AAAI News

Summer News from the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence

AAAI-19 Submission Dates Announced!

The Call for Papers for AAAI-19 is now available at www.aaai.org/2019. Please mark the following dates on your calendar:

July 1 – September 1, 2018: Authors register on the AAAI web site

September 1, 2018: Electronic abstracts due at 11:59 PM UTC-10 (midnight Hawaii)

September 5, 2018: Electronic papers due at 11:59 PM UTC-10 (midnight Hawaii)

October 11–14, 2018: Author feedback about initial reviews

November 1, 2018: Notification of acceptance or rejection

November 14, 2018: Camera-ready copy due at 5:00 PM PDT (California time)

November 14, 2018: Optional submission of links to presentation slides and/or videos due at 5:00 PM PDT (California time)

AAAI-19 program cochairs Pascal Van Hentenryck and Zhi-Hua Zhou will continue the traditions of past years with a dynamic technical program, as well as strong outreach programs for students, women, and sister conferences. They have absorbed all former special tracks into the main conference technical program, with provision for distinguished oversight of reviews for these areas. In addition, the cochairs have continued the Emerging Topics program which, this year, will encourage submissions and community building in the area of AI for social impact. Further details about this new theme are available at aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI-19/aaai19emergingcall/. For complete details on submitting to the technical program, and to view the Call for Papers, please see aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI-19/.

The island of Oahu offers a wealth of things to see and do. Explore the rich history of the Islands at one of the many museums or historical sites, take a hike in a lush tropical forest, or admire the unparalleled views from the conference site. Hilton Hawaiian Village, the conference venue, offers a host of conveniences right on property, but is also close to a full range of shops and restaurants, stretching to Diamond Head at the other end of Waikiki. For complete information about options in Honolulu, please see the Hawaiian Islands visitors page (www.gohawaii.com).

For more information about AAAI-19 as it develops, please visit www.aaai.org/aaai19, or contact AAAI at aaai19@aaai.org. We look forward to seeing you in Hawaii next January!

AAAI-19 Programs

AAAI-19 will comprise a host of programs, including the Senior Member Track, the Technical Demonstration Program, the Tutorial and Workshop Programs, and several student programs, such as the Student Abstract and Poster Program and the Doctoral Consortium. The calls for each of these programs are available via the AAAI-19 conference site at aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI-19.

Please make a note of these upcoming deadlines (subject to change):

Workshop Program:
July 13: Workshop proposals due

November 5: Workshop submissions due to organizers

Tutorial Program:
September 7: Tutorial proposals due

Senior Member Track:
September 14: Submissions of talks and papers due

AAAI/SIGAI Doctoral Consortium:
September 14: Application packages due

Technical Demonstration Program:
September 21: Full submissions (short paper and video or slides) due.

Student Abstract and Poster Program:
September 21: Abstracts due

Join Us July 5–8 in Zürich, Switzerland for HCOMP 2018!

The Sixth AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP-2018) is the premier venue for disseminating the latest research findings on crowdsourcing and human computation. While artificial intelligence (AI) and human-computer interaction (HCI) represent traditional mainstays of the conference, HCOMP believes strongly in inviting, fostering, and promoting broad, interdisciplinary research. This field is particularly unique in the diversity of disciplines it draws upon, and contributes to, ranging from human-centered qualitative studies and HCI design, to computer science and artificial intelligence, economics and the social sciences, all the

Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Digital Entertainment

AIIDE Comes to Canada for 2018!

Please join us for the Fourteenth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Digital Entertainment (AIIDE-18), to be held November 13–17, 2018 at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada.

AIIDE is the definitive point of interaction between entertainment software developers interested in AI and academic and industrial AI researchers. 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 invites researchers and developers to share insights and cutting-edge results from a wide range of AI-related problems and encourages the presentation of a) results from core AI research areas applicable to interactive digital entertainment and b) AI approaches developed and fielded in commercial systems. The program will include invited speakers, research and practitioner presentations, panels, playable experiences, project demonstrations, interactive poster sessions, product exhibits, workshops, tutorials, a doctoral consortium, and for the first time, an artifact evaluation.

This year's conference features the special topic of *situated entertainment.* In addition to general topics of interest in entertainment AI, the conference program will feature speakers, panels, and paper sessions that focus on directly engaging with social, cultural, and physical contexts for AI in interactive digital entertainment.

