“Aber Herr Prof. Dr.!” Computer scientists and Big tech funding: a database of modern lackeys.

Camille Akmut

January 8, 2020

Abstract

Computer scientists and their sources of funding: Google, Facebook, Amazon, Microsoft, Uber et al.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Filing Type</th>
<th>... with (Company)</th>
<th>Employer (University)</th>
<th>Filed in</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Howard, Ayanna</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Google.org</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shute, William</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>University of Texas</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceberio, Martine</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>University of Texas at El Paso</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edwards, Ashley</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li, Dennis</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li, Richard</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starner, Thad</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2017; 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abbeel, Pieter</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>GOOGLE; Google Inc</td>
<td>University of California Berkeley</td>
<td>2015; 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martinis, John</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google, Inc.; Google</td>
<td>University of California Santa Barbara</td>
<td>2018; 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roth, Dan</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oh, Sewoong</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>University of Illinois</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li, Wayne</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singhose,</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Google</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Interest</td>
<td>Company</td>
<td>University</td>
<td>Year(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barranco, Roberto Camacho</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google Inc</td>
<td>University of Texas at El Paso</td>
<td>2019; 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chuang, John</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google Inc</td>
<td>University of California Berkeley</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yu, Clare C.</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google Inc</td>
<td>University of California Irvine</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherr, Elliott H.</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google, Inc.</td>
<td>University of California, San Francisco</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rempel, David</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google, Inc</td>
<td>University of California, San Francisco</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kidd, Celeste E.</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Google LLC</td>
<td>University of California Berkeley</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilcox, Lauren</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Google AI Healthcare</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahlon, Mini</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>(3) google (“(1) Amazon;(2) Apple;(3) google”)</td>
<td>University of Texas, Austin</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Filing Type</td>
<td>... with (Company)</td>
<td>Employer (University)</td>
<td>Filed in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dellaert, Frank</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parikh, Devi</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2018; 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallant, Jack;</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>University of California Berkeley</td>
<td>2017 (May; Jul.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallant, Jack L.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darrell, Tervor</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>University of California Berkeley</td>
<td>2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lavalle, Steven</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Facebook</td>
<td>University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madhow, Upamanyu</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Facebook, Inc.</td>
<td>University of California Santa Barbara</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Batra, Dhruv</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Facebook, Inc</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2018; 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Filing Type</td>
<td>... with (Company)</td>
<td>Employer (University)</td>
<td>Filed in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin, Lara</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denero, John</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>University of California Berkeley</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vishwanathan, S V N</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>University of California Santa Cruz</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shute, William</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>University of Texas</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Song, Le</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Amazon</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehg, James</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Amazon Lab126</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stojanov, Stefan</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Amazon Inc</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bravo, Marisela</td>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>Amazon Flex</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalia, Alok</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Amazon Digital Services</td>
<td>University of Texas Med Br Galveston</td>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard, Ayanna</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>Audible (an Amazon company)</td>
<td>Georgia Institute of Technology</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kahlon, Mini</td>
<td>Financial Disclosure</td>
<td>(1) Amazon (&quot;(1) Amazon;(2) Apple;(3) google&quot;)</td>
<td>University of Texas, Austin</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Research notes

Period: early 21st century.

Not all people here are necessarily computer scientists: they are however likely to be working in areas or fields connex to computer science (e.g. biology, psychology, the latter found under various labels e.g. "neuroscience" also, etc.).

E.g. Jack Gallant of Berkeley, who works in the dubious area of "neuroscience" and is the owner (he or his partner) of anywhere from 10,000$ to 100,000$ in Facebook investments... (Herr Prof. Gallant!) The same Institute where Aleksandr Kogan obtained his B.A., in that very same – and little sane discipline of psychology...

His topic of research:

"Decoding imagined speech from brain activity". With zealous and most adroit researchers like that, in this century still people may soon find that their thoughts, including those they do not express, are not theirs anymore.

A lot of them seem like small fry – "average intellectuals", but some names are recognized immediately: Richard Karp (Turing Award), Pieter Abbeel (guru of AI...), John Denero (computer science pedagogue!), etc..

In filling out his form, Abbeel first crossed "no" under investments in Google, then thought again, and discovered himself to be the owner of 100,000 to 1 million dollars in investments in that company (or their spouse)...

Funding from (disreputable) companies seem easier and more common at so-called "Institutes of Technology" (which by their nature do not provide a full education, merely one in select few sciences - with consistent exclusion of the more critical humanities and social sciences, and if taught there only in a watered-down form).

Google.org is not the same as google.com. More philanthropy... Focused, this time, on "accelerating social good with artificial intelligence!"

The database was mostly limited to public universities, hence the absence of private ones, which may not be subject to the same requirements (MIT, for instance, is completely absent, but Stanford is there).

There are extreme recidivists: like Shute, whose arm is so long it reaches in the pockets of all of Google, Amazon and Apple in addition to dozen of other companies (including VISA). They, in turn, had bought his brain and mind. Shute... Chute.

---

1Received 50,000$ from, Amazon and an Echo as a bonus. The cherry on top, so to speak. (Our advice to him: both gifts were Maussian in nature...)

