
Biosketch

Fred Martin is Professor of Computer Science and Interim Dean of the College of AI, Cyber and Computing at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Appointed as Interim Dean on June 1, 2025, Dr. Martin is launching UT San Antonio's new College of AI, Cyber and Computing. He is creating synergies across four departments: two existing ones, Computer Science and Information Systems & Cybersecurity, and two new ones, Statistics & Data Science and Computer Engineering. He appointed four associate deans, mentors four department chairs and three institute/center director leads, and oversees a team of 15 total college staff members. He designed a college-based student support structure based on six additional full-time staff hires. He is creating cross-college programs to attract and retain increased enrollments and is preparing faculty, staff and students for a Summer 2026 physical move from the university's Main Campus to anchor its Downtown Campus.

As chair, from 2023 through 2025, Dr. Martin led UT San Antonio's thriving department of computer science with 52 faculty members, more than 2,000 undergraduate majors, 98 Master's students, and 83 PhD students. In FY24, the department supported research expenditures of \$16.4M, including those of its Center for Infrastructure Assurance and Security (CIAS) and Institute for Cyber Security (ICS). Martin supervised three direct reports and oversaw a department team of eight total staff members; prioritized mentoring of faculty, both tenure-track and teaching-track; and created new experiential learning opportunities for its students.

As a scholar, Dr. Martin's research focuses on K–12 computer science, data science, and artificial intelligence education. He develops innovative technologies that create new experiential learning opportunities for K–12 students. He has been supported with more than \$5.5M of external funding raised as PI, including the NSF CAREER award and a new \$200K award (2025) to enhance teacher understanding and ethical classroom use of AI, in partnership with the Northside Independent School District, the largest in San Antonio, TX. Martin co-founded the AI4K12 Initiative (aik12.org) which now guides AI K–12 education research and curriculum initiatives worldwide; Martin and the team won the AAI/EAAI Outstanding Educator Award in 2022.

Prior to joining UT San Antonio, Dr. Martin built a 21-year career at the University of Massachusetts Lowell, a regional public institution with about 17,000 students. With a computer science faculty appointment in a Sciences college, Martin served in college-wide faculty success and student success roles for 12 years, including collaborations with the university's advancement, admissions, residence life, and student wellness units. He served six years as an associate dean leading experiential learning initiatives for the college's undergraduates and in career support for its 45 teaching-track faculty members.

- **Advocated for University’s first-gen student program.** Led college engagement with River Hawk Scholars Academy, the campus program for first-generation students.
- **Hosted university Admissions events.** Held lead role in organizing and hosting in-person and virtual Admissions events. Emcee’d student panel conversations with parents and prospective students.
- **Coordinated K–12 outreach.** Worked with faculty to organize visits with K–12 school partners.

Committee Service

- 2020–2021 **University Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force Teaching and Learning Environment committee.** Co-chaired faculty/staff task force to develop recommendations for campus support of equitable student outcomes in teaching and learning.
- Summer 2020 **Delivering Labs and Studios COVID-19 response task force.** Led committee to develop guidance for campus in-person laboratory and studios courses in Fall 2020 semester.
- 2018–2023 **University Academic Technology Committee.** Co-chaired with university CIO campus faculty/staff committee. Evaluated and supported adoption of educational technologies.
- 2018–2023 **JED Campus Team and Faculty Engagement Mental Health Task Force.** Served on campus-wide and faculty-facing teams to develop university responses to ameliorate the student mental health crisis (which, sadly, pre-dated Covid).

Funding Awarded as PI

Total external funding raised as PI is \$5.5M.