Submissions for full papers, demos, the Doctoral Consortium and Playable Experiences are due by June 21, 2018. AIIDE-18 registration information and other program details will be available on the AIIDE-18 website at www.aiide.org later this summer. Please send inquiries to aiide18@aaai.org. The general chair of the conference is Jonathan Rowe (North Carolina State University). The program chair is Gillian Smith (Worcester Polytechnic Institute).

way to digital humanities, policy, and ethics. The conference promotes the exchange of advances in human computation and crowdsourcing not only among researchers, but also engineers and practitioners, to encourage dialogue across disciplines and communities of practice.

The 6th AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP 2018) will be held July 5-8, at the University of Zürich, Zürich, Switzerland. HCOMP 2018 will be colocated with the Collective Intelligence Conference (CI 2018).

Registration information is available at www.humancomputation.com/2018. Onsite registration will be held at the University of Zürich, July 5–8 in Room KOL-E-21, KOL, Rämistrasse 71, 8006 Zürich. For information about Zurich and available accommodations, please see www.zuerich.ch/content/zh/en.

AAAI Launches K-12 Initiative

AAAI and the Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) have formed a joint working group to develop national guidelines for teaching K-12 students about artificial intelligence. Inspired by CSTA's national standards for K-12 computing education, the AI for K-12 guidelines will define what students in each grade band should know about artificial intelligence, machine learning, and robotics. The working group, led by Professor David Touretzky of Carnegie Mellon University, will also create an online resource directory where teachers can find AI-related videos, demo software, and activity descriptions they can incorporate into their lesson plans. A workshop led by the AI for K-12 working group will take place in Washington, DC in October in conjunction with AAAI's annual Fall Symposium Series. For more information, please contact Dave Touretzky at ai4k12@aaai.org.

2019 AAAI Feigenbaum Prize

The prestigious AAAI Feibenbaum Prize will be presented for the fourth time at AAAI-19 in Honolulu, Hawaii. The AAAI Feigenbaum Prize is awarded biennially to recognize and encourage outstanding artificial intelligence 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 award of $10,000 is provided by the Feigenbaum Nii Foundation and administered by AAAI. Complete information is available at www.aaai.org/Awards/feigenbaum.php. Nominations are due September 28, 2018.

AAAI 2019 Spring Symposium Series

The 2019 Spring Symposium Series will be held March 25-27, 2019 at Stanford University. The Call for Proposals will be located at www.aaai.org/Symposia/Spring/sss19.php. Proposals are due June 29. The Call for Participation will be available in August. Submissions will be due to the organizers on November 9, 2018. For more information, please contact the Symposium Cochairs, Christopher Geib and Ron Petrick, at sss19chairs@aaai.org or AAAI at sss19@aaai.org. A preliminary list of symposia will be available at the SSS-19 website in August.

AAAI Fellows Nominations Solicited

The 2019 Fellows Selection Committee is currently accepting nominations for AAAI Fellow. The AAAI Fellows program is designed to recognize people who have made significant, sustained contributions to the field of artificial intelligence over at least a ten-year period. All regular members in good standing are encouraged to consider nominating a candidate. At least two references must accompany nominations. The nominator or one of the references must be a AAAI Fellow who is a current member of AAAI. For further information about the Fellows Program or to receive nomination and reference forms, please contact AAAI at 650-328-3123; by fax at 650-321-4457; or by email at fellows19@aaai.org. Nomination materials are also available on the AAAI web site at www.aaai.org/Awards/fellows.php. The deadline for nominations is September 28, 2018.

Hold the Date!

HCOMP-19 To Be Held at Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington, USA

AAAI is pleased to announce that HCOMP-19 will be held October 28–30 at Skamania Lodge in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area in the town of Stevenson, Washington, located about 45 minutes from Portland, Oregon. Further information will be available at the HCOMP-19 website (www.humancomputation.com/2019) in the coming months. Cochairs for HCOMP-19 are Edith Law (University of Waterloo, Canada) and Jenn Wortman Vaughn (Microsoft Research). Inquiries may be directed to hcomp19@aaai.org.

2019 Special Award Nominations

AAAI is pleased to announce the continuation of its special awards program for 2019. Nominations are currently being sought for all award categories. For a full overview of the AAAI Awards, please see www.aaai.org/Awards/awards.php.

