

HYP_Link

UCSD To Create a New School to Advance Data Science and Prepare Graduates to Propel Innovations in AI

Mark Nossokoff and Tom Sorensen
August 2024

RECENT DEVELOPMENT

The University of California Board of Regents recently approved [the creation of a new school at UC San Diego](#) aimed to provide students opportunities to engage directly with industry and government partners, and learn first-hand how data science can allow organizations to better address a broad range of societal problems such as climate change mitigation, social justice issues, technical challenges, and healthcare. The School of Computing, Information and Data Sciences (SCIDS) intends to combine the strengths of the San Diego Supercomputer Center (SDSC) and the Halicioğlu Data Science Institute (HDSI) to create a curriculum to advance data science and AI state-of-the-art.

ANALYST COMMENTARY

In Hyperion Research's most recent global site survey, organizations cited "Level of in-house AI expertise" as the second largest barrier to furthering their AI capabilities, behind only "Quality of available training data." Lacking the talent to be able to fully integrate AI into workflows and business processes, many organizations will likely be unable to advance beyond the experimentation phase of their understanding of AI and its potential benefits.

The University of California Board of Regents is wise in identifying this global talent gap and creating a school to develop the curriculum to produce graduates well versed in AI and data science capabilities. Furthermore, selecting UCSD from the 10 campuses in the University of California system to house the school recognizes UCSD's heritage and contributions already made in the fields of computer science, high performance computing, data science, and AI education and research.

UCSD is anticipated to be one of only a handful of worldwide academic institutions with both an AI-focused data science school and supercomputer capabilities ranked in the Top500. With access to UCSD's many resources (e.g., on-site HPC and AI infrastructure, engagements with industry, global academic relationships), graduates of SCIDS should be well prepared to fill the global expertise gap with not only the academic background of the complexities of AI and its applications, but also the real-world relevance and use of the technology. Other leading academic institutions with advanced supercomputing resources are expected to follow suit.

Copyright Notice

Copyright 2024 Hyperion Research LLC. Reproduction is forbidden unless authorized. All rights reserved. Visit www.HyperionResearch.com to learn more. Please contact 612.812.5798 and/or email info@hyperionres.com for information on reprints, additional copies, web rights, or quoting permission.