

Congratulations to the 2011 AAAI Award Winners!

Henry Kautz, AAAI President, and Eric Horvitz, AAAI Past President and Awards Committee Chair, presented the AAAI Awards in August at AAAI-11 in San Francisco.

Classic Paper Award

The 2011 AAAI Classic Paper Award was given to the authors of the most influential papers from the Tenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, held in 1992 in San Jose, California. The award was presented to Hector Levesque, David Mitchell, and Bart Selman for their two papers, *Hard and Easy Distribution of SAT Problems* and *A New Method for Solving Hard Satisfiability Problems*. These papers were honored for their significant contributions to the area of automated reasoning via methods and analyses on satisfiability, providing foundational insights about constraint satisfaction and search.

Hector Levesque received his Ph.D. from the University of Toronto in 1981. After graduation, he accepted a position at the Fairchild Lab for AI Research in Palo Alto, and then joined the faculty at the University of Toronto where he has remained since 1984. Levesque has published over 60 research papers, and is the coauthor of a 2004 textbook on knowledge representation and reasoning. In 1985, he received the Computers and Thought Award given by IJCAI. He is a founding fellow of the AAAI, and was a co-founder of the International Conference on Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning. In 2001, Levesque was the conference chair of IJCAI-01, and served as president of the Board of Trustees of IJCAI from 2001 to 2003.

David G. Mitchell is an associate professor of computing science at the Computational Logic Laboratory, School of Computing Science, Simon Fraser University, Canada. His research interests include logic and complexity, SAT, constraint satisfaction, constraint languages, grounding, combinatorial optimization, bioinformatics, planning, and van der Waerden numbers.

Mitchell received his BSc in cognitive science and artificial intelligence at the University of Toronto, his MSc in computing science from Simon Fraser University, and his PhD in computer science from the University of Toronto.

Bart Selman is a professor of computer science at Cornell University. He previously was at AT&T Bell Laboratories. His research interests include efficient reasoning procedures, planning, knowledge representation, and connections between computer science and statistical physics. He has authored or coauthored more than 100 publications, six of which received best paper awards. His papers have appeared in venues spanning *Nature*, *Science*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, and a variety of conferences and journals in AI and computer science. He has received the Cornell Stephen Miles Excellence in Teaching Award, the Cornell Outstanding Educator Award, an NSF Career Award, and an Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship. He is a Fellow of the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence and a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

AAAI-11 Outstanding Paper Awards

This year, AAAI's Conference on Artificial Intelligence honored two papers that exemplify high standards in technical contribution and exposition. Papers were recommended for outstanding status by members of the Program Committee during the blind review

process. The winning papers were selected by the program chairs with the help of area chairs and members of the senior program committee. Honors went to Jessica Davies (University of Toronto), George Katsirelos (LRI, Université Paris Sud 11), Nina Narodytska (NICTA and University of New South Wales), and Toby Walsh (NICTA and University of New South Wales) for *Complexity of and Algorithms for Borda Manipulation*; and Daniel Golovin (Caltech), Andreas Krause (ETH Zürich), Beth Gardner (NCSSU), Sarah J. Converse (USGS Patuxent WRC), and Steve Morey (USFWS) for *Dynamic Resource Allocation in Conservation Planning*.

AAAI-11 Program Committee Awards

AAAI-11 program cochairs Wolfram Burgard and Dan Roth recognized the following members of the AAAI-11 Program Committee for their distinguished service on the committee. These individuals used extreme care, thoughtfulness, thoroughness, and diligence in the execution of their duties while serving on the Program Committee.

AAAI-11 Outstanding Senior Program Committee Members

José Neira (University of Zaragoza, Spain)

Kilian Q. Weinberger (Washington University in St. Louis, USA)

AAAI-11 Outstanding Program Committee Member

Shane Bergsma (Johns Hopkins University, USA)

AAAI News

*Fall News from the
Association for the Advancement
of Artificial Intelligence*



AAAI Distinguished Service Award

The 2011 AAAI Distinguished Service Award recognizes one individual for extraordinary service to the AI community. The AAAI Awards Committee is pleased to announce that this year's recipient was David L. Waltz, Director, Center for Computational Learning Systems, Columbia University. Waltz was honored specifically for his extraordinary and long-term technical contributions to artificial intelligence including ground-breaking work in computer vision, memory-based reasoning, classification, and information retrieval, and dedicated organizational leadership within the AI research community. Beyond the influence of his ideas and guidance, his insights, wisdom, and generous mentorship have been of great value in the nurturing and support of numerous students and colleagues.