The *2019 AAAI Classic Paper Award* will be given to the author of the most influential paper(s) from the Eighteenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, held in 2002 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.
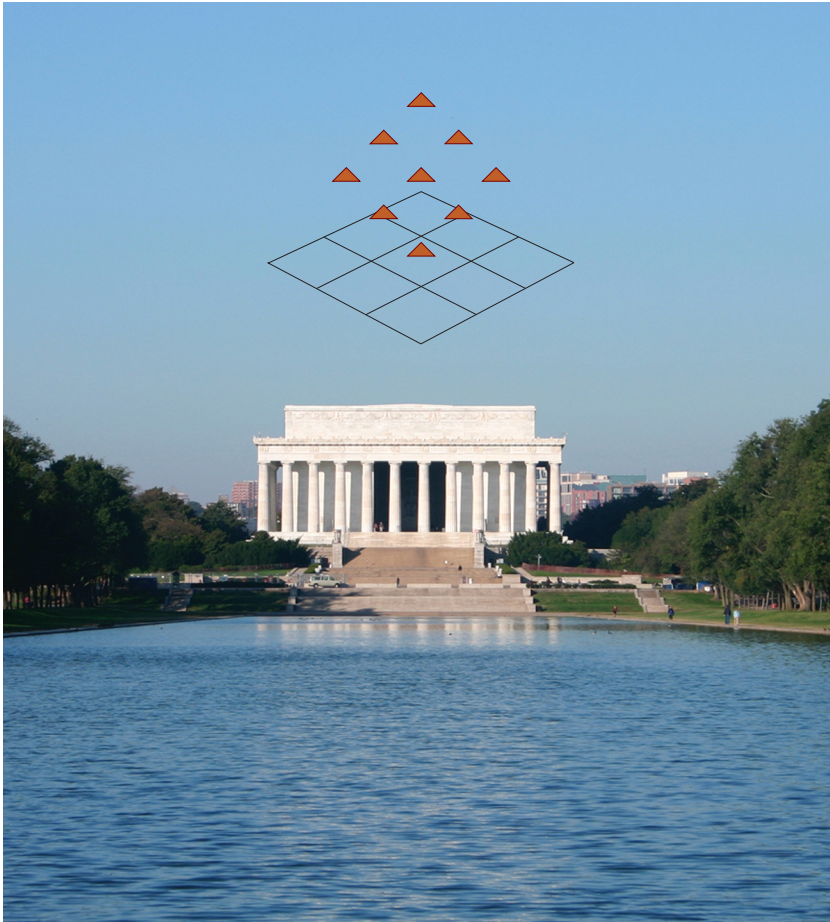
The *2019 AAAI Distinguished Service Award* will recognize one individual for extraordinary service to the AI community.

Awards will be presented at AAAI-19 in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. Complete nomination information, including nomination forms, is available at www.aaai.org/Awards/fellows.php. The deadline for nominations is September 28, 2018. For additional inquiries, please contact Carol Hamilton at awards19@aaai.org.

Robert S. Engelmore Memorial Lecture Award

The Robert S. Engelmore Memorial Lecture Award is presented annually at the IAAI conference in honor of Dr. Robert S. Engelmore's extraordinary service to AAAI, *AI Magazine,* the AI applications community, and his contributions to applied AI. The Award includes a certificate and a $1,000.00 honorarium. The lecture is linked to a subsequent article in *AI Magazine;* thus the award recipients are selected jointly by IAAI and *AI Magazine*. The committee is seeking nominations for individuals of exceptional stature who have exhibited the spirit of Bob Engelmore through a long-term track record of major contributions. The ideal candidate will have demonstrated a breadth of contributions spanning AAAI, the AI community, and applied AI. Nominations should include a brief statement of the qualifications of the

2018 AAAI Fall Symposium Series

The 2018 AAAI Fall Symposium Series will be held Thursday through Saturday, October 18–20, at the Westin Arlington Gateway, Arlington, Virginia, adjacent to Washington, DC. Links to symposia descriptions are available at www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/fss18.php. Please note that submissions are due July 20, 2018.

