AAAI News

Winter News from the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence

Join Us for AAAI-17 and IAAI-17 in San Francisco!

The Thirty-First AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-17) and the Twenty-Ninth Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence (IAAI-17) will be held February 4-9 at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square, San Francisco, California, USA. San Francisco is the gateway to exploring Northern California, from the wine country to the iconic Golden Gate Bridge, and more. It is also home to the exploding Bay Area AI industry, and just up the road from the Silicon Valley. San Francisco itself has an endless array of entertainment and cultural sites to explore. For local information, please visit the San Francisco travel site at www.sftravel.com/.

Registration Is Open!

AAAI-17 Registration is now available at aaai.org/aaai17, and online registration can be completed at regonline.com/aaai17. Complete tutorial and workshop information, as well as other special program information is available at these sites.

Make Your Hotel Reservation Now!

AAAI has reserved a block of rooms at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square at reduced conference rates. The cutoff date for conference rate reservations is Tuesday, January 3, 2017 at 5:00pm California time. Please see www.aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI/2017/aaai17hotel.php for complete information.

Students Activities

As part of its outreach to students, AAAI-17 will continue several special programs specifically for students, including the Doctoral Consortium, the Student Abstract Program, Lunch with a Fellow, and the Volunteer Program, in addition to the following:

Student Reception

AAAI will welcome all students to AAAI-17 by hosting an evening student reception on Saturday, February 4. Although the reception is especially beneficial to new students at the conference, all are welcome! Please join us and make all the newcomers welcome!

AAAI-17 Educational Outreach

The Open House of recent years will be replaced in 2017 by the EAAI-17 Educational Outreach Event, giving EAAI presenters a chance to teach other AAAI attendees a single outreach activity, which they in turn will perform with local K-12 students. This program will run in conjunction with a paper session at EAAI-17, exploring ways to use AI to improve teaching, learning and retention of students. This program aims to provide tools and outreach activities to those AAAI participants who teach and would like to bring them back to their classroom or community. The program will be held on Saturday, February 4, just before the commencement of the main EAAI-17 program.

Breakfast with Champions: A Women's Mentoring Event

AAAI will hold its third women's mentoring event for students and junior women professionals to meet with senior women in artificial intelligence. Breakfast with Champions will be held Tuesday morning, February 7.

AAAI/ACM SIGAI Job Fair

The AAAI/ACM SIGAI job fair grew to over 30 participating employers and hundreds of job seekers in 2016. The job fair is a place for students and professionals looking for internships or jobs to meet with representatives from companies and academia in an informal "meet-and-greet" atmosphere. If you are representing a company, research organization or university and would like to participate in the job fair, please send an email with your contact information to aaai17jobfair@aaai.org by January 8. The organizers of the AAAI/ACM SIGAI Job Fair are Nathan Sturtevant (University of Denver, USA) and William Yeoh (New Mexico State University, USA).

AAAI / ACM SIGAI Job Market Electronic Bulletin Board

AAAI and ACM SIGAI are pleased to continue the electronic job bulletin board at AAAI-17. Companies with job opportunities, as well as job seekers, will provide ads to populate an ongoing kiosk display. Opportunities to meet with job seekers will be arranged dynamically or through employer-sponsored events.

ICWSM 2017 Comes to Canada

Please join us for the Eleventh International AAAI Conference on Weblogs

AAAI 2017 Spring Symposium Series

AAAI is pleased to present the 2017 Spring Symposium Series, to be held Monday – Wednesday, March 27–29, 2017, at Stanford University. The eight symposia are as follows:

AI for the Social Good

Eric Horvitz (Microsoft Research), Barbara Grosz (Harvard University), Amy Greenwald (Brown University), David Parkes (Harvard University), Carla Gomes (Cornell University), Stephen Smith (Carnegie Mellon University), Gregory Hager (Johns Hopkins University), Ann W. Drobnis (Computing Research Association), Nicole Sintov (Ohio State University), Milind Tambe (University of Southern California), Amulya Yadav (University of Southern California), Fei Fang (Harvard Universit), Bryan Wilder (University of Southern California)

Computational Construction
Grammar and Natural Language Understanding

Luc Steels (Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Spain), Jerome Feldman (International Computer Science Institute)

Computational Context: Why It's Important, What It Means, and Can It Be Computed?

Ranjeev Mittu (Naval Research Laboratory); W.F. Lawless (Paine College); Don Sofge (Naval Research Institute); David Aha (Naval Research Institute)

Designing the User Experience of Machine Learning Systems

Mike Kuniavsky (PARC), Elizabeth Churchill (Google), Molly Wright Steenson (Carnegie Mellon University)

Interactive Multisensory Object
Perception for Embodied Agents

Vivian Chu (Georgia Institute of Technology), Jivko Sinapov (University of Texas at Austin), Jeannette Bohg (MPI for Intelligent Systems), Sonia Chernova (Georgia Institute of Technology), Andrea L. Thomaz (University of Texas at Austin)

Learning from Observation of Humans

Santiago Ontañón (Drexel University), Avelino J. González (University of Central Florida), José L. Montaña (University of Cantabria, Spain)

Science of Intelligence: Computational Principles of Natural and Artificial Intelligence

Gemma Roig (Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Xavier Boix (National University of Singapore)

Well-Being AI: From Machine Learning to Subjective Oriented Computing

Takashi Kido (Rikengenesis, Japan), Keiki Takadama, (The University of Electro-Communications, Japan)

For additional information, and links to the supplementary websites for each symposium, please see www.aaai. org/Symposia/Spring/sss17.php. Material to be included in the technical reports of the symposium must be received by January 25, 2017. The final registration deadline is February 24. Please contact AAAI at sss17@aaai.org with any questions.

and Social Media, to be held in Montréal, Québec Canada, May 15–18. 2017. This interdisciplinary conference is a forum for researchers in computer science and social science to come together to share knowledge, discuss ideas, exchange information, and learn about cutting-edge research in diverse fields with the common theme of online social media. This overall theme includes research in new perspectives in social theories, as well as computational algorithms for analyzing social media. ICWSM is a singularly fitting venue for research that blends social science and computational approaches to answer important and challenging questions about human social behavior through social media while advancing computational tools for vast and unstructured data.

Abstracts submissions for ICWSM are due January 6. Papers, posters, and demos are due January 13.

Member News — Martha Pollack Named President of Cornell

AAAI congratulates AAAI Fellow and former President Martha Pollack on her recent appointment as the fourteenth President of Cornell University. Pollack, who is currently provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at the University of Michigan, will begin her term of office on April 17, 2017.

Pollack is also a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the Association for Computing Machinery and the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI). Her research has been in the area of artificial intelligence, where she has published widely on topics including automated planning, natural-language processing, temporal reasoning and constraint satisfaction. A particular focus of her work has been the design of intelligent technology to assist people with cognitive impairment, a topic on which she testified before the United States Senate Subcommittee on Aging in 2004.

In addition to receiving a number of awards for her research, Pollack has been honored for her professional service, for example, with the University of Michigan's Sarah Goddard Power Award in recognition of her efforts to increase the representation of and climate for women and underrepresented minorities in science and engineering. She has served as editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research,* as president of AAAI, as a member of the Advisory Committee for the National Science Foundation's Computer and Information Science and Engineering Division, and a member of the board of directors of the Computing Research Association.

For more information, please see www.cornell.edu/president-search/.