

Lauren B. Davis



Lauren Davis is a Professor in the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering at North Carolina A&T State University (NCA&T). She received her B.S. in Computational Mathematics from Rochester Institute of Technology, M.S. in Industrial and Management Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and her Ph.D. in Industrial and Systems Engineering from North Carolina State University. in 2005. Prior to joining NCA&T she spent 12 years as a senior software engineer at IBM supporting SAP implementations in Research Triangle Park (NC), Guadalajara (Mexico) and Shenzhen (China). Her academic research focuses on stochastic modeling of supply chain systems in for-profit and non-profit settings, with application areas in hunger relief, humanitarian logistics, and homeland security. Her work has appeared in more than 30 peer-reviewed journal publications, 5 book

chapters and more than 40 refereed conference proceedings. Dr. Davis is an active member of the Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers, Institute for the Operations Research and Management Sciences (INFORMS) and has served as the President of the Minority Issues Forum of INFORMS. She currently serves as a board member of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina; advisory board member of Foresight, The International Journal of Applied Forecasting; and associate editor for Transportation Science.

Statement

My relationship with the International Institute of Forecasters dates back to 2022, where I attended my first ISF conference in Oxford. I presented my research on food donations forecasting in one of the forecasting for social good (F4SG) sessions. At the same conference, I also participated as a panelist in the “job interviewing” session sponsored by the IIF Early Career Research group. My experience at this conference from both a learning and networking perspective was invaluable. As a result, I have continued to attend the ISF conferences, promoting it to both students and colleagues. One of my doctoral students organized a session in the F4SG track for ISF 2023 and I also attended ISF 2024. I have also had one of my papers recently published in IJF. I am also scheduled to present at the 2025 Foresight Practitioners Conference.

If elected Director of the IIF, my objective is to continue to support the mission and programs of IIF. In particular, I will help to promote workshops and conferences sponsored by the communities; advance the use of forecasting and optimization to tackle complex societal issues impacting equity, access, and sustainability of public services; and support the interaction between theory and practice. I am also passionate about programs that support dissemination of forecasting knowledge to students and practitioners.