---

---
Ayanna Howard (who works in Robotics) had her arms in the pockets of Google and Apple (through their subsidiary Audible). As for herself, Maninder Kahlon (neuroscience, again) liked the trio of Google, Amazon and Apple better.

Finally:
A James Carville of Louisiana State (the Carville of the Democratic Party, Hillary Clinton?) was found here doing “paid consulting” for Palantir; paid for “services rendered”...

“I fear the Greeks, even those bearing gifts...” – had these half-minds read more than manuals, they would recognize these lines instantly. And, they would have known better than to meddle with these dangerous, Trojan-like “gifts”. (They are the horses...)

Of his father, James Baldwin wrote in *The Fire Next Time* (the letter to his nephew, in particular): “defeated long before his death”.

They never even tried...
CALIFORNIA
FORM 700-U
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS
FOR
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS
A Public Document

NAME (LAST) (FIRST) (MIDDLE) TELEPHONE NUMBER
Karp Richard

ACADEMIC UNIT OR DEPARTMENT MAIL CODE E-MAIL ADDRESS
EECS 2190 karp@eecs.berkeley.edu

TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT
Simons Institute for the Theory of Computing

1. Information Regarding Funding Entity
(Use a separate Form 700-U for each funding entity.)

Name of Entity:
Microsoft Corporation

Address of Entity:
One Microsoft Way, Redmond, WA 98052-6399

Principal Business of Entity:
software

Amount of Funding: $100,000

Estimated [] Actual []

2. Type of Statement (Check at least one box)
☑ Initial (for new funding)

Date of initial funding: 07/10/13

☐ Interim (for renewed funding)
Funding was renewed on: ______/______/

3. Filer Information

A. Are you a director, officer, partner, trustee, consultant, employee, or do you hold a position of management in the entity listed in Part 1? No [ ] Yes [ ]

Title: ____________________________

B. Do you, your spouse or registered domestic partner, or your dependent children have an investment of $2,000 or more in the entity listed in Part 1 above? No [ ] Yes [ ]

☐ $2,000 - $10,000 ☐ $10,001 - $100,000 ☐ Exceeds $1,000,000

Date Disposed: ______/______/______ if applicable

C. Have you received income of $500 or more from the entity listed in Part 1 during the reporting period? No [ ] Yes [ ] - amount is:

☐ $500 - $1,000 ☐ $1,001 - $10,000 ☐ Exceeds $100,000

Was this income received through your spouse or registered domestic partner? No [ ] Yes [ ]

4. Verification

I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this statement. I have reviewed this statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and in any attached schedules is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date Signed: ________________

(month, day, year)

Signature: _______________________

(File the originally signed statement with your university.)

The Form 700-U is for university use only.
This statement is a public record under Gov. Code Section 81008(a).
STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS
FOR
PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS
A Public Document

NAME (LAST) ARBEEL
(FIRST) PIETER
(MIDDLE) 

ACADEMIC UNIT OR DEPARTMENT EHICS - Comp Sci Div Operations
MAIL CODE 1776

TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT Google Faculty Research Gift

PHONE NUMBER 510-642-7034

E-MAIL ADDRESS pabbeel@cs.berkeley.edu

1. Information Regarding Funding Entity
(Use a separate Form 700-U for each funding entity.)

Name of Entity:
Google Inc

Address of Entity:
1600 Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View, CA9403

Principal Business of Entity:
Internet-related services and products

Amount of Funding: $90,879 Estimated [ ] Actual [✓]

2. Type of Statement (Check at least one box)
[X] Initial (for new funding)

Date of initial funding: 10 / 09 / 14

Interim (for renewed funding)

Funding was renewed on: ______ / ______ / ______

3. Filer Information

A. Are you a director, officer, partner, trustee, consultant, employee, or do you hold a position of management in the entity listed in Part 1? No [✓] Yes [ ]

Title: ____________________________________________

B. Do you, your spouse or registered domestic partner, or your dependent children have an investment of $2,000 or more in the entity listed in Part 1 above? No [✓] Yes [ ] Value: $_________

$2,000 - $10,000 [ ]

$10,001 - $100,000 [ ]

$100,001 - $1,000,000 [ ]

Exceeds $1,000,000 [ ]

Date Disposed: ______ / ______ / ______, if applicable

C. Have you received income of $500 or more from the entity listed in Part 1 during the reporting period? No [✓] Yes [ ] Amount:

$500 - $1,000 [ ]

$1,001 - $10,000 [ ]

$10,001 - $100,000 [ ]

Exceeds $100,000 [ ]

Was this income received through your spouse or registered domestic partner? No [✓] Yes [ ]

4. Verification

I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this statement. I have reviewed this statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and in any attached schedules is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Date Signed: 10 / 01 / 2014

(month/day/year)

Signature: ____________________________

(File the originally signed statement with your university)

The Form 700-U is for university use only. This statement is a public record under Gov. Code Section 81008(a)
**STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS**

FOR PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS

A Public Document

Date Received: FEB 02 2017
RECEIVED

Campus: COI

JAN 27 2017

| NAME (LAST) | DENERO |
| (FIRST) | JOHN |
| (MIDDLE) | |
| TELEPHONE NUMBER | 510-643-7354 |
| ACADEMIC UNIT OR DEPARTMENT | EECS/ERSO |
| MAIL CODE | 94720-1776 |
| E-MAIL ADDRESS | denero@berkeley.edu |

1. Information Regarding Funding Entity

   (Use a separate Form 700-U for each funding entity.)

