Gaeun Lee

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EDUCATION

University of Illinois Chicago (UIC)

May 2026

B.S. in Computer Science and Design (CS+DES), Honors College, GPA: 4.0/4.0

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Learning + Interest + Technology Lab, UIC

November 2023 –

Chicago, IL

Research Assistant (NSF Grant #2342099)

- Led co-design sessions and field study for a middle school social robotics curriculum.
- Conducted thematic analysis and data coding using ATLAS.ti; created figures and visualizations.
- Contributed to curriculum website development, modifying block code in JavaScript and building interactive tools for storyboarding and pseudocode.

Project Fulfillment, Electronic Visualization Laboratory UIC & Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago

August 2025 –

Chicago, IL

Research Assistant / VR Developer (NSF Grant #2121737)

- Developed one of six immersive VR scenes in Unity to simulate the embodied experience of warehouse logistics work, emphasizing time pressure, spatial disorientation, and physical strain.
- Built custom shaders and plugins to enhance visual realism and user interaction.
- Collaborated in a multi-institutional, interdisciplinary team across anthropology, computer science, and media arts; presented at the CAVE2 exhibition for ACM Hypertext 2025.

CS 211: Programming Practicum, UIC

January 2025 -

Teaching Assistant

Chicago, IL

- Led weekly lab sessions on core programming topics, including data structures, algorithms, and software design.
- Provided individualized support during office hours, helping students improve debugging and problemsolving skills.
- Held regular office hours for individualized feedback on coding assignments, ensuring students improved their debugging and problem-solving skills.

HCI Lab, KAIST

May 2025 - August 2025

Research Intern

Daejeon, South Korea

- Designed and implemented a gaze tracking system using Tobii Glasses 2 and Arduino-controlled hardware.
- Built custom calibration, gaze mapping, and control algorithms for accurate real-time feedback.
- Conducted and analyzed over 14 experiments independently, integrating wearable sensors and actuator control.

Illinois Department of Transportation

April 2023 – May 2023

NLP/LLM Intern

Chicago, IL

- Evaluated 6 Large Language Models to generate accurate, efficient summaries of urgent weather alerts for Illinois state traffic maps.
- Developed a scoring and testing framework to compare model performance on clarity, accuracy, and latency.
- Integrated refined summaries into the state's official weather alert system, improving UX for drivers during emergencies.

Lee, G.*, Jo, H.*, Nakhammouane, C.*, & Myat, K. Y.* (2025). You Can Grow Here: A Therapeutic VR Journey for Anxiety Management. SIGGRAPH Posters '25, ACM.

Ibtasar, R., Lee, G., Jo, H. Y., & Michaelis, J. E. (2025). Pre-Coding Scaffolds for Computational Thinking in an Open-Ended Middle School Social Robotics Curriculum. Proceedings of the 19th International Conference of the Learning Sciences (ICLS 2025) (pp.1899–1903).

Tsoupikova, D., Y. Chu, J., Ko, E., Schmidt, A., Bhasha, S., Huggins, K., Kumar, H., Lee, G. and Shet, D., 2025, September. CAVE2 Virtual Reality Exhibition: Project Fulfillment. In Adjunct Proceedings of the 36th ACM Conference on Hypertext and Social Media (pp. 40-43).

EXHIBITIONS

CAVE2 VR Exhibition: The Hidden Costs of Logistics and the Disappearing Wild

ACM Hypertext 2025, Electronic Visualization Laboratory, UIC (Chicago, IL)

Project Fulfillment Poster Session

ACM Hypertext 2025, Illinois Institute of Technology (Chicago, IL)

SIGGRAPH Poster Exhibition

SIGGRAPH 2025 (Vancouver, Canada)

Creative Coding VR Showcase

CAVE2 Exhibition, Electronic Visualization Laboratory, UIC (Chicago, IL)

LEADERSHIP / SERVICE

President, Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA) YG - Chicagoland

Tech Lead, ACM student chapter, UIC

CS+DES Representative, UIC Student Design Advisory Board

Moderator, MLK Student Leadership Conference

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

Presenter, ACM SIGGRAPH 2025

Presenter, ACM Hypertext 2025

Member, Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

Member, Korean-American Scientists and Engineers Association (KSEA), Chicagoland Chapter

SKILLS

Methodology: Qualitative Data Analysis (Thematic Coding, ATLAS.ti), Quantitative Data Analysis

Programming tools: Python, Java, C, C++, C#, R, MySQL, Maven, HTML, CSS, Unix/Linux, Arduino

Design: Unity, Blender, Maya, Adobe Creative Suite, Figma

Languages: Native fluency in English and Korean