

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Plamen Petrov

PhD (MS '92) • CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER, HYDROGEN HEALTH



Plamen Petrov, PhD (MS '92) is a computer scientist, educator, researcher, and leader who has dedicated his career to solving the world's most challenging problems through his inventions and expertise in implementing advanced technologies.

Dr. Petrov received his undergraduate degree in electrical engineering and computer science from Technical University of Sofia, Bulgaria, and his master's degree in computer science at Loyola University Chicago. He also earned a master's degree in engineering management from Northwestern University, and his doctorate in computer science at the University of Illinois Chicago.

An expert in bringing advanced artificial intelligence capabilities into the business world, Dr. Petrov is also an expert on natural language processing and cognitive computing. His most recent venture is as a principal on the startup team for Hydrogen Health, an AI-powered digital health company co-founded by Elevance Health, Blackstone Growth, and K Health, where he serves as chief technology officer. Previously, Dr. Petrov was the vice president of data science and the chief data officer at Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield, and director of cognitive technology at KPMG. He has also served in various positions at Convergys, Motorola, Sun Microsystems, United Airlines, Deloitte, and IBM.

Dr. Petrov's papers on such topics as data visualization, probabilistic decision frameworks, and software architecture analysis have been published in many academic journals and presented at professional conferences. He also holds several patents for technical innovations. In addition to his research, Dr. Petrov has held adjunct faculty appointments at Northwestern University and the University of Illinois, teaching computer science, analytics, and business courses as well as advising students.

As a professor, Dr. Petrov has taught numerous courses over the years at Loyola University Chicago, and he serves on the Dean's Advisory Council of the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as the Program Advisory Council of the Department of Computer Science. He is active in the artificial intelligence research community and is an industry liaison officer at the Association for Computing Machinery's Special Interest Group on Artificial Intelligence. Dr. Petrov is also a member of the Working Group on Innovation and Interoperability, the Kellogg Innovation Network, and he is on the board of trustees of the Center for the Advancement of the Enterprise Architecture Profession.