AAAI News

Summer News from the American Association for Artificial Intelligence

Two NEW Awards to be Presented at AAAI-99!

AAAI recently established two new awards, to be presented annually at the National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (except in years where IJCAI is held in North America).

The 1999 AAAI Influential Paper Award will be given to the author of the most influential paper(s) from the First National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, held in 1980 at Stanford University, Stanford, California. The Awards Committee has selected John McDermott to receive this award for his paper "R1: An Expert in the Computer Systems Domain." McDermott is being honored for seminal contributions to the development of knowledge-based systems and to the establishment of their commercial applicability.

The AAAI Distinguished Service Award recognizes one individual each year for extraordinary service to the AI community. The AAAI Awards Committee is pleased to announce that the first recipient of this award will be Barbara J. Grosz, Gordon McKay Professor of Computer Science at Harvard University and a past president of AAAI. Grosz is being honored for her contributions to the field of artificial intelligence through sustained service to the community.

Both award winners will be honored in a special ceremony at the national conference in July.

AAAI-99 / IAAI-99

The program for the Sixteenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, to be held July 18–22 in Orlando, Florida, will incorporate all the best features of recent conferences with a few new additions. The technical program will consist of 109 papers that reflect the best of the field and provide a unique snapshot of exciting new areas and maturing subdisciplines. One paper in particular will be honored as the AAAI-99 Outstanding Paper: "Proverb: The Probabilistic Cruciverbalist" by Greg A. Keim, Noam M. Shazeer, Michael L. Littman, Sushant Agarwal, Catherine M. Cheves, Joseph Fitzgerald, Jason Grosland, Fan Jiang, Shannon Pollard, and Karl Weinmeister, all of Duke University. The invited speaker program will feature three keynote addresses by Patrick Winston of MIT, Ruzena Bajcsy of NSF, and Nils Nilsson of Stanford University. Other speakers will address such diverse subjects as game playing, wearable user interfaces, common-sense reasoning, AI and space exploration, computer-assisted neurosurgery, genomic research, and quantum computation. The two panels will explore intelligent systems in biopharmaceutical R&D and the advent of the AI spring.

The Eleventh Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence Conference (IAAI-99) will run concurrently with the main technical conference again this year. IAAI-99 will honor eight case studies of fully deployed applications with measurable benefits whose value depends on the use of AI technology. The conference will also showcase nine papers in emerging areas of AI technology and applications. This year's papers address applications in education, the military, networking, spacecraft, medicine, games, the stock market, and more. AI techniques include, among others, planning, natural language processing, diagnostic reasoning, and cognitive simulation. The Innovative Applications Conference is intended not only for those involved in applications, but also for researchers who wish to gain a better understanding of the applications side of the AI equation.

The AAAI-99 Exhibition will offer a wide variety of programs, including the Eighth Annual Mobile Robot Competition and Exhibition, the Intelligent Systems Demonstrations, the final round of the National Botball Tournament, and the finals of the AAAI-99 Robot Building Laboratory contest. Attendees will also have an opportunity to browse through the numerous research laboratory, publisher, and consultant displays. Exhibition programs will culminate with the AI Festival on Wednesday evening.

The AAAI-99 program also features the Tutorial Form; the 1999 Workshop Program; and a collection of student programs, including the very successful Doctoral Consortium and the Student Abstract and Poster Session. For participants to find time to enjoy all these wonderful events, the organizers have arranged for a unique childcare program, CHIkids, which combines the feeling of summer camp with the fun of technology. Children, ages 7–15, can become conference reporters, web site designers, multimedia storytellers, software testers, and conference attendees for five days.

For more information about the conference or to register, please visit the AAAI-99 web site at www.aaai.org/Conferences/National/1999/aaai-iaai99.html or contact AAAI by telephone at 650-328-3123 or by e-mail at ncai@aaai.org.

We hope to see you in Orlando!