Awarded at UT San Antonio

- 2025 **\$203,066, National Science Foundation, DRL-2524230**, “Collaborative Research: EducateAI: Building Capacity for Teacher and Student AI Fluency in Middle Schools in Texas and New York,” PI and collaborative lead of NSF submission to build middle school teacher and student fluency in AI with school districts in Texas (Northside ISD in San Antonio) and New York (Schenectady City Schools). Total project award with DRL-2524231 is \$317,437.
- 2023 **\$235,723, National Science Foundation, IIS-2112633**, “AI Institute for Collaborative Assistance and Responsive Interaction for Networked Groups (AI-CARING),” PI of subaward for my work in AI education as part of the NSF AI-CARING AI Institute.

Federal Awards at UMass Lowell

- 2020 **\$114,626, National Science Foundation, CNS-1923452**, Supplement to “Collaborative Research: CS Pathways RPP: A District Ownership-based Approach to Middle School Computer Science,” to address teaching computer science remotely.
- 2019 **\$573,134, National Science Foundation, CNS-1923452**, “Collaborative Research: CS Pathways RPP: A District Ownership-based Approach to Middle School Computer Science.” Lead PI of two-institution collaborative award totaling \$1M.
- 2014 **\$1,198,639, National Science Foundation, DRL-1433592**, “Middle School Pathways in Computer Science.”
- 2012 **\$106,498, National Science Foundation, DUE-1225719**, “Collaborative Research: Computational Thinking Through Mobile Computing.”
- 2011 **\$1,057,626, National Science Foundation, IIS-1123972**, “DIP: Collaborative Research: Transforming Science Learning with an Interactive Web Environment for Data Sharing and Visualization.”
- 2007 **\$407,797, National Science Foundation, DRL-0735597**, “Collaborative Research: Internet System for Networked Sensor Experimentation.”
- 2006 **\$715,103, National Science Foundation, DRL-0624669**, “iCODE: Building an Internet Community of Design Engineers.”
- 2006 **\$599,943, National Science Foundation, DRL-0546513**, “Embedded Computing and Authentic Inquiry in Middle School Science,” an Early Career Development award.

Foundation and Industrial Awards at UMass Lowell

- 2022 **\$4,000, SIGCSE**, “A participatory approach to integrating machine learning into core subjects: Evidence from in-service teachers” with Ismaila Sanusi
- 2013 **\$14,000, Google**, “CS4HS 2013: Computer Science for High School Teacher Conference”
- 2012 **\$39,795, Google**, “Video Analytics on Android for High School Science Projects”
- 2012 **\$14,000, Google**, “CS4HS 2012: Computer Science for High School Teacher Conference”

Publications

110 publications including 19 journal articles, 61 peer-reviewed conference papers, 1 book, 7 book chapters, and 8 professional magazine articles. Full list available at <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=rqpdAPOAAAAAJ>.

Google Scholar h-index of 37 with 8,760 citations (December 20, 2025)

Scopus h-index of 18 with 3,043 citations (December 20, 2025)

Work at UT San Antonio with students* and colleagues† highlighted

Selected widely cited papers

- Lee, I., **Martin, F.**, Denner, J., Coulter, W., Allan, Erickson, J., Malyn-Smith, J., Werner, L. (2011). “Computational thinking for youth in practice.” *ACM Inroads*, **2**(1), pp 32–37, March 2011.
- Touretzky, D., Gardner-McCune, C., **Martin, F.**, and Seehorn, D. (2019). “Envisioning AI for K-12: What should every child know about AI?” In *Proceedings of the Thirty-Third AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence*, January 27-February 1, 2019, Honolulu, HI.
- Martin, F.G.** (2012). “Will massive open online courses change how we teach?” *Communications of the ACM*, **55**(8), p. 26–28.
- Sherman, M. and **Martin, F.** (2015). “The assessment of mobile computational thinking.” *Journal of Computing Sciences in Colleges*, **30**(6), June 2015, p. 53–59.
- Furey, H. and **Martin, F.** (2018). “AI education matters: A modular approach to AI ethics education.” *AI Matters*, **4**(4), 13–15.

