

## **Empowering University Research through Remote Data Science**

Professor John Fields



# **Enhancing Student Success with with Remote Data Science**

This NVIDIA grant proposal outlines a project that aims to enable universities to universities to collaborate on improving student retention prediction while while maintaining FERPA compliance through the use of remote data science science techniques.

## **Project Goals and Objectives**



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Leverage NVIDIA H100 and A100 GPUs to enable enable secure and efficient collaborative data data analysis for universities



Enable Joint Improvement of Student Retention Prediction

Facilitate multi-institutional collaboration to enhance student success prediction models



Maintain FERPA Compliance

Ensure the protection of student data privacy and meet regulatory requirements

By achieving these goals, the project will empower universities to collaborate on improving student retention while upholding FERPA compliance through the use of advanced remote data science techniques.

#### **Our Collaborative Team**



**HĎOŌ ĞÕÑÕĬŒ**Assistant Professor of Business Analytics,

Concordia University Wisconsin



Dr. Michael Litman

Professor and Chair, Computer Science Department, Concordia University Wisconsin



**Dr. Praveen Madiraju**Professor, Computer Science Department,

Marquette University

## Remote Data Science Approach

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High Side: On-Premise Confidential Processing

Low Side: Encrypted Parameter Aggregation

Secure and Collaborative Data Analysis

The project will implement a twotier architecture to enable secure and collaborative educational data analysis: NVIDIA H100 GPUs will be used for on-premise confidential data processing within secure enclaves, leveraging differential privacy techniques to ensure FERPA compliance.

NVIDIA A100 GPUs in the cloud will be used for encrypted parameter aggregation through federated learning, enabling cross-institutional collaboration without compromising data privacy.

This two-tier architecture allows universities to jointly improve student retention prediction while maintaining FERPA compliance through secure and collaborative data analysis.

## **Anticipated Outcomes**

#### Peer-reviewed Publication

The project aims to produce a high-impact, peer-reviewed academic paper that compares the performance, privacy, usability, scalability, and FERPA compliance of the NVIDIA Flare and PySyft federated learning frameworks for educational applications.

#### Open-source Framework Toolkit

The project will deliver an open-source framework toolkit and selection guidelines to help educational institutions choose the appropriate federated learning solution for their unique needs, promoting widespread adoption of remote data science techniques.

#### Performance Benchmarking Dataset

The research will provide a comprehensive performance benchmarking dataset for future federated learning research in the education domain, enabling researchers to evaluate and compare different privacy-preserving machine learning approaches.

By embracing remote data science techniques, this project empowers universities to collaboratively enhance student success and uphold FERPA compliance. We invite faculty and students to join us in this innovative endeavor that aims to improve student retention and transform the educational experience.

