

# Ndapa Nakashole

Computer Science & Engineering  
University of California, San Diego  
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<https://ndapa.us>

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## APPOINTMENTS

### **University of California, San Diego, CA, USA**

Associate Professor, July 2023 –  
Assistant Professor, Jan 2017 – June 2023

### **Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA, USA**

Postdoctoral Fellow, Machine Learning Department, 2013 – 2016.  
Advisor: Tom M. Mitchell

## EDUCATION

### **Max Planck Institute for Informatics & Saarland University, Germany**

Ph.D., Summa cum laude, in Computer Science, 2012. Advisor: Gerhard Weikum  
*Otto Hahn Medal (Max Planck Society dissertation award)*

### **University of Cape Town, South Africa**

B.Sc (2005), B.Sc Honors (2006, First Class) M.Sc (2009, with Distinction)  
Major: Computer Science

### **Oshigambo High School, Namibia**

Grade 12 (Cambridge HIGCSE: Biology, Physics, Mathematics, Oshindonga, & English.  
IGCSE: Development Studies)

## INDUSTRY

### **Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, USA**

Research Intern, Data Management 04/2011 – 07/2011

### **IBM Zurich Research, Switzerland**

Research Intern, Business Optimization 03/2008 – 08/2008

## SELECTED HONORS

2022 NSF CAREER Award  
2019 Hellman Fellow  
2017 Peggy and Peter Preuss Faculty Scholar  
2014 Otto Hahn Medal (awarded for PhD dissertation by the Max Planck Society)  
2012 Best Paper Award Runner Up at the EMNLP 2012 Conference  
2012 Best Paper Award at the AKBC Workshop  
2006 DAAD-TUCSIN Undergraduate Scholarship  
2002, 2003 Class Medals for Computer Science Courses (awarded to top grade in the class)

## SELECTED OUTREACH

2021 - Founder of [okalai.org](http://okalai.org) whose goal is to support the future of AI research and development in Namibia.  
2022 - Faculty co-lead of UCSD-HBCU Computer Science for Social Impact Summer Institute. which offers students from historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) with research experience.  
2023 - Chair of the Computer Science Department DEI committee