Refereed Journals (19)

- Saniya Vahedian Movahed*** and **Fred Martin** (2025). “Ask Me Anything: Exploring Children’s Attitudes Toward an Age-tailored AI-powered Chatbot.” *International Journal of Artificial Intelligence in Education*, Springer Nature. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40593-025-00523-4>.
- Sanusi, I.T., **Martin, F.**, Ma, R., Gonzales, J.E., Mahipal, V., Oyelere, S.S., Suhonen, J. and Tukiainen, M. (2024). “AI MyData: Fostering Middle School Students’ Engagement with Machine Learning through an Ethics-Infused AI Curriculum.” *ACM Trans. Comput. Educ.* **24**, 4. <https://doi.org/10.1145/3702242>.
- Ni, L., Bausch, G., Thomas-Cappello, E., **Martin, F.**, and Feliciano, B. (2024). “Creating Apps for Community and Social Good: Preliminary Learning Outcomes from a Middle School Computer Science Curriculum.” *ACM Trans. Comput. Educ.* **24**, 3, <https://doi.org/10.1145/3658674>.
- Lee, I., Grover, S., **Martin, F.**, Pillai, S., & Malyn-Smith, J. (2020). “Computational thinking from a disciplinary perspective: Integrating computational thinking in k-12 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education.” *Journal of Science Education and Technology*, **29**(1), 1–8.
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Refereed Conference Proceedings (61)

- Kayleigh Stallings***, **Nicole Tian***, **Elif Ercek***, **Haven Kotara***, **Devin Marinelli***, **Pragathi Durga Rajarajan***, **Daniel Schumacher***, **Ismaila Sanusi†**, and **Fred Martin**. (2026, in press). AI for Everyone: Engaging Middle Schoolers through Collaborative, Ethical, and Multimodal AI Learning. To appear in *Proceedings of the 57th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education V.1 (SIGCSE TS 2026)*, February 18–21, 2026, St. Louis, MO, USA. Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA, 7 pages. doi:10.1145/3770762.3772627.
- Ismaila Temitayo Sanusi†**, **Deepti Tagare†**, and **Fred Martin**. (2026, in press). A Research Course to

- Develop AI Tools for K–12 Learning. To appear in *Proceedings of the 57th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. doi:10.1145/3770762.3772631
- [Pragathi Durga Rajarajan*](#) and [Fred Martin](#). (2026, in press). On Teaching Image Recognition to Children at a Summer Camp. To appear in *Proceedings of the 57th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education*. ACM, New York, NY, USA. doi:10.1145/3770762.3772635
- [Saniya Vahedian Movahed*](#) and [Fred Martin](#) (2025). “From Play to Pedagogy: Discovering the Ecosystem of AI Educational Tools and Curricula.” In *Proceedings of the 2025 Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education (ITiCSE ’25)*, Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA. ***Nominated for Best Paper award.***
- [Pragathi Durga Rajaran*](#) and [Fred Martin](#) (2025). “IntoTheRabbitHole: A Web Application for Teaching Middle School Students About Search Algorithms” In *Proceedings of the 2025 Conference on Innovation and Technology in Computer Science Education (ITiCSE ’25)*, Association for Computing Machinery, New York, NY, USA. ***Nominated for Best Paper award.***
- [Saniya Vahedian Movahed*](#) and [Fred Martin](#) (2025). “From Pre-Conceptions to Theories: How Middle School Student Ideas about Predictive Text Evolve after Interaction with a New Software Tool.” In *CHI Extended Abstracts ’25*. ACM, New York, NY, USA.
- [Pragathi Durga Rajarajan*](#) and [Fred Martin](#) (2025). “FaunaForest: A Novel Software Tool for Teaching Decision Trees to Middle School Students.” In *2025 IEEE Integrated STEM Education Conference (ISEC)*, Princeton, NJ, USA, 2025.
- [Yeshaswini Parvatham*](#), [Aishat Kolawole*](#) and [Fred Martin](#) (2025). “ClawAI: A Software Tool Teaching Text Classification and AI Systems to Middle School Students.” In *IEEE ISEC*, Princeton, NJ, USA, 2025.
- [Ismaila Temitayo Sanusi†](#), [Marissa Muñoz†](#), Ruizhe Ma, and [Fred Martin](#) (2025). “Teacher Education for Data Science: How Teachers Integrate Data Science into Their Instruction for Middle-Grades Learners.” In *IEEE ISEC*, Princeton, NJ, USA, 2025.

