CSCW).
- [J.4] Do, H., **Kong, H. K.**, Lee, J. & Bailey, B. (2022). “How Should the Agent Communicate to the Group? Communication Strategies of a Conversational Agent in Group Chat Discussions.” In Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact, 1(CSCW).
- [J.3] **Kong, H. K.***, Lee, J.*, & Karahalios, K. (2017). “A Comparative Study of Visualizations with Different Granularities of Behavior for Communicating about Autism.” In Proc. ACM Hum.-Comput. Interact, 1(CSCW), 59-1. (27% acceptance rate)
*Both authors contributed equally to this work
- [J.2] Rahman, S., Aliakbarpour, M., **Kong, H. K.**, Blais, E., Karahalios, K., Parameswaran, A., & Rubinfeld, R. (2017). “I’ve seen enough: incrementally improving visualizations to support rapid decision making.” In Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment, 10(11), 1262-1273.
- [J.1] **Kong, H. K.**, Liu, Z., & Karahalios, K. (2017, June). “Internal and external visual cue preferences for visualizations in presentations.” In Computer Graphics Forum (Vol. 36, No. 3, pp. 515-525). (27% acceptance rate)

Conference proceedings (peer-reviewed)

- [C.15] Ye, R., Huang, O., Lee, P. Y. K., Liut, M., Nobre, C., & **Kong, H. K.** “Reflexis: Supporting Reflexivity and Rigor in Collaborative Qualitative Analysis through Design for Deliberation.” In Proceedings of the 2026 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. ACM. (25.3% acceptance rate)
- [C.14] **Kong, H. K.**, Lowy, R., Choi, Y., & Kim, J. G. “Working Together Toward Interdependence: Chatbot-Based Support for Balanced Social Interactions Between Neurodivergent and Neurotypical Individuals.” In Proceedings of the 2025 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. ACM. (24.9% acceptance rate)
- [C.13] **Kong, H. K.**, Xie, D., Chandra, A., Lowy, R., Maignan, A.F., Ha, S., Park, C.H., & Kim, J. G. “Co-designing Robot Dogs with and for Neurodivergent Individuals: Opportunities and Challenges.” In The 26th International ACM SIGACCESS Conference on Computers and Accessibility (ASSETS ’24). (30.0% acceptance rate)
- [C.12] **Kong, H. K.**, Yadav, S., Lowy, R., Ruzinov, D. & Kim, J. G. “Understanding web search practices of neurodiverse young adults to support their independence.” In Proceedings of the 2024 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. ACM. (26.3% acceptance rate)
- [C.11] Jung G., Oh J., Jung Y., Sun J., **Kong, H. K.**, & Lee U. “Good Enough!”: Flexible Goal Achievement with Margin-based Outcome Evaluation.” In Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. ACM. (26.3% acceptance rate)
- [C.10] Kim, J. G., **Kong, H. K.**, Hong, H, & Karahalios, K. “Enriched Social Translucence in Medical Crowdfunding.” In Proceedings of the 2020 Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS). ACM. (24% acceptance rate)
- [C.9] **Kong, H. K.** & Karahalios, K. “Addressing Cognitive and Emotional Barriers in Parent-Clinician Communication through Behavioral Visualization Webtools.” In Proceedings of the 2020 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. ACM. (24.3% acceptance rate)

- [C.8] **Kong, H. K.**, Liu, Z., & Karahalios, K. “Trust and Recall of Information across Varying Degrees of Title-Visualization Misalignment.” In Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (p. 346). ACM. (23.8% acceptance rate)
- [C.7] **Kong, H. K.**, Zhu, W., Liu, Z., & Karahalios, K. “Understanding Visual Cues in Visualizations Accompanied by Audio Narrations.” In Proceedings of the 2019 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (p. 50). ACM. (23.8% acceptance rate)
- [C.6] **Kong, H. K.**, Liu, Z., & Karahalios, K. “Frames and Slants in Titles of Visualizations on Controversial Topics.” In Proceedings of the 2018 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (p. 438). ACM. (25.7% acceptance rate)
- [C.5] **Kong, H. K.**, & Karahalios, K. “Parental Perceptions, Experiences, and Desires of Music Therapy.” In AMIA Annual Symposium Proceedings (Vol. 2016, p. 1870). American Medical Informatics Association.
- [C.4] Lee, J., **Kong, H. K.**, Lin, S., & Karahalios, K. “Plexlines: Tracking Socio-communicative Behaviors Using Timeline Visualizations.” In AMIA Annual Symposium Proceedings (Vol. 2016, p. 1890). American Medical Informatics Association.
- [C.3] **Kong, H. K.***, Lee, J.*, Ding, J., & Karahalios, K. “EnGaze: Designing Behavior Visualizations with and for Behavioral Scientists.” In Proceedings of the 2016 ACM Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS, pp. 1185-1196). ACM. (26% acceptance rate)
- [C.2] Kim, J. G., **Kong, H. K.**, Karahalios, K., Fu, W. T., & Hong, H. “The power of collective endorsements: credibility factors in medical crowdfunding campaigns.” In Proceedings of the 2016 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (pp. 4538-4549). ACM. (23.4% acceptance rate)
- [C.1] **Kong, H. K.**, Wu, Y. W., Bailey, B., & Karahalios, K. (2015). “Culture, Imagined Audience, and Language Choices of Multilingual Chinese and Korean Students on Facebook.” In International Conference on Social Informatics (pp. 1-16). Springer, Cham.