Symposia generally range from forty to seventy-five participants each. Participation will be open to active participants as well as other interested individuals on a first-come, first-served basis. Complete registration and hotel information will be available in July at www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/fss18.php. Invited participants must register by August 24, and the final registration deadline is September 21. The deadline for hotel reservations at the Westin is 5:00 PM EDT, September 26, 2018. The discounted room rate of $199.00 per night (single/double) may not be available after this date. Contact information for the Westin will be included in the registration materials.

candidate for the award, specifically referring to contributions to AAAI, the AI community, and applied AI. Nominations may optionally include supporting information, such as the URL of the nominee's home page, and other documentation of contributions. Nominations should be sent electronically (as PDF files) to rseaward19@aaai.org by August 17, 2018.

AAAI/EAAI Outstanding Educator Award

The AAAI/EAAI Outstanding Educator award will be presented for the fourth year during AAAI-19 in Honolulu, Hawaii. This award recognizes a person (or group of people) who has made major contributions to AI education that provide long-lasting benefits to the AI community. Examples include innovating teaching methods, providing service to the AI education community, generating pedagogical resources, designing curricula, and educating students outside of higher education venues (or the general public) about AI. The award consists of a certificate, a $1,000 honorarium, complimentary one-year AAAI membership (new or renewal), and free conference registration to the upcoming EAAI conference and colocated AAAI conference. For complete information, please see www.aaai.org/Awards/eaai-award.php or write to eaaiaward@aaai.org. The submission deadline is October 12, 2018.

AAAI Member News

AAAI reports the following news about our members.

Margaret Boden to Receive the ACM-AAAI Allen Newell Award

AAAI is delighted to report that Professor Margaret A. Boden has been selected to receive the 2017 ACM-AAAI Allen Newell Award for contributions to the philosophy and historiography of cognitive science and artificial intelligence, particularly in the study of human creativity. Boden has been contributing to the philosophy of AI and cognitive science since the 1960s. She has an unusually interdisciplinary background with degrees in medical

sciences, philosophy, and psychology, and she integrates these disciplines with AI in her research. Her main contributions include seminal work to define and nurture the area of computational creativity and creative cognition, as well as her work on the history of cognitive science and its computational connections. She also played a leading role in early discussions of the benefits and risks of AI. Her philosophical perspective has enlightened AI during her whole career, bringing an original perspective.

Boden has been awarded an OBE medal (Order of the British Empire) for services to cognitive science, a Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Society for Artificial Life, and the Covey Prize by the International Association for Computing and Philosophy. She is a Life Fellow of the Society for the Study of artificial Intelligence and Simulation of Behaviour (ASIB), and a Fellow of AAAI, ECCAI, the British Academy, and of the Society for Cognitive Science. She holds honorary doctorates from three UK universities and is the holder of the Doctor of Science degree from the University of Cambridge.

The ACM/AAAI Allen Newell Award is presented to an individual selected for career contributions that have breadth within computer science, or that bridge computer science and other disciplines. This award is accompanied by a prize of $10,000, provided by ACM and the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence, and by individual contributions. Boden will be formally honored at the ACM Awards Banquet on June 23 in San Francisco. For more information, please see awards.acm.org/newell.

AAAI Congratulates New ACM Fellows

ACM named 54 of its members as 2017 ACM Fellows for major contributions in areas including artificial intelligence, database theory, design automation, information retrieval, multimedia computing and network security. Among the winners are several AAAI Fellows, including Carla Gomes for establishing the field of computational sustainability, and for foundational contributions to artificial intelligence; Craig Knoblock for contributions to

artificial intelligence, semantic web, and semantic data integration; Tomás Lozano-Pérez for contributions to robotics, and motion planning, geometric algorithms, and their applications; Andrew McCallum for contributions to machine learning with structured data, and innovations in scientific communication; and Qiang Yang for contributions to artificial intelligence and data mining. The new fellows will be formally honored at the ACM Awards Banquet on June 23. For more information, please see www.acm.org/media-center/2017/december/fellows-2017.

Henry Kautz Appointed CISE Division Director

The NSF Directorate of Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) announced the appointment of Henry Kautz as the Division Director for the Division of Information and Intelligent Systems (IIS), effective June 11, 2018. Kautz, an AAAI past president, will be joining NSF/CISE from the University of Rochester, where he is a professor and the founding director of the Goergen Institute for Data Science. Previously, he was chair of the computer science department at the University of Rochester; professor of computer science at the University of Washington, Seattle; and department head at AT&T Bell Labs in Murray Hill, NJ. In 2016, Kautz was elected chair of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Section on Information, Computing, and Communication. He is a leader in artificial intelligence, pervasive computing, and healthcare applications.