David L. Waltz has been director of the Center for Computational Learning Systems (CCLS) at Columbia University since 2003. He was formerly president of the NEC Research Institute in Princeton, and from 1984–1993 was director of advanced information systems at Thinking Machines Corporation and Professor of Computer Science at Brandeis University. He had also been a professor of electrical and computer engineering at the University of Illinois (CSL and ECE Department) for 11 years. Waltz served as president of AAAI from 1997–1999, and is a Fellow of AAAI and ACM, a Senior Member of IEEE, and former Chairman of ACM SIGART. He is currently on the Army Research Lab Technical Advisory Board and the Advisory Board of the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition, the Technical Advisory Board of 4C (Cork Constraint Computation Center, Ireland) and has served on recent external advisory boards for Rutgers University, Carnegie-Mellon University, Brown University, and EPFL (Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne). He is on the Advisory Board for IEEE Intelligent Systems, and the Computing Community Consortium Board of the Computing Research Association, and NSF Computer Science Advisory Board.

Waltz received all his degrees from MIT, including his Ph.D. for work at the MIT AI Lab. His thesis on computer vision originated the field of constraint propagation, and with Craig Stanfill, he originated the field of memory-based reasoning branch of Case-Based Reasoning. His current primary research interest is in machine learning applications, especially to the electric power grid. His research interests have also included massively parallel information retrieval, data mining, learning and automatic classification with applications protein structure prediction, and natural language processing.

AAAI Executive Council Nominations

Every two years, the AAAI membership elects an individual to serve a two-year term as president-elect, followed by two years as president, and, finally, two years as immediate past president.

In addition, every year four new councilors are elected to serve three-year terms on the AAAI Executive Council. All elected officers and councilors are expected to attend at least two council meetings per year, and actively participate in AAAI activities.

Nominees must be current members of AAAI. The Nominating Committee encourages all regular members in good standing to place an individual's name before them for consideration. (Student and library members are not eligible to submit candidates' names.) The Nominating Committee, in turn, will nominate one candidate for president-elect and eight candidates for councilor in the spring. In addition to members' recommendations, the committee will actively recruit individuals in order to provide a balanced slate of candidates. AAAI members will vote in the late spring.

To submit a candidate's name for consideration, please send the individual's name, address, phone number, and email address to Carol Hamilton, Executive Director, AAAI, 445 Burgess Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025; by fax to 650/321-4457; or by email to hamilton@aaai.org.

Nominators should contact candidates prior to submitting their names to verify that they are willing to serve, should they be elected.

The deadline for nominations is November 1, 2011.

2011 AAAI Fall Symposium Series Registration

The Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence's 2011 Fall Symposium Series will be held Friday through Sunday, November 4–6 at the Westin Arlington Gateway, Arlington Virginia, adjacent to Washington, DC. The Symposium Series will be preceded on Thursday, November 3 by a one-day AI funding seminar.

The titles of the seven symposia are as follows:

- Advances in Cognitive Systems
- Building Representations of Common Ground with Intelligent Agents
- Complex Adaptive Systems: Energy, Information and Intelligence
- Multiagent Coordination under Uncertainty
- Open Government Knowledge: AI Opportunities and Challenges
- Question Generation
- Robot-Human Teamwork in Dynamic Adverse Environment

An informal reception will be held on Friday, November 4. A general plenary session, in which the highlights of each symposium will be presented, will be held on Saturday, November 5.

Symposia will be limited to between forty and sixty participants. Each participant will be expected to attend a single symposium. In addition to invited participants, a limited number of other interested parties will be allowed to register in each symposium on a first-come, first-served basis.

AAAI Technical Reports will be distributed to participants in each symposium, and will be added to the AAAI Digital Library after the symposium.