AAAI Annual Business Meeting

The annual business meeting of the American Association for Artificial Intelligence will be held at 12:45 PM, Thursday, July 22, 1999, in the Omni Rosen Hotel in Orlando, Florida.

AAAI Councilor Nominations

Every year four new councilors are elected to serve three-year terms on the AAAI Executive Council. The Nominating Committee encourages all regular members in good standing to place an individual's name before them for consideration. The Nominating Committee, in turn, will nomi-

nate 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 of 2000.

To submit a candidate's names for consideration, please send the individual's name, address, phone number, and e-mail address to Carol Hamilton, Executive Director, AAAI, 445 Burgess Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025; by fax to 650/321-4457; or by e-mail 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 in November 1, 1999.

1999 AAAI Fall Symposium Series

The 1999 AAAI Fall Symposium Series will be held Friday through Sunday, November 5–7, 1999, at the Sea Crest Resort & Conference Center in North Falmouth, Massachusetts. The topics of the five symposia in the 1999 Fall Symposia Series are:

- Modal and Temporal Logics Based Planning for Open Networked Multimedia Systems. *Chair:* Fawzi Daoud (daoud@cs.toronto.edu)
- Narrative Intelligence. *Cochairs:* Michael Mateas (michaelm@cs.cmu.edu) and Phoebe Sengers (phoebe@ zkm.de)
- Psychological Models of Communication in Collaborative Systems. *Cochairs:* Susan Brennan (susan.brennan@sunysb.edu) and Alain Giboin (Alain.Giboin @sophia.inria.fr)
- Question Answering Systems. Cochairs: Vinay K. Chaudhri (chaudhri@ai.sri.com) and Richard Fikes (fikes@hpp.stanford.edu)
- Using Layout for the Generation, Understanding or Retrieval of Documents. *Cochairs:* Richard Power (richard.power@itri.bton.ac.uk) and Donia Scott (Donia.Scott@itri.brighton.ac.uk)

Symposia will be limited to between forty and sixty participants each. In addition to invited participants, a limited number of other interested parties will be able to register in each symposium on a first-come, first-served basis. Complete registration and hotel information will be available in July by request from fss@aaai.org or on the AAAI web site at www.aaai.org/Symposia/symposia.html. Invited participants must register by September 8, and the final registration deadline is September 22. The deadline for hotel reservations at the Sea Crest Resort is October 4, 1999. The discounted single/double room rate of $79.00 per night might not be available after this date. Please call the Sea Crest at 1- 800-225-3110 or 1-508-540-9400 for reservations, and be sure to identify yourself as an attendee at the American Association for Artificial Intelligence Fall Symposium Series.

2000 Spring Symposium Series

The 2000 Spring Symposium Series will be held March 20–22, 2000, at Stanford University. The Call for Participation will be available in July on the AAAI web site (www.aaai.org/Symposia/symposia.html) and will be mailed to all AAAI members. The tentative list of topics is as follows:

- Adaptive User Interfaces. *Cochairs:* Seth Rogers (rogers@rtna.daimlerchrysler.com) and Wayne Iba
- Artificial Intelligence and Interactive Entertainment. *Chair:* Wolff Dobson (wolff @cs.nwu.edu)
- Bringing Knowledge to Business Processes. *Cochairs:* Steffan Staab (staab@aifb.uni-karlsruhe.de) and Dan O'Leary (oleary @rcf.usc.edu)
- My Dinner with R2D2: Natural Dialogues with Practical Robotic Devices. *Chair:* Susann Luperfoy (luperfoy@iet.com)
- Real-Time Autonomous Systems. *Chair:* David Musliner (musliner@htc.honeywell.com)
- Smart Graphics. *Chair:* Andreas Butz (butz @cs.uni-sb.de)

AAAI-2000

AAAI is pleased to announce that the Seventeenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-2000) and the Twelfth Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence Program (IAAI-2000) will be held in Austin, Texas from July 30–August 3, 2000. The AAAI-2000 Call for Participation will be published this summer and will be available on the AAAI web site at www.aaai.org. The program cochairs for AAAI-2000 are Henry Kautz, AT&T Labs—Research (kautz@research.att. com) and Bruce Porter, University of Texas at Austin (porter@cs.utexas. edu). For further information, please contact AAAI at 650/328-3123 or by e-mail at ncai@aaai.org.

