

# Computer Science & Engineering Colloquium Series 2020 - 2021

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**Speaker:** Monique Ross, Assistant Professor, Florida International University

**Date:** Friday, October 23

**Time:** 1 - 2pm

**Location:** <https://uconn-cmr.webex.com/uconn-cmr/j.php?MTID=mee37a8f4cad689cf53fe6e4a55b0ceba>

## **Cracking the diversity code: Understanding computing pathways of those least represented in order to foster their representation**

A significant gap exists in the understanding of factors that influence the participation of Black and Hispanic women in computer science. The objective is to listen to those often unheard in the conversation around broadening participation in computer science, in order to critically examine efforts and initiatives that impact engagement. This talk will describe the journey towards this objective and preliminary results. The outcomes of this work have the potential to reshape the community's perceptions of what and who are computer scientists as well as crack the code to diversifying this lucrative and impactful discipline.

**Monique Ross, Assistant Professor in the School of Computing and Information Sciences and STEM Transformation Institute at Florida International University**

earned a doctoral degree in Engineering Education from Purdue University. She has a Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering from Elizabethtown College, a Master's degree in Computer Science and Software Engineering from Auburn University, eleven years of experience in industry as a software engineer, and four years as a full-time faculty in the departments of computer science and engineering. Her interests focus on broadening participation in computing through the exploration of: 1) race, gender, and identity in the academy and industry; 2) discipline-based education research (with a focus on computer science and computer engineering courses) in order to inform pedagogical practices that garner interest and retain women and minorities in computer-related engineering fields. She has been awarded the prestigious National Science Foundation CAREER award (2019) and uses her scholarship to challenge the perceptions of who belong in computing.

