



# NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

## Memorandum

DATE: April 25, 2018

TO: The Center for Data Science Community

FROM: Provost Katherine E. Fleming

RE: The Appointment of Julia Kempe as Director of the Center for Data Science

We are very pleased to announce the appointment of Julia Kempe as the new Director of the Center for Data Science, effective September 1, 2018. Dr. Kempe possesses exceptional scientific credentials and a strong vision for data science at NYU, and we are delighted that she is joining the University in this key senior leadership position.

Dr. Kempe comes with two decades of in-depth experience in both academia and data-driven industry. She is currently a Senior Researcher at a leading hedge fund that trades in markets around the world, employing complex mathematical models and tools from machine learning and statistics to analyze vast amounts of data. In this role, she collaborates with an interdisciplinary team of mathematicians, physicists, and computer scientists. Prior to working in finance, she held academic appointments as Junior and then Senior Researcher at the CNRS in France since 2001, and as Professor of Computer Science at Tel-Aviv University (2007-2011).

Dr. Kempe's main scholarly contributions are in quantum computing, a highly interdisciplinary area spanning computer science, physics, and applied mathematics, and she has published in conference proceedings and journals across these fields. She has been a Principal Investigator (PI) or co-PI on a number of prestigious grants from the European Research Council, the Israeli Science Foundation, and the French Ministry of Science. In 2010, she became one of the youngest scientists to receive knighthood in the French Order of Merit. She is also the recipient of a French Woman in Gold Prize for Research ("Femme en Or de la Recherche"), the Krill Prize for Excellence in Scientific Research, the Irène Joliot-Curie Prize of the French government, and the Bronze Medal of the CNRS.

Dr. Kempe received a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of California, Berkeley and a Ph.D. in Computer Science from École Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications. She also holds an M.S. in Theoretical Physics from the École Normale Supérieure and an M.S. in Algebra from the Université de Paris 6. She completed her undergraduate work in Mathematics and Physics at the University of Vienna, Austria.

We are very grateful to the members of the Search Committee – co-chaired by Russ Caflisch, Director of the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences, and Deputy Provost Cybele Raver –

for its excellent work. Through their dedication and commitment, they brought us an outstanding candidate. The membership of the search committee can be found below.

We also take this opportunity to thank Richard Bonneau, Professor of Biology and Computer Science, who served as Director of CDS since September 2017, for his excellent leadership, energy, and dedication to the Center.

Please join us in congratulating Julia Kempe on her appointment and welcoming her to NYU.

**Center For Data Science Director Search Committee**

- Russel Caflisch, Director of the Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences and Professor of Mathematics
- Juan Bello, Associate Professor of Music Technology, Steinhardt
- Kyunghyun Cho, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, CIMS
- Vasant Dhar, Professor of Information Systems, Stern
- Elza Erkip, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Tandon
- Glennys Farrar, Professor of Physics, FAS
- Elodie Ghedin, Professor of Biology and Global Public Health, FAS
- Mik Laver, Professor of Politics, FAS
- Yann LeCun, Silver Professor of Computer Science, CIMS
- C. Cybele Raver, Deputy Provost
- Eero Simoncelli, Silver Professor of Neural Science, Mathematics, and Psychology, FAS
- Denis Zorin, Professor of Computer Science and Mathematics, CIMS