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Books (1)

- [Martin, F.](#) (2001). *Robotic Explorations: A Hands-On Introduction to Engineering*. Prentice-Hall.

Professional Magazines (8)

- [Martin, F.G.](#) (2016). “Computational Thinking is a model-eliciting activity.” *CSTA Voice*, 12(1), March 2016, p. 8.

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Workshop Papers (5)

- Feliciano, B., Ni, L., [Martin, F.G.](#), Bausch, G., White, P., & Hsu, H. (2021). One-on-one meetings as Boundary Practices: Managing RPP Computer Science Curriculum Co-design. In *CS-forALL & SageFox Consulting Group (Eds.), The intersection of RPPs and BPC in CS education*. <https://par.nsf.gov/servlets/purl/10351381>.

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Other (9)

- [Martin, F.](#) (2019). “AI is automated decision-making, and it accelerates century-old algorithmic methods.” *CSTA Advocate*, <http://advocate.csteachers.org/2019/04/22/ai-is-automated-decision-making-and-it-accelerates-century-old-algorithmic-methods/>.

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Teaching

A prolific 24-year career developing and teaching undergrad and grad CS and interdisciplinary courses:

- **Core curriculum**—C++ programming, architecture, operating systems
- **Electives**—robotics, software engineering, artificial intelligence, languages
- **Interdisciplinary**—interaction design, “artbotics,” app design

At UTSA, I introduced “Developing AI Tools for K–12,” where students create novel software tools which introduce concepts in AI/ML and conduct education impact studies with K–12 learners.

Thesis Students Supervised

At UTSA, supervising three doctoral students (Kayleigh Stallings, Nicole Tian, and John Weaver), one master’s student (Haven Kotara), and one undergraduate research student (Durga Rajarajan).

PhD

- 2017 **Mark Sherman**, Detecting student progress during programming activities by analyzing edit operations on their blocks-based programs.
- 2014 **Derrell Lipman**, LearnCS! a browser-based research platform for CS1 and studying the role of instruction of debugging from early in the course.
- 2014 **Haiyang Zhang**, Exploiting many-core processors to optimize the performance of simultaneous localization and mapping.

Master’s

- 2022 **Vaishali Mahipal**, DoodleIt: Introducing middle school students to image recognition.
- 2016 **Farzeen Harunani**, AppVis: Enabling data-rich apps in app inventor.
- 2013 **Ramya Srinatha**, Student analytics for course recommendation.
- 2012 **Christopher Granz**, μ PINPoint: An inexpensive data logger for scientific experimentation and education.
- 2011 **Michael Penta**, Video game creation as a platform for mathematical learning.
- 2011 **John Fertitta**, Design and evaluation of dedicated smartphone applications for collaborative science education.
- 2011 **Derrell Lipman**, Liberated: A fully in-browser client *and* server web application debug and test environment.
- 2010 **James Dalphond**, Design and evaluation of an Internet based data repository and visualization system for science education.
- 2010 **Mark Sherman**, Exploration of the natural design strategies of novice engineers.

Technologies Developed

- 2019– **MYR**, a browser-based programming environment for beginning programmers to enjoy artistic expression by creating virtual reality scenes, learnmyr.org
- 2007– **iSENSE**, a cloud-hosted, browser-based data sharing and visualization platform, for middle and high school math, science, and data science education, isenseproject.org
- 1987–2000 **Programmable Bricks**, handheld robot controllers with coding environments, leading LEGO Mindstorms in 2000 and worldwide use of my “Handy Board” design