IJCAI Award for Research Excellence

The IJCAI Award for Research Excellence is given at the IJCAI conference to a scientist who has carried out a program of research of consistently high quality, yielding several substantial results. The winner of the 1999 IJCAI Award for Research Excellence is Judea Pearl, professor at the Computer Science Department of the University of California, Los Angeles, USA. Pearl is recognized for his fundamental work on heuristic search, reasoning under uncertainty, and causality. He will deliver a lecture entitled "Reasoning with Cause and Effect" the evening of August 5, 1999.

IJCAI Computers and Thought Award

The Computers and Thought Award is presented at IJCAI conferences to outstanding young scientists in artificial intelligence. The award was established with royalties received from the book "Computers and Thought," edited by Edward Feigenbaum and Julian Feldman; it is currently supported by income from IJCAII funds. The winner of the 1999 IJCAI Computers and Thought Award is Nicholas R. Jennings, professor in the Department of Electronic Engineering at the Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, UK. Jennings is recognized for his contributions to practical agent architectures and his applied work in the field of multiagent systems. He will deliver a lecture entitled "Agent-Based Computing: Promise and Perils" the evening of August 3, 1999.

The Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award

The IJCAI Distinguished Service Award was established in 1979 by the IJCAII trustees to honor senior scientists in AI for

Congratulations to the 1999 AAAI Fellows!

Each year a small number of fellows are recognized for their unusual distinction in the profession and for their sustained contributions to the field for a decade or more. An official dinner and ceremony will be held in their honor at AAAI-99 in Orlando, Florida.

Harry G. Barrow
Schlumberger Cambridge Research

For seminal contributions towards understanding the computational nature of vision in humans and machines.

James A. Hendler
University of Maryland and DARPA/ISO

For significant contributions to the fields of planning, knowledge representation, and high performance artificial intelligence.

Daniel S. Weld
University of Washington

For significant contributions to the development of qualitative reasoning methods, software agent technology, and plan synthesis algorithms.

contributions and service to the field during their careers. In 1994, the IJCAI Distinguished Service Award was renamed the Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award in memory of the late Donald E. Walker, who shaped the IJCAII organization as a secretary-treasurer.

At IJCAI-99, the Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award will be given to Wolfgang Bibel, professor for Intellectics in the Department of Computer Science of the Darmstadt Institute of Technology in Germany. As a pioneering researcher in automated deduction, Bibel is recognized for his outstanding contributions and service to the international AI community including his creation of ECCAI, which has operated since 1982 as an umbrella organization of 27 European societies for artificial intelligence.

AAAI Member News

Tom M. Mitchell, Carnegie Mellon University professor of computer science and robotics, and director of the Center for Automated Learning and Discovery (CALD) in the School of Computer Science (SCS), has been named the Fredkin Professor of Artificial Intelligence and Learning in SCS. The Fredkin professorship is being established to honor entrepreneur and philanthropist Edward Fredkin, a pioneer in artificial intelligence and robotics. Mitchell is best known for his work on machine learning, where he has developed algorithms that allow computers to automatically improve with experience, software that learns to customize to its users, robots that automatically learn about their environment, and web browsers that learn to extract information from hypertext. He is the author of the widely used textbook *Machine Learning.* Mitchell received the IJCAI "Computers and Thought Award" in 1983, has been a AAAI fellow since 1990, and has been a member of the National Research Council Computer Science and Telecommunications Board since 1998.

