

George Hope Chidziwisano, Ph.D.

School of Information Sciences
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023 – Present: **Assistant Professor**
University of Tennessee
School of Information Sciences
Knoxville, Tennessee
- 2021 – 2023: **Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow**
Carnegie Mellon University
School of Computer Science
Human-Computer Interaction Institute
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
Mentors: Prof. John Zimmerman, Dr. Jason Hong, and Dr. Sarah Fox

EDUCATION

- 2018 – 2022: **Ph.D. in Information and Media**
Michigan State University
College of Communication Arts and Sciences
Department of Media and Information
PhD Committee: Dr. Susan Wyche, Dr. Kurtis Heimerl, Dr. Bree Holtz,
Dr. Stephanie B. Jordan, Dr. Eduardo Nakasone
- 2016 – 2018: **MA Human Computer Interaction**
Michigan State University
College of Communication Arts and Sciences
Department of Media and Information
Master's Committee: Dr. Susan Wyche, Dr. Jennifer Olson, Dr. Taiwoo Park
- 2012 – 2015: **BSc in Computer Science and Physics**
University of Malawi, Chancellor College

AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- Honorable Mention ACM Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (2023)
Google PhD Fellowship in HCI (2021)
Best Paper Award ACM Conference on Computing and Sustainable Societies (2021)
Mary Louise Gephart Donnell Fellowship (2020)
Mark Levy ICT4D Scholarship (2020, 2019)
MSU Summer Research Funding (2018, 2019, 2020)
MSU Council of Graduate Students Award (2017)
Facebook & Google Sponsored Malawi TNM Smart Challenge Finalist (2016)

RESEARCH AND INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- 2016 – 2021: **Graduate Research Assistant**
Michigan State University
Department of Information and Media
East Lansing, Michigan
- June – August 2020: **Data Science for Social Good Intern**

e-Science Institute
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington

July – Sept 2020: **Access Computing Summer Program Intern**
Global Innovation Exchange
University of Washington
Seattle, Washington

Spring 2017, 2020: **Graduate Teaching Assistant**
Michigan State University
Department of Information and Media
MI 401: Digital Communication and Society
MI 401: Avatar Psychology for Designers
ITM 444: Information Technology Management
MI 361: Network Management and Security

2014 – 2015: **Network Administrator**
e-Communications Research Group (eCRG)
University of Malawi

2013 – 2014: **Course Instructor**
Chancellor College, Malawi
ABMA Certificate Short Courses
Introduction to e-commerce
Introduction to programming in Java

2011 – 2012: **Maranatha High School Teacher**
Teaching high school students physics and chemistry

PUBLICATIONS:

Peer-Reviewed Journal Publications

2024: **Chidziwisano, G.**, Cummings, A., Potnis, D., Jalakasi, M. (2024).
“Understanding Urban Women’s Interaction with Domestic Technologies
in Malawi: Advancing Feminist Theories in HCI”. ACM Journal on
Computing and Sustainable Societies.

Peer-Reviewed Conference Publications

2023: Singh, Vandana, Bilal, D., Cox, A., **Chidziwisano G.**, Dinneen, J. (2023).
“Global AI Initiatives: From Theory to Practice.” Panel at the Association
for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T), 2023, October 27th to
30th, 2023, London, United Kingdom.

2023: **Chidziwisano, G.**, Jalakasi M. 2023. “Understanding Women's
Perspectives on Smart Home Security Systems in Patriarchal Societies of
Malawi.” Proceedings of the 2023 ACM Designing Interactive Systems
Conference (DIS'23), Virtual, (**Honorable Mention. Acceptance Rate: 24%**)

2021: **Chidziwisano, G.**, Mariakakis, A., Wyche, S., Mafeni, B., Banda, E. 2021.
“NkhukuProbe: Using a Sensor-Based Technology Probe to Support
Poultry Farming Activities in Malawi,” Fourth ACM conference on

Computing & Sustainable Societies (COMPASS'21), Virtual, ([Best Paper Award](#). [Acceptance Rate: 27%](#))

- 2020: **Chidziwisano, G.**, Wyche, S., Oduor E. 2020. “GridAlert: Using a Sensor-Based Technology to Monitor Power Blackouts in Kenyan Homes,” ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. (CHI ‘20), Honolulu, Hawaii, ([Acceptance Rate: 24.3%](#))
- 2020: **Chidziwisano, G.**, Kisyula R., Wyche, S., 2020. “SmartChama: Designing Collaborative Digital Financial Systems for Chama Groups in Kenya,” the 11th international conference on information and communication technologies and development. (ICTD ‘20), ESPOL, Ecuador
- 2018: Wyche, S., **Chidziwisano, G.**, Uwimbabazi, F. and Simiyu, N., 2018. “Defamiliarizing the Domestic: Exploring “M-Kopa Solar” Use and Sustainable Practices in Rural Kenyan Households,” First ACM conference on Computing & Sustainable Societies (COMPASS'18), Menlo Park, CA, Pgs. 35-46. ([Acceptance Rate: 28%](#))
- 2018: **Chidziwisano G.**, Wyche S., 2018. “M-Kulinda: Using Sensor Based Technology Probes to Explore Domestic Security in Rural Kenya” ACM SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. (CHI ‘18), Montreal, Canada, Paper No. 10. ([Acceptance Rate: 25.7%](#))

