AAAI News

Spring News from the
American Association for Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence Journal Online Access

AAAI is delighted to announce the continuation of its cooperative effort with *AI Journal,* giving unlimited access to the online version of the *Artificial Intelligence Journal* to all regular AAAI members. AAAI regular members can view and browse tables of contents, view articles published in recent issues of *AI Journal,* and utilize the current features available through Elsevier's electronic journal service. They may also view, print, and/or download excerpts of reasonable quantity, provided that the use of such excerpts is personal and does not amount to, or result in, commercial distribution. Participation in this experimental program is included in your normal AAAI membership dues.

If you are a current regular member and have not received your reader key and instructions for accessing the online *AI Journal,* please contact membership03@aaai.org for more information.

AAAI-Sponsored Journal Program Expanded

Did you know that you are eligible to receive a discount on a selection of journals, which AAAI features in its Sponsored Journal program? The list of journals has continued to expand to thirteen titles, which means these discounts can add up to a significant benefit for AAAI members. For more information about the Sponsored Journal Program, please see www. aaai.org/Publications/Journals/sponsored-journals.html.

AI Alert Newsletter

Our AI Topics webmaster, Jon Glick, puts together the highlights of AAAI in the News every few weeks in this timely newsletter. To receive your copy, join our membership listserver by sending a message to majordomo@aaai.org with the following text in the **body** of the message: subscribe aaai-members. You will also receive periodic announcements about upcoming AAAI events and deadlines. Be sure to visit the AI Topics web site at www.aaai.org/AITopics/aitopics. html.

IJCAI-03

Registration information for the Eighteenth International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI-03) is available at the IJCAI-03 web site at www.ijcai-03.org or by writing to ijcai03@aaai.org. Copies of the IJCAI-03 registration brochure are being mailed to all AAAI members. Please note that the deadline for early registrations is May 30, 2003. If you would like an IJCAI-03 poster for your lab, please write to us at ijcai03@aaai.org.

The conference will be held August 9-15 at the Acapulco Convention Center and the Hyatt Acapulco Hotel, in Acapulco, Mexico. IJCAI-03 will feature twenty tutorials, thirty-one workshops, the Fifteenth Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence Conference, the AAAI Mobile Robot Competition and Exhibition, the Intelligent Systems Demonstration program, and the AAAI / SIGART / IJCAI Doctoral Consortium. The keynote address will be delivered by Takeo Kanade, Robotics Institute, Carnegie Mellon University. Other invited speakers include Monika Henzinger, Google; Craig Knoblock, University of Southern California, USA; Jiming Liu, Web Intelligence Consortium; Hannes Werthner, University of Trento, Italy; Jean-Louis Deneubourg, University Libre du Bruxelles, Belgium; Alon Halevy, University of Washington, USA; Phokion Kolaitis, University of California, Santa Cruz; Daniela Rus, Dartmouth University, USA; Mosh Vardi, Rice University, USA; Andrei Voronkov, Manchester University; Daniel S. Weld, University of Washington, USA; and Anton Zeilinger, Universität Wien, Austria. For complete information, please visit the IJCAI-03 web site (www.ijcai-03.org). We hope you will join us in Acapulco!

Acapulco

Acapulco is the largest and most spectacular tourist resort on the Mexican Pacific coast. As a result of its stunning beaches, exuberant natural surroundings and wonderful climate, this port has been dubbed the Pearl of the Pacific. It is the most popular holiday resort in Mexico and Latin America, since its functional, modern infrastructure has had very little impact on its original beauty or attractions. Set in gorgeous natural surroundings, Acapulco offers an enormous range of attractions and activities. Calm, sunny beaches and exuberant vegetation that surrounds one of the loveliest bays in the Pacific blend seamlessly with major hotel complexes, superb restaurants, and wonderful nightclubs.