The final deadline for registration is October 14, 2011.

For registration information, please contact AAAI at fss11@aaai.org or visit AAAI's web site at www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/fss11.php.

A hotel room block has been reserved at the Westin. The cut-off date for reservations is October 10, 2011. Please call 1-800-937-8461 for further information, or reserve a room online via the URL noted previously.

2011 Robert S. Englemore Memorial Lecture Award

The Robert S. Englemore Memorial Lecture award was established in 2003 to honor Dr. Robert S. Englemore's extraordinary service to AAAI, *AI Magazine*, and the AI applications community, and his contributions to applied AI. The annual keynote lecture is presented at the Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence Conference. Topics encompass Bob's wide interests in AI, and each lecture is linked to a subsequent article published upon approval by *AI Magazine*. The lecturer and, therefore, the author for the magazine article, are chosen jointly by the IAAI Program Committee and the editor of *AI Magazine*.

AAAI congratulates the 2011 recipient of this award, Ramon Lopez de Mantaras, Artificial Intelligence Research Institute (IIIA) and Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). Dr. Lopez de Mantaras was honored for his pioneering research contributions in a breadth of artificial intelligence areas, especially pattern recognition and case-based reasoning, leading to novel applications in design, diagnosis, and music, and for extensive international leadership and service for the AI community. He presented his talk, *Playing with Cases: Rendering Expressive Music Performance with Case-Based Reasoning*, at the recent Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence Conference in San Francisco. The talk will be available at videlectures.net soon.



Ramon Lopez de Mantaras is a research professor in the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and director of the Artificial Intelligence Research Institute (IIIA). He earned his MS in computer science from the University of California, Berkeley, a PhD in physics from the University of Toulouse, and a PhD in computer science from the Technical University of Barcelona. He is an associate editor of the *AI Journal*, and an editorial board member of several international journals including *AI Magazine*. He was program committee chairman of UAI-94 and ECML-00, conference chair of ECAI-04, ECML-07 and IJCAI-07, and is an ECCAI Fellow and recipient of several awards including EC-CAI's DEC European AI Research Paper Award, the "City of Barcelona" Research Prize, and the International Computer Music Association "Swets & Zeitlinger" Award. Lopez de Mantaras was president of the Board of Trustees of IJCAI from 2007 to 2009. His research interests include case-based reasoning, machine learning, artificial intelligence and music, and object recognition for robotics.



Seventh AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Digital Entertainment (AIIDE-11)

Join Us for AIIDE-11

The Seventh AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Digital Entertainment will be held at Stanford University, October 10–14, 2011. AIIDE is the definitive point of interaction between interactive entertainment software developers interested in AI and academic and industrial AI researchers.

Sponsored by AAAI, the conference is targeted at both the research and commercial communities, promoting AI research and practice in the context of interactive digital entertainment systems with an emphasis on commercial computer and video games. AIIDE-11 will include invited talks by Robert Zubek (Zynga), Akhil Madhani (Walt Disney Imagineering R&D), Dan Kline and Lauren McHugh (Maxis), Louis Gascoigne (Electronic Arts), and Bob Fitch (Blizzard), as well as technical paper presentations and a poster/demo session. In addition, the workshop program has been extended to include the following two workshops:

Intelligent Narrative Technologies will be a two-day workshop. It is organized by Emmett Tomai (University of Texas - Pan American), Jon Rowe (North Carolina State University), and David Elson (Columbia University/Google)

Artificial Intelligence in the Game Design Process will be a one-day workshop. It is organized by Adam M. Smith and Gillian Smith (University of California, Santa Cruz)

Registration information is now available at the AAAI AIIDE-11 website (www.aaai.org/Conferences/AIIDE/aiide11.php). The late registration deadline is September 16. Registrations will also be accepted onsite at Tresidder Union, 459 Lagunita Drive, on the Stanford Campus.

For more information about registration or hotels in the area, please consult the URL above, or write to aiide11@aaai.org.

AAAI Executive Council Minutes

The AAAI Executive Council held a teleconference meeting on March 20, 2011.

