

Kifekachukwu Nwosu

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Computer scientist and gender studies researcher evaluating AI and designing technology with the communities it affects

EDUCATION

Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT)

Rochester, NY

B.S. Computer Science, GPA: 3.3 | Expected May 2027

B.S. Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies

RESPONSIBLE TECH & RESEARCH

CRA-DREU Research Fellow — Lab for Population Intelligence, RIT

Summer 2026 – Present

Rochester, NY

- Built a Python evaluation pipeline benchmarking zero-shot classification (BART-large-MNLI, Hugging Face) against 500 tweets I hand-coded from a 13,000+ tweet #EndSARS protest dataset
- Found near-chance model-human agreement ($\kappa = 0.01\text{--}0.05$) and 95% vs. 16% over-prediction, showing why AI must be validated against human judgment before it is used to study social movements

Machine Learning Research Engineer — MDATA Lab, UMBC

June 2023 – January 2025

Baltimore, MD

- Built unsupervised ML and Python data pipelines (PyTorch, Pandas, NumPy) to detect audio deepfakes; first author of an AAAI paper on auto-annotating speech with linguistic features; 4 papers, 29 citations
- Helped create a sociolinguistic deepfake-listening training tested with 264 undergraduates and adapted for high school students

Undergraduate Researcher, Accessible Gaming — Golisano College of Computing, RIT

Summer 2024

Rochester, NY

- Audited Steam, itch.io, PlayStation Store and Nintendo eShop with a rubric built on WCAG 2 (POUR), the ADA and inclusive design, plus WAVE, for players with visual, motor and cognitive disabilities
- Designed two accessible storefront prototypes in Figma that fix the barriers found; presented at RIT's 2025 Annual Undergraduate Conference

Research Assistant — College of Liberal Arts, RIT

August 2024 – May 2025

Rochester, NY

- Researched religion as the central barrier to queer and women's liberation in Nigeria through legal analysis, interviews and short-story collections
- Won First Prize at the RIT WGSS Symposium (2026) and funding to continue the work

ADVOCACY & COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

Court Support Worker — Mosaic Training, Service & Healing Centre for Women

September 2026 – Present

Cape Town, South Africa

- Assist survivors of domestic and gender-based violence with 5–6 protection-order applications daily and support them through court in Mitchells Plain, Philippi and Khayelitsha
- Support community trainings on gender-based violence (GBV) and intimate partner violence (IPV) that have reached 600+ people

Girls Initiative Intern — Women's Foundation of the Genesee Valley

January 2026 – May 2026

Rochester, NY

- Helped plan and run Power Her Forward, a day-long leadership conference for 350+ girls (May 2026)
- Co-facilitated in-school and virtual Girls' Leadership Groups (ages 14–19) on confidence, civic engagement and economic empowerment

LEADERSHIP

- Vice President, ALANA Collegiate Association, RIT Student Government (2025 – 2026)
- President, Organization of African Students, RIT (2024 – 2025)

TALKS & PUBLICATIONS

- First author, "Auto Annotation of Linguistic Features for Audio Deepfake Discernment," AAAI Symposium Series (2023); co-author on 3 more papers (IEEE ISI, Language and Linguistics Compass, BAAL)
- Speaker at ATHAI (2023), ADSA '24, RIT Student Research in Communication Conference (2024) and the RIT WGSS Symposium (2026)

HONORS

- First Prize, RIT WGSS Symposium; Communication and Ethics Award; Student Beacon Award; Larsen-Brownell Scholarship (2026); Multidisciplinary Scholar (2025); McNair Scholar

SKILLS

Technical: Python, Java, C/C++, C#, SQL, JavaScript; PyTorch, Hugging Face, Pandas; Angular, Spring Boot; Figma, WCAG/WAVE

Research & community: AI evaluation, qualitative coding, framing analysis, survey design, survivor support, facilitation