Acapulco has something to suit every taste and budget and offers a range of activities for the whole family. The main attraction of the bay is its more than twenty beaches, each with a distinct atmosphere, where you can choose your favorite water sport. Enthusiasts will find ample opportunities for sports fishing, diving, water skiing, and snorkeling. There are also several ecological areas that are ideal for picnics and horseback riding, as well as golf courses and

tennis courts. It also boasts a variety of restaurants offering everything from regional to international cuisine. The port's nightlife is intense and extremely diverse, offering something for every taste. The downtown and the older parts of Acapulco are filled with remnants of the past—the San Diego Fort, The Zócalo, and Nuestra Senora de la Soledad Church, to name a few attractions, while the periphery contains more contemporary attractions, such as the famous cliff divers at La Quebrada. The epicenter of Acapulco, Mexico's original party town, is the Avenida Costera Miguel Aleman, a palm-lined strip that is home to most of Acapulco's hotels, restaurants, bars, shopping and nightlife.

For more information about Acapulco, please visit one of the following sites: www.allaboutacapulco.com, acapulco.go2mexico.com, visitmexico.com, or admin@convention-center.net.

Collocated Events in Acapulco

Three conferences will collocate in Acapulco this summer:

- Fifteenth Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence (IAAI-03), August 12-14 www.aaai.org/Conferences/IAAI/2003/iaai03.html
- The Nineteenth Conference on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI-2003), August 8-10 research.microsoft.com/uai2003/
- Third Americas School on Agents and Multiagent Systems, August 8-9 http://agents.usc.edu/

Student Scholar and Volunteer Program

AAAI is pleased to announce the continuation of its Student Scholar and Volunteer Programs. The Student Scholar Program provides partial travel support for students who are full-time undergraduate or graduate students at colleges and universities; are members of AAAI; submit papers to the conference program or letters of recommendation from their faculty advisor; and submit scholarship applications to AAAI by April 15, 2003. In addition, repeat scholarship applicants must have fulfilled the volunteer and reporting requirements for previous awards. In the event that scholarship applications exceed available funds, preference will be given to students who have an accepted technical paper, and then to students who are actively participating in the conference in some way. However, all eligible students are encouraged to apply.

After the conference, an expense report will be required to account for the funds awarded. For further information about the Scholarship Program, or to obtain an application, please contact AAAI at scholarships03@aaai.org, or 445 Burgess Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025. (650) 328-3123.

The Student Volunteer Program is an essential part of the conference and student participation is a valuable contribution. Volunteers will support IJCAI organizers in Acapulco, Mexico. In 2003, a limited number of complimentary technical program registrations will be available for students who volunteer during the conference. Preference will be given to student scholars for the volunteer positions. Local students or students not requiring travel assistance can apply for the Volunteer Program if openings are available. AAAI membership is required for eligibility. For further information regarding the Student Volunteer Program, please contact AAAI at volunteer03@aaai.org. The deadline for volunteer applications is April 15, 2003.

Separate travel award programs are available for international students through IJCAI and other national societies. For information regarding any of these international programs, please write to Priscilla Rasmussen at rasmusse@ijcai.org.

AAAI Executive Council Elections

Please watch your mail for your AAAI Ballot, which will be mailed to all regular AAAI members in late April. The membership will vote for a president-elect and four new councilors, who will each serve three-year terms. Ballots will be due back at the AAAI office no later than June 13. The Annual Business meeting for AAAI will be held this summer during IJCAI-03 in Acapulco, Mexico. The exact day and time will be announced on the ballot, in the summer issue of the magazine, and in the conference program.

2004 Spring Symposium Series

AAAI is currently accepting proposals for the 2004 Spring Symposium Series, to be held at Stanford University, California, March 22-24, 2004.

Approximately eight symposia on a broad range of topics within and around AI will be selected for the 2004 Spring Symposium Series. All proposals will be reviewed by the AAAI Symposium Committee, (Chair: Holly Yanco, University of Massachusetts Lowell; Assistant Chair: Dan Clancy, NASA Ames Research Center; and Associate Chair: Marie desJardins, University of Maryland Baltimore County). Symposium proposals should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than April 21, 2003. The Call for Proposals is published in this issue of *AI Magazine,* and is also available at www.aaai.org/Symposia/Spring/2004/sss-04.html.