Kautz has received a number of honors throughout his career, including the International Joint Conference on Artificial Intelligence (IJCAI) Computers & Thought Award, Ubiquitous Computing (Ubicomp) Conference 10-Year Impact Award, AAAI Classic Paper Award, and Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence (IAAI) Deployed Application Award. He is a Fellow of the AAAS, the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), and AAAI.

Kautz received an A.B. degree in mathematics from Cornell University, an M.A. in writing seminars from The Johns Hopkins University, an M.S. in

computer science from the University of Toronto, and a Ph.D. in computer science from the University of Rochester.

IJCAI Awards

AAAI congratulates the following winners of the 2018 IJCAI Awards

IJCAI-18 Award for Research Excellence

The Research Excellence award is given to a scientist who has carried out a program of research of consistently high quality throughout an entire career yielding several substantial results. The winner of the 2018 Award for Research Excellence is Jitrenda Malik, Arthur J. Chick Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of California at Berkeley. Malik is recognized for the fundamental advances in computer vision.

IJCAI-18 Computers and Thought Award

The Computers and Thought Award is presented at IJCAI conferences to outstanding young scientists in artificial intelligence. The winner of the 2018 IJCAI Computers and Thought Award is Stefano Ermon, assistant professor at the Department of Computer Science, Fellow, Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford University. Ermon is recognized for his foundational work on probabilistic reasoning, machine learning, and decision making, with a range of novel applications in areas with broad societal impact.

IJCAI-18 John McCarthy Award

The John McCarthy research award is intended to recognize established mid-career researchers that have built up a major track record of research excellence in artificial intelligence. Recipients of the award will have made significant contributions to the research agenda in their area and will have a first-rate profile of influential research results. The award is named for John McCarthy (1927–2011), who is widely recognized as one of the founders of the field of artificial intelligence. The winner of the 2018 John McCarthy Award is Milind Tambe, Helen N. and

AI for Social Impact to Be Emerging Topic at AAAI-19

AAAI-19 will feature an emerging topic on artificial intelligence for social impact. Organized by emerging topics cochairs Kevin Leighton-Brown (University of British Columbia, Canada) and Milind Tambe (University of Southern California, USA), the track recognizes that high-quality research on social impact domains often led to papers that differ from traditional AAAI submissions along multiple dimensions. These include, but are not restricted to, the following elements.

Data collection may be difficult and may require innovative methods and validations, for instance to address large scale data gathering in the field, eliminate bias and ensure fairness;

Problem modeling is a time-intensive activity that require significant collaborations with domain experts and need to balance a variety of tradeoffs in decision making;

The social impact is only realized through time-consuming field studies that typically compare a baseline with the application of novel algorithms in the real world.

The goal of this emerging topic at AAAI 2019 is to highlight these technical challenges and opportunities, showcase the social benefits of artificial intelligence, and ensure that the submitted papers will be evaluated holistically in terms of overall impact and their contributions to the multiple dimensions listed above.

The submissions for this emerging topic will follow the regular AAAI technical paper submission process. The AAAI-19 call for papers features an AI for Social Impact category for identifying the papers submitted to this track. Other keywords can be used to describe the paper content more comprehensively.

Accepted papers will be presented at the main conference in sessions designated to the topic. For more information, consult the full call for papers on the AAAI-19 website.

Emmett H. Jones Professor in Engineering, and a professor of computer science and industrial and systems and engineering at the University of South California. Tambe is recognized for research and development of important practical applications of AI and multiagent systems for social good.

AAAI Senior Member Grade of Membership

AAAI is now taking applications from regular members for the AAAI Senior Member grade of membership. This status is designed to recognize 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. Applications should include information that details the candidate's scholarship, leadership, and/or professional service. At least two references, one of which must be written by a AAAI Fellow or a current AAAI Senior Member must accompany the senior member application. References should be submitted by colleagues who know the candidate, and are familiar with their work and accomplishments. Each year a maximum of 25 members will be elected to the Senior status. All applications and references must conform to the requirements listed on the form, and must be received by September 28, 2018. For complete details and an application form, please see www.aaai.org/Awards/senior.php, or contact Carol Hamilton at seniormember19@aaai.org.

