F. Megumi Kivuva

✉ megumik@uw.edu   in megumikivuva   🌐 https://megumikivuva.com/

Education

exp. 2027   **Ph.D. Candidate, University of Washington** in Information Science.
Advisor: Amy J. Ko, Center for Learning, Computing, and Imagination

2025   **MS, University of Washington** in Information Science

2022   **BA, Bard College** in Computer Science and Spanish Studies, minor in Experimental Humanities
Thesis: *¿Quien soy yo? [Who am I?]: Exploring Identity through analyzing Afro-Cuban poetry and creative coding in a post-secondary Spanish literature classroom.*

Certificate, Open Society University Network (OSUN) in Civic Engagement.

Research Experience

2022–   **Graduate Research Assistant.** *The University of Washington's Center for Learning, Computing, and Imagination* where I utilize community participatory research to understand the barriers to accessing computing education and co-design interventions to make computing education more accessible to refugee youth.

Lab Coordinator. *The University of Washington's Digital Youth Lab,* where I am responsible for organizing 3 lab events per quarter, and managing inquiries from undergraduates seeking research opportunities.

2021-2022   **Undergraduate Research Assistant.** *University of Washington, Code and Cognition Lab* where I researched emerging critical consciousness in secondary computer science classrooms by teaching a summer class to a diverse group of high school students in Seattle.

Teaching Experience

2022 –   **Volunteer Instructor** *Refugee Women's Alliance* Teach computer science-related lessons to 40 refugee students in grades 3-5. Chaperone field trips and provide homework assistance to students. Translate in Swahili and Spanish when needed.

Winter 2025   **Teaching Assistant** *Gender, Race, and Information* Assisted Prof. Wanda Pratt with preparing, teaching, and grading. Designed and delivered lectures and assignments for a unit about Race and Information.

Summer 2023   **Instructor** *Upward Bound: E-TECHstyles* Co-taught a six-week culturally relevant computing course for high school students as part of the Upward Bound Program, integrating hand and machine embroidery with block-based programming to support identity exploration and engagement through computational making.

2019 – 2022   **Media Corps Member** *Bard College Experimental Humanities Department* Taught and developed programming workshops centered around the intersection of literature and programming.

2020, 2022   **Teaching Assistant** *Literature in the Digital Age, Prof. Patricia Lopez-Gay* Taught class once a week for students attending class virtually; developed and taught all curriculum for the programming aspects of the course using Twine and p5.js.

2018 – 2022   **Lead STEM Education Fellow** *Bard College Center for Civic Engagement* Organized and developed STEM educational programming for community partners, catering to grades K12 in the Hudson Valley.

Teaching Experience (continued)

Summer 2021 · 🔖 **Teaching Assistant** *Upward Bound: Creatively Coding a Better Future* Supported instruction and co-facilitated a 6-week co-constructed, culturally responsive, computer science course for high school students focused on identity, justice, and agency in computing.

2014-2018 · 🔖 **Lead Intern** *Fund for the Advancement of Minorities through Education (FAME)* Taught pre-algebra to 15 seventh-grade students from varying academic backgrounds; planned week-long enrichment trips to universities and companies to expose students to different career paths; managed and trained new interns.

Publications

Conference and Journal Papers

In computing education, conferences are subject to a rigorous peer review, equating them with journal articles in significance. Typical acceptance rates are around 25–30% for SIGCSE and about 20–25% for ICER.

1. Jayne Everson, Rotem Landesman, **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Amy J. Ko, "Dreaming of difference: Imagining the future of cs education pedagogy with secondary students," in *Proceedings of the 2025 ACM Conference on International Computing Education Research V.1*, ser. ICER '25, Association for Computing Machinery, 2025, pp. 394–406, ISBN: 9798400713408. 🔗 DOI: 10.1145/3702652.3744203.

2. **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Davie A. Ross, Amy J. Ko, "Justice-centered computing curriculum design in informal learning," in *Proceedings of the 2025 Conference on Research on Equitable and Sustained Participation in Engineering, Computing, and Technology*, ser. RESPECT 2025, Newark, NJ, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2025, pp. 176–185, ISBN: 9798400706264. 🔗 DOI: 10.1145/3704637.3734779.

3. **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Jayne Everson, Camilo Montes De Haro, Amy J. Ko, "Cultural-centric computational embroidery," in *Proceedings of the 55th ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education V. 1*, ser. SIGCSE 2024, Best Paper, Portland, OR, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2024, pp. 673–679, ISBN: 9798400704239. 🔗 DOI: 10.1145/3626252.3630818.

