

# Abdullah X. Ali

University of Washington  
Information School  
1851 NE Grant Ln, Seattle, WA 98105

Email: xyleques@uw.edu  
Website: abduallahXali.com  
Office: Mary Gates Hall 015

---

## EDUCATION

<b>University of Washington, Information School</b> Ph.D. Human-Computer Interaction Advisor: Prof. Jacob O. Wobbrock	Aug 2016 - present
<b>University of Maryland Baltimore County</b> M.S. Human-Centered Computing Advisor: Dr. Amy Hurst	2014 - 2016
<b>University of Maryland Baltimore County</b> B.S. Information Systems with a certificate in web development	2010 - 2014


## AWARDS AND HONORS

[11] <b>UW iSchool</b> Conference travel support (\$1200)	2018
[10] <b>Microsoft Research</b> support for Crowdlicit project (\$5000)	2018
[9] <b>CHI</b> Student volunteer registration fee	2018
[8] <b>HCOMP</b> Doctoral consortium travel grant	2017
[7] <b>Microsoft Research</b> support for Crowdlicit project (\$1000)	2017
[6] <b>UAE AI and Robotics for good Competition</b> Semi-Finalist (7th out of 664 international submissions)	2016
[5] <b>ASSETS</b> Best demo award	2015
[4] <b>CHI</b> Best paper award	2015
[3] <b>W4A</b> Best paper nomination	2015
[2] <b>UMBC</b> Graduate Student Association Research and Travel Grants	2015
[1] <b>National Science Foundation</b> LSAMP Bridge to the Doctorate Fellowship	2014 - 2016


## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers

- [8] **Ali, A. X.**, Morris, M.R. and Wobbrock, J.O. (2018). Crowdsourcing similarity judgments for agreement analysis in end-user elicitation studies. Proceedings of the ACM Symposium on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST '18). Berlin, Germany (October 14-17, 2018). New York: ACM Press. To appear.
- [7] Martin-Hammond, A., Hamidi, F., Bhalerao, T., Ortega, C., **Ali, A.**, Hornback, C., Means, C., Hurst, A. (2018). Designing an Adaptive Web Navigation Interface for Users with Variable Pointing Performance. Proceedings of the Web for All conference (W4A '18). Paris, France.
- [6] Morris, M. R., Fourney, **A., Ali, A.**, Vonessen, L. (2018). Understanding the Needs of Searchers with Dyslexia. Proceedings of the conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '18). Montreal, CA. New York: ACM Press.
- [5] Rello, L., Ballesteros, M., **Ali, A.**, Serra, M., Alarcón, D., Bigham, J.P. (2016). Dydetective: Diagnosing risk of dyslexia with a game. Proceedings of Pervasive Health '16
- [4] Rello, L., Williams, K., **Ali, A.**, Cushen, N., Bigham, J.P. (2016) Towards a Multilingual Dyslexia Detection using Online Games. Proceedings of the Web for All conference (W4A '16).
- [3] **Ali, A.**, Kuber, R., Aviv, A.J. (2016). Developing and Evaluating a Gestural and Tactile Mobile Interface to Support User Authentication. Proceedings of the iConference '16.
- [2] Buehler, E., Branham, S., **Ali, A.**, Chang, J., Hofmann, M., Hurst, A., and Kane, S.K. (2015). Sharing is Caring: Assistive Technology Designs on Thingiverse. Proceedings of the conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI '15)  
 **(Best paper award top 1%)**

- [1]  Martin-Hammond, A., **Ali, A.**, Hornback, C., Hurst, A. (2015). Understanding Design Considerations for Adaptive User Interfaces for Accessible Pointing with Older and Younger Adults. Proceedings of the Web for All conference (W4A '15). Florence, Italy. (**Best paper nomination**)




### Peer-Reviewed Conference Notes

- [7] Fourney, A., Morris, M.R., **Ali, A.**, Vonessen, L. (2018). Assessing the Readability of Web Search Results for Searchers with Dyslexia. Proceedings of SIGIR '18. Ann Arbor, MI.
- [6] Rello, L., Romero, E., Rauschenberger, M., **Ali, A.**, Williams, K., Bigham, J.P., Cushen White, N. (2018). Screening Dyslexia for English Using HCI Measures and Machine Learning. ACM Digital Health 2018
- [5] Martin-Hammond, A., Hamidi, F., Bhalarao, T., **Ali, A.**, Hornback, C., Means, C., Hurst, A. (2017). The Participatory Design of an Adaptive Interface to Support Users with Changing Pointing Ability. ACM ASSETS 2017.
- [4] Martin-Hammond, A., **Ali, A.**, Means, C., Hornback, C., Hurst, A. Supporting Awareness of Pointing Behavior among Diverse Groups. Pervasive Health 2016
- [3] **Ali, A.** (2015). Sequential Gestural Passcodes on Google Glass. ACM ASSETS 2015 Student Research Competition
- [2] Rello, L., **Ali, A.**, Bigham, J.P. (2015). Dyetective: Toward a Game to Detect Dyslexia. Proceedings of the ACM ASSETS '15 (**Best demo award**) 
- [1] **Ali, A.**, Kuber, R., Aviv, A.J. (2015) "H4Plock: Supporting Mobile User Authentication through Gestural Input and Tactile Output. Proceedings of the Symposium on Usable Privacy and Security 2015

### Doctoral Consortium

- [2] **Ali, A.** The Crowd: Participant and Researcher. Utilizing Online Crowds to Run and Analyze Elicitation Studies. DUB Group 2018.
- [1] **Ali, A.** Crowdlicit: Towards a Platform for Crowd-Based Design. AAAI HCOMP 2017.

### TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

- [12] The Crowd: Participant and Researcher. Utilizing Online Crowds to Run and Analyze Elicitation Studies. 2018  
DUB Group 2nd Doctoral Colloquium. Seattle, WA.
- [11] From the Lab to the Crowd: Scaling End-User Elicitation Studies for Crowd-Based Design – UW iSchool Research fair 2018
- [10] Crowdlicit: A Platform for Crowd-Based Elicitation Studies. HCOMP Doctoral Consortium Quebec City 2017
- [9] Research Projects from the Mobile + Accessible Design Lab. Presentation to the Chief Accessibility Officer of Microsoft Corporation and the Chief Scientist of Microsoft Research. Redmond, WA 2017
- [8] From the Lab to the Crowd: Scaling End-User Elicitation Studies for Crowd-Based Design – UW iSchool Research fair 2017
- [7] Dyetective: A Game for Detecting Dyslexia. UMBC Graduate Research Conference 2016
- [6] Dyetective: A Game for Detecting Dyslexia. 7th place at International AI & Robotics for good competition 2016  

- [5] Dyetective: A Game for Detecting Dyslexia. ACM ASSETS 2015 demos 2015  

- [4] Understanding Design Considerations for Adaptive User Interfaces for Accessible Pointing with Older and Younger Adults. W4A conference delegates award demo 2015  

- [3] Notification Design Preferences for an Adaptive Pointing User Interface. Graduate Research Conference at UMBC 2015
- [2] Adaptive User Interfaces. Undergraduate Research and Creative Achievement Day at UMBC 2014
- [1] Adaptive User Interfaces. Information Systems Research Poster Contest at UMBC 2014

## EMPLOYMENT EXPERIENCE

<b>University of Washington, Information School</b> Graduate Researcher – MAD Lab Advisor: Prof. Jacob O. Wobbrock	Aug 2016 - present
<b>Ajwa Date Delicacies</b> Co-founder and CCO (Chief Creative Officer)	2018 - present
<b>Microsoft Research (Redmond)</b> Research Intern Supervisors: Dr. Meredith Ringel Morris, Dr. Adam Fourney	Jun 2018 – Sep 2018
<b>Carnegie Mellon University</b> Visiting Researcher – BIG Lab Supervisors: Dr. Luz Rello, Dr. Jeffery P. Bigham	Jun 2015 – Feb 2016
<b>University of Maryland Baltimore County</b> Research Assistant – PAD Lab Advisor: Dr. Amy Hurst	Jan 2014 – Aug 2016

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

<b>Teaching Assistant</b> University of Washington, Information School INFO 360 Design Thinking (undergraduate)	Aug 2018 – Dec 2018
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> University of Washington, Information School INFO 360 Design Thinking (undergraduate)	Jan 2018 – Mar 2018
<b>Instructor</b> University of Washington, Information School INFO 360 Design Thinking (undergraduate)	Sep 2017 – Dec 2017
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> University of Washington, Information School INFO 463 Input and Interaction (undergraduate)	Mar 2017 – Jun 2017
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> University of Washington, Information School INFO 360 Design Thinking (undergraduate)	Jan 2017 – Mar 2017
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> University of Washington, Information School INFO 360 Design Thinking (undergraduate)	Sep 2016 – Dec 2016
<b>Teaching Assistant</b> University of Maryland Baltimore County IS 498 3D Printing workshop	Feb 2016 – May 2016
<b>Guest Lecturer</b> University of Maryland Baltimore County IS 101 Lecture on web technologies and development	Apr 2015

## MENTORING

<b>Huiru Luo</b> , MSIM. Information School. University of Washington.	Jun 2018 – Aug 2018
<b>Erin McAweeney</b> , MSIM. Information School. University of Washington.	2016 – 2018
<b>Mingrui Zhang</b> , Ph.D. Information School. University of Washington	Sep 2017 – Dec 2017

## PRESS AND BLOG MENTIONS

<a href="#">In between the lines: Broadening access to web search by understanding the needs of people with dyslexia</a>	7/9/2018
<a href="#">Find out if you are at risk of dyslexia in 15 minutes</a>	11/31/2015
<a href="#">CMU Researchers Earn Honors at ASSETS</a>	11/12/2015
<a href="#">Change Dyslexia: Early Detection and Intervention At large Scale</a>	10/8/2015
<a href="#">Motorized Longboard project at the Baltimore Hackathon.</a>	9/22/2015
<a href="#">Change Dyslexia and the Dyetective project on the news in Spain.</a>	9/17/2015

## SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERING

EICS – Reviewer	4/2018
UW iSchool social chair	6/2017 – 6/2018
MobileHCI LBW reviewer	2017
ASSETS Organizing Committee - Graphics Chair	2017
UW iSchool social committee	9-6/2017
ASSETS - secondary reviewer (Full papers and posters)	6/2016
UIST - secondary reviewer	5/2016
UMBC HCIS graduate organization - Communications officer	2-5/2016
CHI Work in Progress - Secondary reviewer	2/2015
Arbutus Senior Center - Technology Instructor	9-12/2014