There will be a U-REaSON seminar event on this Friday, April 27th, from 12:00pm to 1:00pm in room 205 of the Civil Engineering Building. Speakers for this week are Soma Datta (12:00pm - 12:30 pm) and Qianji Zheng (12:30 pm - 1:00 pm).

Speaker: Soma Datta

Title: Analyzing student data for student retention

Abstract: Student retention is a significant issue for most universities because it is an essential (or critical) indicator of performance for the university, and for enrollment management. This study aims to predict if a student is at a risk of dropping out from the institution so that the institution can help retain the student. The study helps understand the risk factors that cause dropout and help institutions reduce the risk factors related to dropout.
Earlier studies had conflicting results using different methods with the same data sets and had reported high error rates. Thus this preliminary study focuses reducing the error rates and finding readable rules using these two methods i.e., C4.5 and CART. The data used in this study was chosen from the internal university system.

Speaker: Qianji Zheng

Title: Exploring the design space for adaptive graphical user interface

Abstract: For decades, researchers have presented different adaptive user interfaces and discussed the pros and cons of adaptation on task performance and satisfaction. Little research, however, has been directed at isolating and understanding those aspects of adaptive interfaces which make some of them successful and others not. We have designed and implemented three adaptive graphical interfaces and evaluated them in two experiments along with a non-adaptive baseline. In this paper we synthesize our results with previous work and discuss how different design choices and interactions affect the success of adaptive graphical user interfaces.