4. Eman Sherif, Jayne Everson, **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Mara Kirdani-Ryan, Amy J. Ko, "Exploring the impact of assessment policies on marginalized students' experiences in post-secondary programming courses," in *Proceedings of the 2024 ACM Conference on International Computing Education Research - Volume 1*, ser. ICER '24, Melbourne, VIC, Australia: Association for Computing Machinery, 2024, pp. 233–245, ISBN: 9798400704758. 🔗 DOI: 10.1145/3632620.3671100.

5. **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Keith O'Hara, Amy J. Ko, "Exploring identity through computing integration in a spanish language literature class," in *2023 Conference on Research in Equitable and Sustained Participation in Engineering, Computing, and Technology (RESPECT)*, 2023, pp. 158–162. 🔗 DOI: 10.1109/RESPECT60069.2023.00038.

6. Jayne Everson, **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Amy J. Ko, ""a key to reducing inequities in like, ai, is by reducing inequities everywhere first": Emerging critical consciousness in a co-constructed secondary cs classroom," in *Proceedings of the 53rd ACM Technical Symposium on Computer Science Education - Volume 1*, ser. SIGCSE 2022, Best Paper, Providence, RI, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2022, pp. 209–215, ISBN: 9781450390705. 🔗 DOI: 10.1145/3478431.3499395.

7. Alannah Oleson, Benjamin Xie, Jean Salac, Jayne Everson, **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Amy J. Ko, "A decade of demographics in computing education research: A critical review of trends in collection, reporting, and use," in *Proceedings of the 2022 ACM Conference on International Computing Education Research - Volume 1*, ser. ICER '22, Lugano and Virtual Event, Switzerland: Association for Computing Machinery, 2022, pp. 323–343, ISBN: 9781450391948. 🔗 DOI: 10.1145/3501385.3543967.

Birds of a Feather

Birds of a Feather (BoF) sessions are informal, participant-driven gatherings at academic conferences that foster peer exchange, community-building, collective problem-solving, and the creation of affinity spaces for people with shared experiences, identities, or professional interests.

(1) **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Joslenne Peña, Francisco Enrique Vicente Castro, Michael Miljanovic, Amy J. Ko, *Building and sustaining queer communities in computing education: Activism, creativity, and connection*, SIGCSETS 2025, Pittsburgh, PA, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2025, p. 1720, ISBN: 9798400705328. ⚭ DOI: 10.1145/3641555.3705093.

(2) Joslenne Peña, **F. Megumi Kivuva**, Mara Kirdani-Ryan, Francisco Enrique Vicente Castro, Amy J. Ko, *Cultivating and celebrating lgbtq+ community in computing education*, SIGCSE 2024, Portland, OR, USA: Association for Computing Machinery, 2024, p. 1919, ISBN: 9798400704246. ⚭ DOI: 10.1145/3626253.3635387.

Awards and Achievements

2025 📑 **Community Engaged Computing Initiative Seed Grant ($5,000):** Awarded to researchers engaged in community-engaged research to cover supplemental costs. These funds will compensate students as part of a refugee youth advisory board to explore what youth hope to learn about computing.

📑 **City of Seattle Technology Matching Fund ($45,000):** Awarded to the Refugee Women's Alliance to support digital literacy and computer science learning. I was instrumental in the writing process and am the one teaching the digital literacy trainings and supporting the co-design.

2024 📑 **Best Paper Award:** *Cultural-Centric Computational Embroidery*, SIGCSE 2024

2023 📑 **National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP):** 3 years of PhD funding over 5 years.

2022 📑 **William J. Lockwood Prize:** Awarded to the student who has had the most impact on the welfare of Bard College.

📑 **Best Paper Award:** *"A key to reducing inequities in like, AI, is by reducing inequities everywhere first": Emerging Critical Consciousness in a Co-constructed Secondary CS Classroom*, SIGCSE 2022

2021 📑 **Experimental Humanities Department Student Spotlight:** Highlighted for work in Experimental Humanities.

📑 **Association of Episcopal Colleges' Charitable Service Scholar:** Awarded to the student who is engaged in volunteer service in their campus community and beyond.

2020 📑 **Berta and Herold J. Dresher Scholarship:** Awarded to a student for their high moral and intellectual stature.

2017 📑 **Outstanding Intern:** Fund for the Advancement of Minorities through Education.

📑 **Love Award:** $10,000 travel grant to study arts and social change in Nicaragua and Cuba.

Professional Organizations

📑 **Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA):** Member of the Washington State Chapter of CSTA, an organization dedicated to broadening participation in computing education.

📑 **Association of Computing Machinery (ACM):** Student Member of ACM a prominent computing publication venue.

Skills

Languages 📑 Strong reading, writing, and speaking competencies in **English, Spanish, Swahili**.

Skills (continued)

Computer & Coding   🔖   Google Suite, Microsoft Office, Java, Python, R, C, C++, HTML, JavaScript, LaTeX

References

Available on Request