AAA News

Spring News from the American Association for Artificial Intelligence

AAA Expands Awards Program!

AAA is pleased to announce the continued expansion of its awards program in 2000. The first AAAI Effective Expository Writing Award will be presented at the National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, to be held July 31-August 3 in Austin, Texas. This award joins the two special awards established last year, the AAAI Classic Paper Award and the AAAI Distinguished Service Award.

The AAAI Effective Expository Writing Award honors the author(s) of a high-quality, effective piece of writing, accessible to the general public or to a broad AI audience (not just a subarea), written within the last two years. The contribution should be based on sound science, interesting ideas, or systematic review, with non-trivial content, but the award is primarily for the exposition—the author need not be the one who has done the research. Nominated papers must be in English and must have been published in a publicly accessible place (for example, periodical, hard copy, or online journal but not only as a web site or technical report). The author(s) of the award-winning paper(s) will receive a $2500 prize (shared if more than one author) as well as lodging and travel to the National Conference on Artificial Intelligence.

For more information about the AAAI Awards Program, please see www.aaai.org/Awards/awards.html or contact Carol Hamilton, Executive Director, AAAI, at hamilton@aaai.org or call 650-328-3123.

AAAI-2000

Registration information for the Seventeenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-2000) will be available in March by writing to ncai@aaai.org or at www.aaai.org/Conferences/conferences.html. Copies of the AAAI-2000 registration brochure are being mailed to all AAAI members. Please note that the deadline for early registrations is June 1, 2000.

The conference will be held July 31-August 3, 2000, at the Austin Convention Center and Hyatt Regency Austin in Austin, Texas. AAAI-2000 will feature 14 tutorials, 20 workshops, the Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence, the Mobile Robot Competition and Exhibition, the Intelligent Systems Demonstrations, the Robot Building Laboratory, and the Doctoral Consortium. New for 2000 will be a technical paper poster session, providing an opportunity for attendees to chat informally with authors.


AAAI is delighted to announce the collocation of SARA-2000 with AAAI-2000. The Symposium on Abstraction, Reformulation, and Approximation will be held July 26-29, just outside Austin in Lago Vista on Lake Travis, Texas. For more information about SARA-2000, please visit sara2000.unl.edu/

AAAI also welcomes SARA-2000 as our first affiliate conference. For more information about the AAAI Affiliates Program, please write to Carol Hamilton at hamilton@aaai.org.

AAAI-2000 Student Programs

AAA is pleased to announce the continuation of its Student Abstract and Poster Program, the SGART/AAAI Doctoral Consortium, and the AAAI Scholarship and Volunteer Programs. Students interested in attending the National Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Austin, July 31-August 3, 2000, should consult the AAAI web site for further information about all these programs at www.aaai.org/Conferences/National/2000/Student/aaai2000-student.html.

The Scholarship Program provides partial travel support and a complimentary technical program registration for students who (1) are full-time undergraduate or graduate students at colleges and universities; (2) are members of AAAI; (3) submit papers to the technical program or letters of recommendation from their faculty adviser;
and (4) submit scholarship applications
to AAAI by April 15, 2000. In addition,
repeat scholarship applicants must
have fulfilled the volunteer and report-
ing requirements for previous awards.

In the event that scholarship appli-
cations exceed available funds, prefer-
ence will be given to students who
have an accepted technical paper and
then to students who are actively par-
ticipating in the conference in some
way. However, all eligible students are
couraged to apply.

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

All student scholarship recipients
will be required to participate in the
Student Volunteer Program to support
AAAI organizers in Austin. The Volun-
teer Program is an essential part of the
conference, and student participation
is a valuable contribution.

