Anya Bouzida

Computer Science and Engineering
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Research Interests

HRI, Human-Centered AI, HCI, Health Informatics, Incremental Machine Learning

Education

University of California, San Diego — *June 2026 (Expected)*
Ph.D., Computer Science and Engineering
Advisor: Dr. Laurel D. Riek

University of California, San Diego; *Summa Cum Laude* — *June 2021*
B.S., Cognitive Science specializing in Machine Learning & Neural Computation
Minor, Computer Science and Engineering

MiraCosta Community College — *May 2019*
A.A., Liberal Arts – Math and Sciences

Awards & Honors

Best Paper Award Honorable Mention, ACM/IEEE Human Robot Interaction	March 2024
NSF GRFP Fellow	March 2023
CRA-WP Grad Cohort for IDEALS Member	March 2023
Inclusion Fellow, Robotics: Science and Systems	June 2022
CRA-WP Grad Cohort for Women Member	April 2022
Provost Honors, UCSD	FA 2019, WI 2020, SP 2020, FA 2021, WI 2021
President's Permanent Honor Roll, MiraCosta College	SP 2019
President's List, MiraCosta College	WI 2017, SP 2018, SP 2019

Publications

[3] **Bouzida, A.**, Murakami, M., and Riek, L.D. "Paper title anonymized". *Proceedings of the 2025 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, CHI '25 (In submission)*

[2] **Bouzida, A.***, Kubota, A.*, Cruz-Sandoval D., and Riek, L. D. (2024). CARMEN: A Cognitively Assistive Robot for Personalized Neurorehabilitation at Home. *ACM/IEEE Int'l Conference on Human Robot Interaction (HRI)*. [Acceptance rate: 24%]
Best Paper Honorable Mention (Top 5% of submissions)

[1] Guan, C., **Bouzida, A.**, Oncy-Avila, R., Moharana, S., and Riek, L.D. "Taking an (Embodied) Cue From Community Health: Designing Dementia Caregiver Support Technology to Advance Health Equity". *Proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, CHI '21*. pp. 1-24. [Acceptance rate: 26.3%]

Research Experience

Graduate Research Assistant

Personalizing a Robot Delivered Behavioral Health Intervention — *2021-Present*

- Leading system design and development of a multi-robot system to administer a cognitive behavioral intervention
- Creating new algorithms to promote long term engagement with a robot delivered cognitive behavioral intervention
- Conducting data analysis of longitudinal interaction and preference data

Participatory Design with people with mild cognitive impairment *2021-2022*

- Conducted participatory design research with older adults with mild cognitive impairment to critically understand their frustrations and needs from technology
- Led interviews, co-design sessions, and conducted thorough thematic analysis
- Generated design guidelines to improve technology design for this population

Undergraduate Research Assistant

Participatory Design in Dementia Care Contexts *2019-2021*

- Conducted qualitative research within the dementia care community to inform future robotics design to best assist people with dementia and their caregivers
- Engaged stakeholders in co-design sessions where a design probe was evaluated for its potential to aid people with advanced dementia during mealtimes

Supervisees

Soyon Kim (B.S. Mathematics - Computer Science) *2023-Present*
Michele Murakami (B.S. Cognitive Science) *2022-Present*
Karisma Kumar (B.S. Cognitive Science) *2023-2024*
Megna Anand (M.S. Electrical and Computer Engineering) *2022-2024*

Professional and Academic Service

Reviewer. HRI (*2023-2025*), RO-MAN (2024), ICSR (2024), CHI (2025)

Robotics Graduate Student Organization *2021-2024*

- **President** (2023-2024), **Treasurer** (2022-2023), **Communications** (2022-2023)
- Management of university student events as well as community outreach events

Vice President, Tau Sigma Transfer Honors Society *2020-2021*

- Organized social and community building events with local chapter members and the broader transfer community
- Organized leadership groups, and assigned tasks to leadership members

Teaching

Instructional Assistant - Introduction to Machine Learning II *Spring 2021*

- Guided five student final project groups of 5-6 people each
- Led group meetings where we solidified the team's research topic, methods, and goals; supported students understanding of course material necessary to have a successful project
- Held weekly discussions and office hours, reviewed lecture material
- Graded assignments and provided feedback and optimizations for final projects

Professional Competencies

Programming Languages: Python, Java, C, C++
Design Methods: Semi-Structured Interviewing, Thematic Analysis, Storyboarding, Figma
Python Libraries and DL Frameworks: PyTorch, NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-learn, Matplotlib
Machine Learning Domains: Unsupervised, Supervised, and Reinforcement Learning
Mathematics of Machine Learning: Vector Calculus, Linear Algebra, Probability, Statistics
Environments: Linux & UNIX, Git/GitHub Version Control
Spoken Languages: English, French