Short Papers, Workshops, and Posters (peer-reviewed)

- Jung, S., Song, J., Song Y., Seo, J., & **Kong, H. K.** “A Scoping Review on How HCI Researchers Visualize Thematic Analysis Results.” In Proceedings of the Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (2026).
- La, H., Li, Z., **Kong, H. K.**, & Peiris, R. L. “Exploring the Efficacy of a Chatbot Training Application in Alleviating Graduate Students’ Public-Speaking Anxiety During Q&A.” In Proceedings of the Extended Abstracts of the CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (2025, April, pp. 1-7). (32.8% acceptance rate)
- Kong, H. K.**, Zhu, R., Lu, A. Z., He, M., & Yuwen, W. “The Effects of Data Visualization on User Perceptions of a Health Chatbot.” 13th workshop on Visual Analytics in Healthcare 2022.

Selected Honors, Awards & Grants

- 2025-2026 **Connect Grant - AdvanceRIT:** Mini Program for Emerging Women Researchers on Improving VRI.
PI: Ha-Kyung Kong
Total: \$2,990 (USD)
- 2025 **Special Recognition for Outstanding Review**
 CHI 2025x2, 2023x2, 2021; IUI 2025x2; CHI LBW 2025; DIS 2025; CSCW 2024
- 2022-2026 **NSF CISE CRII Award:** Visualization-Based Multimodal Data Analysis for Qualitative Research.
PI: Ha-Kyung Kong
Total: \$174,734 (USD)
- 2020,2021 **Undergraduate Student/Faculty Research Support Award (Seattle University)**
Total: \$12,447 (USD)
- 2018-2019 **Marion Morse Wood Fellowship**
Total: \$12,000 (USD) stipend with full-tuition coverage
- 2017 **Grace Hopper Celebration of Women in Computing (GHC) Student Scholarship**
- Fall 2014 **Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**
- 2013 **CCA Computing Award** Awarded to the top graduating senior in computer science
- 2009-2013 **Trustee Scholarship** Awarded to top 3% of first-year students accepted

Teaching Experience

Instructor

Rochester, NY

ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Fall 2023 – present

- HCIN 610 —Foundations of Human-Computer Interaction (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)
- HCIN 620 —Information and Interaction Design (Fall 2025)
- HCIN 630 —Usability Testing (Fall 2024, Spring 2026)

Instructor

Seattle, WA

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2019 – Spring 2023

- CPSC 2430 —Data Structures (Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Winter 2021, Fall 2021)
- CPSC 2600 —Foundations of Computer Science (Fall 2021, Winter 2022)
- CPSC 3400 —Languages and Computation (Winter 2023)
- CPSC 4220/5220 —User Experience Design (Spring 2021, Spring 2022)
- CPSC 5320 —Visual Analytics (Winter 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022)

Teaching Assistant

Champaign, IL

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA CHAMPAIGN

Fall 2013 – Spring 2016

- INFO103 (≈ 40 students) – Created and graded a machine problem, led weekly lab sections
- CS101 (≈ 700 students) - Led two weekly lab sections of 40 students
- CS467 - Social Visualizations (≈ 90 students) - Reviewed the weekly paper critiques & mentored and evaluated design projects

Invited Talks

ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

- GCCIS PhD Colloquium Series - Trust and Bias: Guiding Communication through Visualizations - 9/20/2024
- iSchool Insights Seminar - Trust and Bias: Guiding Communication through Visualizations - 2/29/2024

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

- BIME 533 [Public Health and Informatics] - Public Health Infographics - 02/02/2021, 02/01/2022, 02/14/2023

KOREA MILITARY ACADEMY

- Seminar - Addressing Cognitive and Emotional Barriers in Parent-Clinician Communication through Visualization Webtools - 09/28/2021

GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

- CS 4803 [Personal Health Informatics] - Guiding Communication through Data Visualizations - 02/17/2021

KOREA ADVANCED INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- IE481 [Data Visualization] - Guiding Communication through Data Visualizations - 06/18/2020

SEATTLE UNIVERSITY

- CPSC 5890 [Seminar] - Guiding Communication through Data Visualizations - 05/20/2020

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA CHAMPAIGN

- CS598K GK [Social Spaces] - Misinformation and Consequences - 9/13/2018
- CS598K GK - Public Displays and Performance - 9/12/2017
- CS467 [Social Visualization] - NLP, Sentiment Analysis, Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition - 03/29/2016
- CS467 - Ethics and Privacy - 11/18/2014
- CS467 - NLP, Sentiment Analysis, Machine Learning and Pattern Recognition - 10/28/2014
- CS467 - Audio-Video Systems - 10/21/2014
- CS105 [Intro Computing]- Recursion - 11/11/2013

Academic and Community Services

Associate Chair CHI 2022-2026

Program Committee ASSETS 2026, IUI 2026, COMPSAC 2019

Funding Reviewer NSF Proposal Review Panel 2021, The Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI) 2021

Reviewer CSCW 2022, 2024 & 2025, PacificVis 2025, Digital Health 2025, TiiS 2025, IJHCI 2025, DIS 2023-2025, Health Communication 2024, VIS 2018 & 2020-2023, TVCG 2022, CHI 2018-2022, SIGGRAPH 2021, CGA 2020, C&C 2019, AMIA 2017 & 2019, JAMIA 2018

Mentor Girls who Code, San Francisco, U.S.A., Summer 2016

Student Volunteer 2018 ACM CSCW, Jersey City, U.S.A., Nov 2018

RIT - University Committee Institutional Review Board Member, Outstanding Educator Committee, GCCIS PhD Curriculum Committee, iSchool Staff and Faculty Development Committee

SU - University Committee Office of Sponsored Projects Advisory Committee, CS Professionalism and DEI Committee, Boeing Diversity Committee