Students not requiring travel assis-
tance should only apply for the Volun-
teer Program, which provides compli-
mentary registration to full-time
students, including conference pro-
ceedings, in exchange for assisting
AAAI-2000 organizers in Austin. This
program does not provide any scholar-
ship funds and is designed for local
students or students who have other
sources for travel funds. AAAI mem-
bership is required for eligibility. For
further information regarding the Stu-
dent Volunteer Program, please con-
tact AAAI at volunteer@aaai.org. The
deadline for volunteer applications is

AAAI Executive Council
Elections

Please watch your mail for your AAAI
Ballot, which will be mailed to all reg-
ular AAAI members in late April. The
membership will vote for four new
councilors, who will each serve three-
year terms. Ballots will be due back at
the AAAI office no later than June 15.
The Annual Business Meeting for AAAI
will be held this summer during AAAI-
2000 in Austin, Texas. The exact day
and time will be announced on the
ballot, in the summer issue of the mag-
azine, and in the conference program.

2000 Fall Symposium
Series

The 2000 AAAI Fall Symposium Series
will be held Friday through Sunday,
November 3–5, 2000, at the Sea Crest
Resort and Conference Center in
North Falmouth, Massachusetts. The
topics of the five symposia in the 2000
Fall Symposia Series are

• Building Dialogue Systems for
  Tutorial Applications
  Cochairs: Carolyn Penstein Rose
  and Reva Freedman (www.pitt.edu/
  –circle/its-symp.html)

• Learning How to Do Things
  Cochairs: Mathias Bauer (bau@
dfki.de) and Charles Rich
  (rich@merl.com) Send submissions
to learninghow@dfki.de

• Parallel Cognition for Embodied
  Agents
  Cochairs: Ian Horswill
  (ian@cs.nwu.edu) and Alan Schultz

• Simulating Human Agents
  Chair: Michael Freed
  (mfreed@mail.arc.nasa.gov)

• Socially Intelligent Agents—The
  Human in the Loop
  Chair: Kerstin Dautenhahn
  (K.Dautenhahn@cyber.reading.
  ac.uk) (www.cyber.rdg.ac.uk/peo-
  ple/kd/WWW/SIA-2000.html)

The deadline for submissions is
March 29, 2000. The Call for Participa-
tion has been sent to all AAAI mem-
bers and is posted on the AAAI web
site at www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/
fall-symposia.html.

2000 Spring Symposium
Series

AAAI is currently accepting proposals
for the 2001 Spring Symposium Series,
to be held at Stanford University, Cal-

Approximately eight symposia on
a broad range of topics within and
around AI will be selected for the 2001
Spring Symposium Series. All propos-
als will be reviewed by the AAAI Sym-
posium Committee (chair: Ian Hor-
swill, Northwestern University; cochair: Dan Clancy, NASA Ames
Research Center; and an associate
chair). Symposium proposals should
be submitted as soon as possible but
no later than April 13, 2000. The Call
for Proposals has been sent to all AAAI
members and is available at www.
aaai.org/Symposia/Spring/2001/sspro-

Please submit (preferably by elec-
tronic mail) your symposium propos-
als, and inquiries concerning sym-
posia, to

Ian Horswill
AAAI Symposium Chair
Computer Science Department
Northwestern University
ian@cs.nwu.edu
Voice: 1-847-467-1256
Fax: 1-847-491-5258

New CDs from AAAI Press

AAAI Press is pleased to announce
publication of the National Conference
on Artificial Intelligence CD-
ROM set. Containing all the papers
from the 1980–1997 national confer-
ences on artificial intelligence, this
five-CD set is now available for imme-
diate purchase. The AAAI-1999 CD,
which also contains the knowledge
discovery and data mining conference
papers from 1995–1998, is also avail-
able. For ordering information, please
see the announcement advertisement
elsewhere in this issue, or contact
AAAI Press at press@aaai.org.

AAAI Member List Server

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following text in the body of the mes-
age: subscribe aai-members.

Correction

In the Fall 1999 (volume 20 number 3)
issue of AI Magazine, the author of the
1998 Spring Symposium report on
Multimodal Reasoning was Edwina
Rissland. Although Eugene Freuder
was the chair of the symposium, he
was not the chair of the report.