Independent Auditor's Report

Robert H. Burnham, CPA

March 15, 1999

The Board of Directors
American Association For Artificial Intelligence
Menlo Park, California

We have audited the statement of financial position of American Association for Artificial Intelligence as of December 31, 1998 and the related statements of activities, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Association's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of American Association for Artificial Intelligence as of December 31, 1998 and the results of operations and cash flows for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 1998

Note 1. Summary of Significan Accounting Policies

A. Method of Accounting

The financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting.

Effective for 1996 the Association has changed its method of accounting for investments from "original cost" to "fair market value" as required by the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 124. The cumulative effect of the change in accounting principle from prior years was shown as an extraordinary item on the statement of Activities for the year ended December 31, 1996. Since investments are stated at fair market value realized and unrealized gains and losses are combined on the statement of activities where in years prior to 1996 only realized gains and losses were shown.

B. Inventory

Magazine, proceedings, conference books and publications in process inventory is valued at the lower of cost or market value as of December 31, 1998.

C. Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment

Furniture, fixtures and equipment are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method over estimated useful lives of five to ten years. Furniture, fixtures and equipment consist of the following at December 31, 1998.

Cost	$ 148,196
Accumulated depreciation	(100,237)
Net	$ 47,959

D. Income Taxes

American Association for Artificial Intelligence is exempt from income taxes on its earning from investments and its exempt function operations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and Section 23701(d) of the California Revenue and Taxation Code. Federal and California taxes were paid during 1998 on earnings from sales of mailing lists and advertising.

Statement of Financial Position
December 31, 1998

Assets

Current Assets:	
Cash & Equivalents	$ 560,719
Investments—Stated at Fair Market Value (Note 1A & 3)	11,292,294
Accounts Receivable—Trade	13,930
Inventory	248,916
Prepaid Expenses and Advances	12,944
Prepaid Expenses - Future Events	26,745
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	12,155,548
Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment, Net (Note 1-C)	47,959
Deposits	5,279
	$12,208,786

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	$ 37,569
Unearned Membership Fees (Note 4)	217,686
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	255,255
Net Assets—Unrestricted	11,953,531
	$12,208,786

Statement of Cash Flows
for the Year Ended December 31, 1998

Cash Flows From Operating Activities:	
Net Increase in Net Assets	$1,347,902
Adjustments to Reconcile Change in Net Assets to Net Cash Flows from Operations:	
Depreciation Expense	26,445
Net Decrease in Accounts Receivable	5,051
Net Decrease in Inventory	25,136
Net Decrease in Prepaid Expenses	49,265
Net Decrease in Accounts Payable	(28,198)
Net Decrease in Unearned Membership Fees	(8,428)
Net Decrease in Unearned Revenue	(11,762)
Net Unrealized and Realized Gains on Investments	(1,735,559)
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	(330,148)
Cash Flow From Investing Activities:	
Purchase of Furnishings and Equipment	(32,333)
Sale of Investments, Net of Purchases of Investments	607,504
Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities	575,171
Net Increase in Cash and Equivalents	245,023
Cash and Equivalents—January 1, 1998	315,696
Cash and Equivalents—December 31, 1998	$ 560,719

PRELIMINARY CALL FOR PAPERS

Seventh International Conference on Principles of Knowledge Representation and Reasoning (KR2000)

Breckenridge, CO, USA
April 12-15, 2000
Colocated with AIPS 2000

KR2000 will present papers that present substantial new results in the principles of KR&R systems while clearly showing the applicability of those results to implemented or implementable AI systems. KR2000 will colocate with AIPS2000, with a joint day. Papers of interest to both communities are strongly encouraged. Associated workshops can occur both before or after KR2000.

The Program Committee will review extended abstracts of at most twelve LaTeX article-style pages, excluding the title page and the bibliography. Five copies of extended abstracts must be sent one of the program chairs by Tuesday November 2, 1999. An electronic form giving information on the paper must also be submitted by October 22, 1999. For more details see the KR2000 web page at www.kr.org/ kr/kr00.