Attending: Henry Kautz, Manuela Veloso, Eric Horvitz, Ted Senator, Carla Brodley, Maria Fox, Amy Greenwald, Adele Howe, Mark Maybury, Tuomas Sandholm, Toby Walsh, Dieter Fox, David Leake

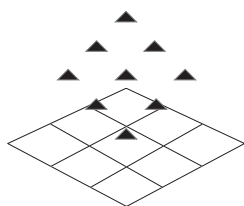
Not Attending: Claire Cardie, Rao Kambhampati, Gal Kaminka, Jonathan Schaeffer, Alan Schultz, Tony Cohn.

Past president Eric Horvitz welcomed all participants to the meeting, and roll call was taken at 11:45 am PDT. The minutes for July 2010 were approved.

Spring Symposium: In recent years it has become increasingly difficult to develop a program for the Spring Symposium Series. The Council discussed possible reasons for this, including the proliferation of conferences and workshops, the possible need for a move to a new venue, the overlap with spring vacations, and the lack of attractive topics. Most people agreed that the topics of the symposia will be the driving force in attracting people to the symposium, and that the committee should redouble its efforts to recruit interdisciplinary symposia with strong and diverse organizing committees.

Marjorie Skubic will step down as chair of the Symposium Committee after the 2011 Fall Symposium Series. Chad Jenkins will replace her as the chair of the Symposium Committee. Matt Taylor has been proposed as the next cochair. The Council approved his appointment for this position.

IJCAI Issues: IJCAI notified AAAI in the fall of 2010 that it was considering a move to an annual conference, and sought feedback from AAAI and other regional and national AI societies. Since that time, the AAAI officers have been in discussions with IJCAI, and have expressed concerns about the impact of this move on AAAI. Of particular concern were AAAI's desire to continue to work with IJCAI when it locates in North America, the impact of no AAAI membership discounts offered during IJCAI years, and the lack



2012 AAAI Spring Symposium Call for Participation

AAAI presents the 2012 Spring Symposium Series, to be held Monday – Wednesday, March 26–28, 2012, at Stanford University. The titles of the six symposia are as follows:

AI, The Fundamental Social Aggregation Challenge, and the Autonomy of Hybrid Agent Groups

Organizers: W. F. Lawless, w.lawless@paine.edu, and Don Sofge, don.sofge@nrl.navy.mil)

Designing Intelligent Robots: Reintegrating AI

Organizers: George Konidaris, Byron Boots, Stephen Hart, Todd Hester, Sarah Osentoski, David Wingate (people.csail.mit.edu/gdk/dir)

Game Theory for Security, Sustainability and Health

Organizers: Bo An, Vincent Conitzer, Manish Jain, Sarit Kraus, Sarvapali Ramchurn, Milind Tambe (teamcore.usc.edu/GT-Symposium.htm)

Intelligent Web Services Meet Social Computing

Organizers: Tomas Vitvar, Harith Alani, David Martin (vitvar.com/events/aaai-ss12)

Self-Tracking and Collective Intelligence for Personal Wellness

Organizers: Takashi Kido and Keiki Takadama (mednlp.jp/AAAI2012)

Wisdom of the Crowd

Organizers: Caroline Pantofaru, Sonia Chernova, Alexander Sorokin (willowgarage.com/workshops/2012/wisdom_of_the_crowd)

Submissions for the symposia are due on October 7, 2011. Notification of acceptance will be given by November 4, 2011. Material to be included in the technical reports of the symposium must be received by January 20, 2012. The complete Call for Participation is available at <http://www.aaai.org/Symposia/Spring/sss12.php>. Registration information will be available by December 15, 2011.

Please contact AAAI at sss12@aaai.org with any questions.

Support AAAI Open Access

AAAI wishes to thank you for your ongoing support of the open access initiative and all AAAI programs through the continuation of your AAAI membership. We count on you to help us deliver the latest information about artificial intelligence to the scientific community. To enable us to continue this effort, we invite you to consider an additional gift to AAAI. For information on how you can contribute to the open access initiative, please see <http://www.aaai.org> and click on “Gifts.”

of a proposed international rotation schedule for an annual IJCAI conference. IJCAI has been very reassuring about its desire to work closely with other organizations to make sure that their transition to an annual conference will be beneficial to all. AAAI officers will meet with IJCAI to discuss all concerns and opportunities, including more visibility and involvement for the host organization in the brand of the conference. In addition, AAAI will review its agreement with IJCAI to be sure that there is no need for modifications with a new rotation scheme.

