

RL Chernoff Fellowship in Computer Science Inaugural Recipient

Mohsen Ghasemizade

- **Program**: PhD in Computer Science
- **Advisors**: Jeremiah Onaolapo (MS) and Juniper Lovato (PhD)
- About: A privacy policy enthusiast and current PhD student in computer science with a background in NLP, machine learning, and data analytics. Experienced in developing end-to-end NLP pipelines and machine learning models using techniques like BERT. Interested in leveraging data and AI to find practical solutions and insights. Work has focused on uncovering patterns in complex datasets, particularly in social media behavior and network security.



Mohsen's Background and Achievements:

- MS Thesis: Mohsen completed his Master's degree in Computer Science at UVM, where his research focused on creating a taxonomy of conspiracy theories on social media and identifying connections between them. This work showcased his ability to blend complex ideas in privacy, cybersecurity, and data science.
- **PhD Focus**: As he transitions into his PhD studies under the guidance of Professor Juniper Lovato, Mohsen's research will concentrate on the historical analysis of privacy policies and the automated detection of compliance, utilizing large language models. His work continues to push the boundaries in the intersection of social data science, cybersecurity, and privacy.
- Mentorship Role: In addition to his research, Mohsen is actively involved in the Vermont Open-Source Program Office (VERSO) at the Vermont Complex Systems Center. Here, he mentors other students and contributes to projects that provide publicly available code across diverse UVM departments, including Computer Science, Complex Systems, Food Science, Mathematics, and the Technology Transfer Office.

Fellowship Impact:

• Our Thanks: The expedited funding of this fellowship ensured that the award could be granted without delay, making a significant impact in its inaugural year. This generous contribution also establishes the foundation for future recruitment and retention in Computer Science – ensuring UVM has the competitive ability to bring the best and brightest researchers to the department.