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Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets for the Year ended December 31, 1998

Changes in Net Assets: Gross Profit (Loss), By Activity:

AI Magazine Revenue (Note 4)	$ 10,893	
AI Magazine Expenses	(183,562)	$ (172,669)
Memberships Revenue (Note 4)	308,637	
Memberships Expenses	(126,976)	181,661
AAAI Press Revenue	275,210	
AAAI Press Cost of Sales	(194,632)	80,578
Spring Symposium '98 Revenue	75,435	
Symposium Expenses	(62,327)	13,108
Fall Symposium '98 Revenue	40,200	
Symposium Expenses	(74,882)	(34,682)
Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining Revenue	295,525	
Conference Expenses	(240,655)	54,870
AAAI '98 Revenue	337,592	
AAAI '98 Expenses	(397,205)	(59,613)
'98 Tutorials Revenue	45,230	
Tutorials Expenses	(61,535)	(16,305)
'98 Exhibits Revenue	117,541	
Exhibits Expenses	(128,072)	(10,531)
Prior Year Events Expenses		(10,045)
Royalty Income and Reprint Permissions		2,508
Interest and Dividend Income		355,323
Realized and Unrealized Gains on Investments (Note 1A)		1,735,559
Investment Management Fees		(122,702)
Grants & Scholarships Expended		(254,175)
Miscellaneous		449
Gross Profit, Combined		1,743,334
Operating Expenses		(395,432)
Net Increase in Net Assets		1,347,902
Net Assets—January 1, 1998		10,605,629
Net Assets—December 31, 1998		$11,953,531

Note 2. Operations

AAAI was formed in 1979 as a scientific society, to encourage the basic knowledge of what constitutes intelligent thought and behavior and how it can be exhibited in computers. This is accomplished by the *AI Magazine*, the publications of the AAAI Press, the National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (NCAI), the Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence (IAAI), the International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining, the Mobile Robot Competition, the Symposium Series, and the AAAI Workshop Program. In addition, AAAI has an extensive program for student scholarships, women and minority grants, and sponsorship of independent workshops and conferences. Finally, AAAI's World Wide Web Site serves as a central resource for individuals involved in AI research.

Note 3. Investments at December 31, 1998

Investments are stated at fair market value since it is readily determinable and the investments are not necessarily being held to any maturity. Realized and unrealized gains and losses are reported in the statement of activities.

Investment activity for 1998 is as follows:

Investments—Beginning of year (At fair market value)	$ 10,164,239
Unrealized & Realized gains	1,735,559
Interest & Dividends	331,832
Total Return On Investments	2,067,391
Purchases of Investments	4,240,922
Sales of Investments	(4,848,426)
Interest & Dividends deposited to Cash & Equivalents	(331,832)
Investments—End of Year	$11,292,294

Investments consist of the following at 12-31-98:

U.S. Treasury Notes/Govt Agency Notes	$ 1,686,120
U.S. Guaranteed Mortgages	55,046
Corporate Fixed Income	1,563,774
Common/Preferred Stocks	7,987,354
Total Investments—Unrestricted	$11,292,294

Note 4. Memberships

Annual membership in the American Association for Artificial Intelligence is $50 for individuals, $20 for student members, and $75 for library subscriptions. Twenty five dollars is added to the above for other than U.S. and Canadian members. Three, five year, and lifetime memberships are also available. All Revenue from memberships is included in the AI Memberships gross profit center. Revenues from membership fees are earned ratably over the respective membership period. Lifetime membership fees are recognized as income over ten years.

Note 5. Pension Benefits

Prior to 1998 American Association for Artificial Intelligence sponsored a pension plan under Section 403 (B) of the Internal Revenue Code allowing employee contributions to their own individual accounts. Beginning in 1998 the plan expanded benefits to include company contributions to their individual accounts of five percent of their salaries for regular, full-time employees who have worked a minimum of three years at AAAI. In addition, AAAI will match employees' contributions up to five percent of their salaries for regular, full-time employees who have worked a minimum of five years at AAAI.