International Committee: Eric Horvitz reported that the International Committee, chaired by Maria Fox, has been discussing ways for AAAI to raise awareness about AI throughout the world and to help societies communicate better with each other. David Leake, editor of *AI Magazine*, suggested that a new feature be created for the magazine that would feature international news. He also mentioned that he has been encouraging more international submissions to the magazine in general.

AAAI-13 and Future Years: Carol Hamilton reviewed the venue options for AAAI-13, including San Diego, Bellevue, Washington, New Orleans, Anchorage, and Minneapolis. After considering several criteria, most importantly attractiveness to attendees, price point, local AI community, etc., the Council decided to narrow down the search to two cities, and asked Hamilton to conduct a straw poll after the meeting. The Council was encouraged to provide information regarding local sponsorship possibilities that would be helpful in making the final decision. The Council also agreed that issuing a call for proposals for future conference years was a good idea to engage the local community in promoting sponsorship and local involvement. Hamilton will issue the first CFP as soon as the IJCAI decision about its future conferences is made.

AAAI Challenge: Henry Kautz led a discussion on instituting a series of challenges at the conference, such as General Question Answering or General Car Driving. The challenge might span several conferences with stages of



Henry Kautz, Red Whittaker, Sebastian Thrun, and Eric Horvitz at AAAI-11 after presentation of the Feigenbaum Award.

Thrun and Whittaker Accept Feigenbaum Award

Sebastian Thrun, Professor of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering and Director of the Stanford AI Lab at Stanford University, and William A. "Red" Whittaker, Professor, Robotics Institute at Carnegie Mellon University, accepted their awards as the winners of the inaugural 2011 Feigenbaum Prize at AAAI-11 in San Francisco. Thrun and Whittaker were recognized in particular for high-impact contributions to the field of artificial intelligence through innovation and achievement in autonomous vehicle research, transitioning the concept of an autonomous vehicle from the realm of fiction to reality.

The AAAI Feigenbaum Prize is awarded biennially to recognize and encourage outstanding AI research advances that are made by using experimental methods of computer science. The "laboratories" for the experimental work are real-world domains, and the power of the research results are demonstrated in those domains. The Feigenbaum Prize may be given for a sustained record of high-impact seminal contributions to experimental AI research; or it may be given to reward singular remarkable innovation and achievement in experimental AI research. The prize is \$10,000 and is provided by the Feigenbaum Nii Foundation and administered by AAAI.

development, but would probably not last more than three years. Kautz suggested holding a workshop to develop ideas for this event.

Turing Anniversary: Toby Walsh reminded the Council that the 50th Turing Anniversary will be in 2012, and

suggested that AAAI commemorate this in some way, such as a special panel. He will brainstorm ideas with others, and report back at the summer meeting.

AAAI Conference 25th Anniversary: Manuela Veloso elicited feedback from

the Council about ideas for ways to commemorate this anniversary at the conference in San Francisco. She hopes to form a panel of people who were present at the 1980 conference to address the attendees. The meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM PDT.



Join us in Toronto for AAAI-12 and IAAI-12!

The Twenty-Sixth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-12) and the Twenty-Fourth Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence (IAAI-12) will be held July 22-26 in Toronto, Canada. Toronto is a bustling urban metropolis, but also a city dedicated to its natural beauty. The city is home to such landmarks as the CN Tower, the Royal Ontario Museum, and the Art Gallery of Ontario, and also boasts dozens of parks, gardens, lakeshore trails, and conservation areas. Toronto has a thriving film and theater culture, which includes its annual film festival. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Centre Toronto, located in the financial and entertainment districts, and connected to PATH, a 16-mile underground network of shops and services. For more information, please visit www.seetorontonow.com.