   **Name of Entity:** Amazon

   **Address of Entity:** PO Box 80683, Seattle, WA 98108-0683

   **Principal Business of Entity:** Electronic Commerce Cloud

   **Amount of Funding:** $50,000

   Estimated ☐ Actual ☑

2. Type of Statement (Check at least one box)

   - [ ] Initial (for new funding)
   - [ ] Interim (for renewed funding)

   **Date of initial funding:** 01/03/17

   **Funding was renewed on:**

3. Filer Information - Cont.

   D. Have you received loans from the entity in Part 1 for which the balance exceeded $500 during the reporting period?

   - [ ] No ☑ Yes ☐ - highest balance:
     - [ ] $500 - $1,000
     - [ ] $1,001 - $10,000
     - [ ] $10,001 - $100,000
     - [ ] Exceeded $100,000

   If you checked 'yes,' was the loan:

   - [ ] Secured ☑ Unsurred
   - [ ] Interest rate: __________%

   Was the loan entirely repaid within the last 12 months?

   - [ ] No ☑ Yes

   E. Have you received gifts from the entity listed in Part 1 within the last 12 months valued at $50 or more?

   - [ ] No ☑ Yes - describe below.

   **Description:** Amazon Echo Device

   **Value:** $200  **Date Received:** 11/1/16

4. Verification

   I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this statement.
   I have reviewed this statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and in any attached schedules is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

   **Date Signed:** 11/12

   **Signature:**

---

The Form 700-U is for university use only.
This statement is a public record under Gov. Code Section 81008(a).

FPCC Form 700-U (2016/2017)
FPCC Advice Email: advice@fppc.ca.gov
FPCC Toll-Free Helpline 866/275-3772  www.fppc.ca.gov
Please type or print in ink.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME (LAST)</th>
<th>(FIRST)</th>
<th>(MIDDLE)</th>
<th>TELEPHONE NUMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gallant</td>
<td>Jack</td>
<td></td>
<td>(510) 361-9750</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACADEMIC UNIT OR DEPARTMENT</th>
<th>MAIL CODE</th>
<th>E-MAIL ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute</td>
<td>3192</td>
<td><a href="mailto:gallant@berkeley.edu">gallant@berkeley.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE OF RESEARCH PROJECT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Decoding imagined speech from brain activity

1. Information Regarding Funding Entity
   (Use a separate Form 700-U for each funding entity.)
   Name of Entity: Facebook
   Address of Entity: 1 Hacker Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025
   Principal Business of Entity: Technology / Internet
   Amount of Funding: $3,282,000
   Estimated [ ] Actual [ ]

2. Type of Statement
   (Check at least one box)
   [ ] Initial (for new funding)
   [ ] Interim (for renewed funding)
   [ ] Funding was renewed on: __/__/____

3. Filer Information - Cont.
   D. Have you received loans from the entity in Part 1 for which the balance exceeded $500 during the reporting period? No [ ] Yes [ ] - highest balance
   [ ] $500 - $1,000
   [ ] $1,001 - $10,000
   [ ] $10,001 - $100,000
   [ ] Exceeded $100,000
   If you checked "yes," was the loan
   [ ] Secured [ ] Unsecured
   Interest rate __________%
   Was the loan entirely repaid within the last 12 months?
   [ ] No [ ] Yes
   E. Have you received gifts from the entity listed in Part 1 within the last 12 months valued at $50 or more?
   No [ ] Yes [ ] - describe below.
   Description: ____________________________________________
   Value: $___________ Date Received: __/__/____

   F. Has the entity in Part 1 paid for your travel during the reporting period? No [ ] Yes [ ] - describe below.
   Type of Payment: (check one) [ ] Gift [ ] Income
   Amt: $___________ date(s): __/__/____
   (if gift) Description and, if Gift, Travel Destination: ____________________________________________

4. Verification
   I have used all reasonable diligence in preparing this statement.
   I have reviewed this statement and to the best of my knowledge the information contained herein and in any attached schedules is true and complete. I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.
   Date Signed __________
   Signature ____________________________
   (Please sign in ink, using the name signed on your university)
   Date (month, day, year) __________

The Form 700-U is for university use only
This statement is a public record under Gov Code Section 81008(a).
Financial Disclosure

Louisiana State University provided data for all outside employment disclosures filed by employees from 2015 through 2019. University staff are required to file disclosures on outside employment activities for review and administration.

James Carville
Louisiana State University

Palantir Technologies Inc.

Listed Reason

Paid consulting/services rendered

Filed on December 11, 2017.
Source
https://projects.propublica.org/dollars-for-profs/