Please submit (preferably by electronic mail) your symposium proposals, and inquiries concerning symposia, to:

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AAAI-04 in San Jose, California!

Please mark your calendars now for the Nineteenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, to be held July 25–29, 2004 in San Jose, California. For more information about AAAI-04, please visit the AAAI web site at www.aaai.org/Conferences/National/ncai.html.

We hope to see you in San Jose!

In Memoriam

AAAI regrets to report the passing of several distinguished AAAI members: Saul Amarel, Norman Nielsen, Raymond Reiter, and Charles Rosen. Please refer to the articles elsewhere in this issue for more information.

AAAI Secretary-Treasurer

It is with great sadness that we report the death of Secretary-Treasurer Norman R. Nielsen, who passed away on December 25, 2002. AAAI would like to acknowledge Nielsen's longtime service to AAAI. He served as our Secretary-Treasurer for ten years, and prior to that, served on the AAAI Finance Committee for several years. He will be greatly missed by all. A tribute to Nielsen can be found elsewhere in this issue.

Appeal to Restore the Edinburgh Artificial Intelligence Library

On December 7-8, 2002 a fire swept through Edinburgh's Old Town, destroying many buildings, including 80 South Bridge, one of the four sites of The University of Edinburgh's School of Informatics. 80 South Bridge was home to the Centre for Intelligent Systems and their Applications, which includes the Artificial Intelligence Applications Institute. It housed the AI Library: an historic and unique collection of books, journals, technical reports and dissertations - many from the earliest days of AI research. This library was completely destroyed in the fire.

Many of the books and journals are no longer in print, and most of the dissertations were never published. The AI Library was the archival repository of all Edinburgh AI technical reports and PhD, MSc and UG dissertations. The first priority is to try and replace these with electronic copies. They plan to build a comprehensive and readily accessible electronic collection of Edinburgh AI materials that will be freely available to all AI researchers.

Do you have an electronic copy of any Edinburgh technical reports or dissertations or, alternatively, paper copies that can be digitized? The University is also seeking donations of AI books, especially those that are out of print. You can list what you have via the web form at www.informatics.ed. ac.uk/resources/library/index.html. This web page also has more information on the vision for the restored library and what material is being sought.

The University is also soliciting cash donations to help rebuild the library. If you would like to make a donation, please send a check payable to 'The University of Edinburgh Development Trust' to: AI Library Appeal, Development and Alumni, Charles Stewart House, Edinburgh EH1 1HT, UK.

ACM/AAAI Allen Newell Award

AAAI is pleased to announce that Peter Chen, Louisiana State University, is the recipient of the 2002 ACM / AAAI Allen Newell Award. The ACM / AAAI Allen Newell Award is presented annually to an individual whose career contributions display breadth within computer science, or bridge computer science and other disciplines. The award is endowed by AAAI. Chen is recognized for seminal contributions to data modeling and software engineering, particularly his invention of the Entity-Relationship (ER) model and his pioneering technical contributions and leadership role in Computer-Aided Software Engineering (CASE). He will be honored at the ACM Awards Banquet on Saturday, June 7, 2003 at the Town and Country Resort Hotel in San Diego, in conjunction with the Federated Computing Research Conference.

2003 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Computer and Cognitive Science

John McCarthy, Professor Emeritus of Computer Science and Charles M. Pigott Professor, School of Engineering, Stanford University, was awarded the 2003 Benjamin Franklin Medal in Computer and Cognitive Sciences for

his multiple contributions to the foundations of artificial intelligence and computer science, including the development of the Lisp language, the invention of time-sharing interactive programming, and key developments in the application of formal logic to commonsense reasoning.