AAAI-11 welcomes submissions on mainstream AI topics as well as novel crosscutting work in related areas. Topics include but are not limited to the following: agent-based and multi-agent systems, cognitive modeling and human interaction, commonsense reasoning, computer vision, constraint satisfaction, search, and optimization, evolutionary computation, game playing and interactive entertainment, information retrieval, integration, and extraction, knowledge acquisition and ontologies, knowledge representation and reasoning, machine learning and data mining, model-based systems, multidisciplinary ai, natural language processing, planning and scheduling, probabilistic reasoning, robotics, web and information systems. AAAI-12 will continue the highly successful special tracks program creat-

ed several years ago. The Call for Papers for the main technical track and other tracks will be available this fall at www.aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI/aaai12.php

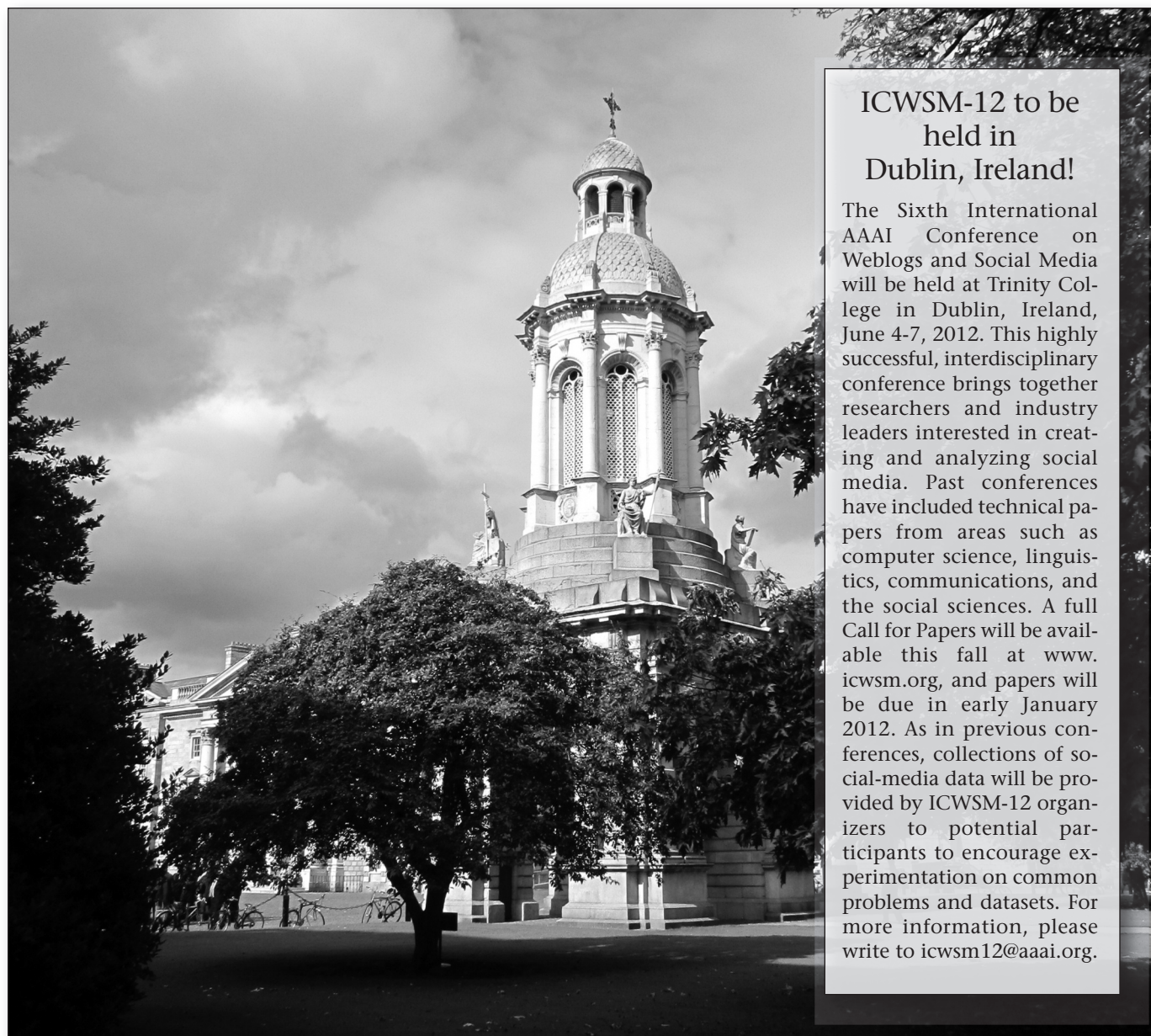
In addition to the main technical program, AAA-11 will include the tutorial forum, workshop program, video competition, robot program, student abstracts program, the AAAI/SIGART Doctoral Consortium, and the third AAAI Educational Advances in Artificial Intelligence Symposium, to name only a few of the highlights. For complete information on these programs, including Tutorial and Workshop Call for Proposals, please visit the AAAI-12 website or write to us at aaai12@aaai.org.