Tutorial Forum to Be Held at AAAI-19

AAAI-19 Tutorial Forum Cochairs William Yeoh and James Kwok invite proposals for tutorial presentations at the AAAI-19 conference in Honolu, Hawaii. Tutorials will be held January 27–28.

The Tutorial Forum provides an opportunity for researchers and practitioners to spend two days each year freely exploring exciting advances in disciplines outside their normal focus.
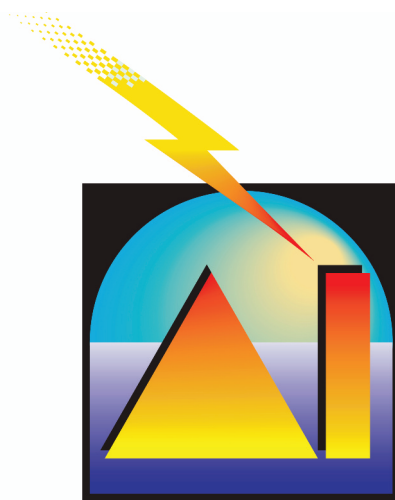
The majority of tutorials in the past have been half a day, although quarter-day tutorials are also solicited.

Tutorials are essential for the cross fertilization, cohesiveness, and vitality of the AI field. We all have a lot to learn from each other; the Tutorial Forum promotes the continuing education of each member of AAAI. To encourage maximum participation by technical conference registrants, only a small commitment fee will be charged.

Tutorial Topics

The goal is to present a diverse program that includes core areas of AI, new techniques from allied disciplines that can inform research within AI, and emerging applications of AI techniques to new areas. In addition to tutorials that teach a core area within AI, proposals are encouraged from areas that are closely related to AI such as core robotics, operations research techniques relevant for AI, linguistics research applicable to language processing, for example. Proposals that have a hands-on component are very much welcomed. Additionally, tutorial proposals by organizers of various competitions within the subfields of AI describing the current state of the art and tools available for new students to enter the competitions, as well as proposals from applied researchers who may have used AI techniques in deployed applications within industry. Novel proposals are highly encouraged.

Those interested in submitting a proposal should consult the full call for proposals on the AAAI website. The deadline for submitting a proposal is 7 September. Inquiries should be directed to aaai19tutorials@aaai.org.

The Innovative Applications for
Artificial Intelligence Conference at AAAI-19

The Thirty-First Annual Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence (IAAI-19) will collocate with AAAI-19 in Honolulu, Hawaii. The conference will run from January 29–31.

IAAI-19 will focus on successful applications that showcase novel uses of AI technology. The conference will use technical papers, challenge 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-19 will consider papers in three tracks: (1) deployed application case studies, (2) emerging applications or methodologies, and (3) challenge problem papers.

Case Study Papers

Case-study papers must describe deployed applications with measurable benefits that include an innovative use of AI technology. Applications are defined as deployed once they are in production use by their final end-users (not the people who created the application) for sufficiently long that the in-use experience can be meaningfully collected and reported — a period that typically spans at least three months. The case study may evaluate either a stand-alone application or a component of a complex system.

Emerging Applications

The goal of the emerging application track is to "bridge the gap" between basic AI research and deployed AI applications, by discussing efforts to apply AI tools, techniques, or methods to real-world problems in novel ways. Emerging applications focus on aspects of AI applications that are not appropriate for deployed application case studies, or are not sufficiently deployed to be submitted as case studies. This track is distinguished from reports of scientific AI research appropriate for the AAAI-19 conference in that the objective of the efforts reported here should be the engineering and application of AI technologies.

Challenge Problem Papers

The goal of the IAAI Challenge Problem track is to identify new opportunities and the associated research and development challenges in applying artificial intelligence to real-world problems. Challenge problems may include roadblocks to applying existing AI technology to new tasks, significant integrated systems challenges, or fundamentally new technologies needed for new applications. These problems may consider any aspect of specific AI applications, including the underlying technology, engineering concerns, or technology transition and deployment issues. Importantly, challenge problem submissions should be grounded in reality.

Prospective authors submitting to any of these tracks must consult the IAAI Call for Participation, register on the AAAI web site, and submit papers no later than September 5, 2018.