The Data Institute at the University of San Francisco Launches Wicklow AI and Medical Research Initiative (WAMRI)

Exponential Medicine, San Diego and San Francisco, Calif. -- November 5, 2018 --The Data Institute (DI) at the University of San Francisco announced the launch of the Wicklow AI and Medical Research Initiative (WAMRI). WAMRI is a new research lab focusing on the development of practical applications of AI in medicine. The launch was announced at the [Exponential Medicine](#) conference in San Diego by WAMRI's founding chairman Jeremy Howard, a DI researcher and founder of numerous startups, including Enlitic, the first organization focused on bringing deep learning to medicine.

"By bringing together medical and AI experts for the first time in this way, WAMRI will allow us to deliver the potential of AI in medicine much sooner, and ensure that real patient and doctor needs are met," said Howard.

WAMRI will create a dedicated opportunity for scholars to develop novel AI models to advance critical medical research across areas including oncology, cardiology and neurology. WAMRI already has five joint projects organized between UCSF and USF researchers and students across all of these areas.

WAMRI's funding comes thanks to a gift from Wicklow Capital to support research at the intersection of machine learning, AI and medicine. The researchers and faculty at the DI have a high impact record of conducting multidisciplinary research in collaboration with leading medical research institutions such as UCSF, Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital.

"The rapid adoption and increased acceptance by the medical research community of tools such as deep learning, AI and machine learning is very encouraging. Medicine is a uniquely favorable field for data scientists to work as the data is often difficult but rich with information and the impacts are far reaching," David Uminsky, Executive Director of the DI, explained. "This support from WAMRI will provide an opportunity to develop the next generation of researchers at the frontier of AI and medicine, accelerate breakthroughs in this space and become a focal point to attract new research partnerships in the ML/AI and medicine space."

The DI at USF (https://www.usfca.edu/data-institute) serves as the umbrella organization for data science research and programming at the University of San Francisco. The DI offers MS Data Science, BS Data Science and continuing education.

Exponential Medicine is a unique and intensive program that exploring and catalyzing the future of health and medicine. The annual four-day program brings together world-class faculty, clinicians, patients, innovators and organizations from across the biomedical and technology spectrum to explore and leverage the convergence of fast-moving technologies in the reinvention and reshaping of health and medicine across the planet.

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