The IAAI-12 conference will use technical papers, invited talks, and panel discussions to explore issues, methods, and lessons learned in the development and deployment of AI applications, and to promote an interchange of ideas between basic and applied AI. IAAI-12 will consider papers in two tracks: deployed application case studies and emerging applications or methodologies. For more information and a full call for papers, please see www.aaai.org/Conferences/IAAI/iaai12.php.

The AAAI-12 program cochairs are Joerg Hoffmann (INRIA, France) and Bart Selman (Cornell University, USA).

The IAAI-12 conference chair is Markus Fromherz (ACS, a Xerox Company, USA). The IAAI-12 cochair is Hector Munoz-Avila (Lehigh University, USA)

We hope to see you in Toronto next summer!



ICWSM-12 to be held in Dublin, Ireland!

The Sixth International AAAI Conference on Weblogs and Social Media will be held at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland, June 4-7, 2012. This highly successful, interdisciplinary conference brings together researchers and industry leaders interested in creating and analyzing social media. Past conferences have included technical papers from areas such as computer science, linguistics, communications, and the social sciences. A full Call for Papers will be available this fall at www.icwsm.org, and papers will be due in early January 2012. As in previous conferences, collections of social-media data will be provided by ICWSM-12 organizers to potential participants to encourage experimentation on common problems and datasets. For more information, please write to icwsm12@aaai.org.

New Publishing Opportunities with AAAI Press

AAAI Press is pleased to announce that we are now able to offer potential authors a wider range of publishing opportunities including the possibility of producing e-books and very short print runs, enabling us to publish books to niche markets which would not previously have been financially viable. We therefore are now welcoming proposals from authors for either monographs or edited collections with a well-defined focus. For accepted proposals, AAAI Press is able to offer full production facilities, including cover design, proof reading, and marketing in e-book catalogues and via *AI Magazine* and conference stands. Royalties will be payable once sufficient copies have been sold to cover initial fixed production costs.

Please contact the AAAI Press editor-in-chief via press11@aaai.org or any member of the AAAI Press Editorial Board. Further information can be found at www.aaai.org/press.



Past-president Eric Horvitz and President Henry Kautz congratulate new senior members Leora Morgenstern, Ted Senator, Holly Yanco, Tad Hogg, and Ramasamy Uthurusamy.

AAAI Launches Senior Member Program!

AAAI announced its first class of AAAI Senior Members at the recent 25th AAAI Conference in San Francisco. Senior Member status is designed to recognize AAAI members who have achieved significant accomplishments within the field of artificial intelligence. To be eligible for nomination for Senior Member, candidates must be consecutive members of AAAI for at least five years and have been active in the professional arena for at least ten years.

AAAI congratulates the new Senior Members:

Marie desJardins (University of Maryland Baltimore County)

Hans W. Guesgen (Massey University)

Tad H. Hogg (Institute for Molecular Manufacturing)

Diane J. Litman (University of Pittsburgh)

João Pavão Martins (Instituto Superior Tecnico, Technical University of Lisbon)

Leora Morgenstern (SAIC)

Ted E. Senator (SAIC)

Ramasamy Uthurusamy (General Motors)

Holly Yanco (University of Massachusetts Lowell)

ACM/AAAI Allen Newell Award Honors Takeo Kanade

AAAI is pleased to announce the recipient of the 2010 ACM/AAAI Allen Newell Award. The award is presented annually to an individual or individuals whose career contributions display breadth within computer science, or bridge computer science and other disciplines. This year, AAAI Fellow Takeo Kanade, Carnegie Mellon University, is being honored for his fundamental contributions to research in computer vision and robotics, for applications to driving, 3D vision and quality of life technology, and for promoting the interaction between computer science and other disciplines, most notably robotics. The award, which is cosponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and AAAI, comes with a cash prize of \$10,000. Kanade was presented with the award by ACM officials and AAAI representative Edward A. Feigenbaum at the ACM Awards Banquet in San Jose, California in June.