Posters and Workshop Publications

- 2022: **Chidziwisano G.**, 2022. Using Low-Cost Sensing and AI Technologies to diagnose and detect diseases in chickens. First U.S-Africa Frontiers of Science, Engineering, and Medicine. Nairobi, Kenya, October 2022.
- 2020: **Chidziwisano G.**, 2020. Investigating the Role of Sensor-Based Technologies in Resource-Constrained Households. Companion of the 2020 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing. ACM. Minneapolis, MN, October 2020.
- 2018: **Chidziwisano G.** 2020. Exploring Potentials of Sensor-Based Technologies in Rural Kenyan Homes HCIXB Symposium at CHI'18.

Thesis

- 2022: **Chidziwisano, G.**, 2022. Investigating the Role of Sensor Based Technologies to Support Domestic Activities in Sub-Saharan Africa, PhD Dissertation, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.
- 2018: **Chidziwisano, G.**, 2018. M-Kulinda: Exploring Domestic Security in Rural Kenya Using a Home Alert System, Master’s Thesis, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI.

INVITED PANELS

- 2023: “Diversity in the PR classroom: Diverse Perspectives and the Future of Artificial Intelligence”, Institute for Public Relations, November 16, 2023

- 2023: Bilal D. Chidziwisano G. Fleischmann K. Antonenko P. 2023. AI in Higher Education Symposium. University of Tennessee Office of Innovative Technologies.
- 2022: “Using Familiar Tools in an Unfamiliar Context: Sharing Co-designing Experiences in a Cross-Cultural Context”, ACM ICTD 2022 Conference Open Session, Seattle, Washington. June 2022

INVITED TALKS

- 2023: “Qualitative Research Methods in Practice”, University of Minnesota Guest Lecture to Design Undergraduate Students, October 10, 2023
- 2023: “Using Smart Home Technologies to Support Domestic Activities in the Global South”, University of Washington Change Seminar, February 7, 2023
- 2023: “Smart Home Technologies Beyond Western Societies”, 2023 Carnegie Science Center Hackathon, Keynote Speaker, January 28, 2023
- 2022: “Exploring the Role of Smart Security Systems in Resource Constrained Settings”, CMU Africa, Kigali, Rwanda. September 15, 2022
- 2022: “Exploring the Role of Smart Security Systems in Resource Constrained Settings”, Stanford University, Stanford, California. August 17, 2022
- 2019: “Malawi Tech Industry: an opportunity for youth empowerment”, Michigan State University, African Teatime, October 10, 2019.
- 2019: “Exploring the role of sensor-based technologies for domestic security in Kenya”, IBM Research, Kenya, June 20, 2019.
- 2019: “Exploring the role of sensor-based technologies for domestic security in Kenya”, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, May 23, 2019.
- 2017: “Use of sensor-based technologies for agriculture and domestic security in Kenya”, University of Michigan, Computer Science and Engineering Department, August 02, 2017.
- 2016: “Sustainable development: insights from design research in rural Kenya”, Michigan State University, World Usability Day, November 10, 2016.
- 2015: “Internet Independent Source of Source of Information for accessing weather information in rural areas”, National Symposium on Environment, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management, Lilongwe, Malawi, September 23, 2015.

TEACHING

- Spring 2024: INSC 311 User-Centered Design
- Spring 2024: INSC 260 Programming for Information Applications
- Fall 2023: INSC 311 User-Centered Design

ACADEMIC ADVISING

Ph.D. Students:

Tannaz Azadi (Since Spring 2024)

Teaching Assistants:

Adam Cummings (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

Tannaz Azadi (Fall 2023, Spring 2024)

SERVICE TO PROFESSION

ACM CHI 2024 Reviewer

ACM CHI 2023 AC

ACM DIS 2022 AC

ACM CHI LBW 2021 AC

ACM TOCHI 2023 Reviewer

ACM DIS 2021 Reviewer

ACM CSCW 2021 Reviewer

ACM UbiComp 2021 Reviewer

ACM CHI Reviewer (2021, 2020, 2019)

ACM CHI 2019 LBW Reviewer (2020, 2019)

SELECTED SOFTWARE & HARDWARE PRODUCTS

2019:	Nkhuku System: Poultry Farming System for Monitoring Coop Conditions
2019:	GridAlert: Power Blackout Monitoring System
2018:	SmartChama: Digital Financial System for Self-Help Groups in Kenya
2017:	M-Kulinda: Sensor Based Home Security System for Rural Africa
2016:	PaMsika Mobile App
2015:	Internet Independent Source of Information
2015:	Malawi TV White Space Database
2014:	Zanyengo App: The mobile app allows rural farmers to access weather information through their mobile phones

SKILLS

Software skills: Python, Java, C++, C, Machine Learning, JavaScript, PHP, R

Hardware Skills: Embedded Systems Development with Arduino, Raspberry PI, and Particle Electron

Language skills: English (fluent), Chichewa (native), Swahili (Basic understanding)