Takeo Kanade's contributions to computer vision and robotics balance fundamental theoretical insights with practical, real-world applications. His research covers a remarkable range of areas, including motion detection and analysis, direct drive manipulators, face detection and analysis, three dimensional shape recovery from stereo vision and from motion analysis, video surveillance and monitoring, and many other topics. His results are based on keen algorithmic insights, supported by sound mathematical and physical principles, and rigorous implementation and evaluation of deployed systems. Such applications include medical robots for surgical assistance, "virtualized reality" systems for capturing and visualizing three-dimensional scenes, many modern graphical effects in video, and autonomous vehicles and helicopters. Kanade's work is interdisciplinary throughout, drawing on theories and methods from perception, mechanics, kinematics, mathematics, and core computer science.

Takeo Kanade has played a major leadership role within the field of vision and robotics. From 1991 to 2001, he was the Director of the Robotics Institute of Carnegie Mellon. Under his leadership, the Institute doubled its activities and grew into one of the largest and best-known robotics organizations in the world. He also founded the robotics Ph.D. program at Carnegie Mellon in 1989, which has produced a new generation of roboticists who themselves are now leaders in academia, government, and industry throughout the world. In 2001, he founded the Digital Human Research Center in Tokyo, which is dedicated to observing and measuring human functions, developing computer models of these functions, and applying them to the design of human-centered systems. Finally, in July 2006, Kanade established a new NSF-funded Quality of Life Technology Center, jointly with University of Pittsburgh's Rehabilitation Science and Technology Department. All of these organizations bring together researchers from different fields, and serve to bridge interdisciplinary boundaries between them.

2011 AI Video Competition Winners

The fifth annual AI video competition was held during AAAI-11 and several

winning videos were honored during the awards presentation. Videos were nominated for awards in six categories, and winners received a gold Shakey award following the opening

reception during the conference. Our thanks go to Arnav Jhala and David Aha for all their work in pulling off this exciting event in San Francisco.

The winners of the six awards were as follows:

Best Video

Swarmanoid, The Movie

Marco Dorigo, Mauro Birattari, Rehan O'Grady, and 33 others (IRIDIA-Belgium, IDSIA-Switzerland, LSRO-Switzerland, LIS-Switzerland, ISTC-Italy).

Best Short Video

BioSleeve

Adrian Stoica, Chris Assad, Kisung You, Michael Wolf, Marco Pavone, Yumi Iwashita, and Talita Sono (Jet Propulsion Laboratory).

Best Student Video

Autonomous Robot Skill Acquisition

Scott Kuindersma and George Konidaris (University of Massachusetts Amherst and CSAIL, Massachusetts Institute of Technology).

Best Educational Video

Robotic Secrets Revealed Ep 002: The Trouble Begins

Laura Hiatt, Anthony Harrison, Wallace Lawson, Eric Martinson, and J. Gregory Trafton (Naval Research Laboratory).

Best Narration

The Bomb Squad: Securing a Checkpoint with Human-Robot Team

Ewart de Visser, Paul Scerri, Don Horvath, Prasanna Velagapudi, Nathan Brooks, Laura Lindzey, and Sean Owens (Perceptronics Solutions Inc., Carnegie Mellon University).

Most Innovative

Chiara Robot Plays the Piano

Ashwin Iyengar (Carnegie Mellon University)

Cosponsors

AAAI gratefully acknowledges the generous contributions of *AI Journal*, the Josef Stefan Institute and VideoLectures.net, all of which made this competition possible.

AAAI offers its congratulations to all the winners!