



AAAI News

AAAI Has a New Area Code!

The AAAI office area code number has changed from 415 to 650, effective immediately. After 1 February 1998, use of the new 650 code will be mandatory, so please update your records now.

AAAI Election Results

President Randall Davis turned over the gavel to President-Elect David Waltz on Thursday, 31 July, at the Annual Business Meeting in Providence, Rhode Island. Four new councilors also began their three-year terms on the Executive Council, including Jan Aikins, Bonnie Dorr, Eric Horvitz, and Stuart Russell. AAAI wishes to thank all the outgoing officers and councilors, including Randy Davis, who will continue to serve as past president for two more years, and councilors Tim Finin, Martha Pollack, Katia Sycara, and Daniel Weld. Special thanks are extended to Barbara Grosz, who has served 12 years on the AAAI Executive Council, six as councilor and six on the presidential committee. Grosz just completed her two-year position as past president. A special plaque was presented to her at the 27 July Executive Council meeting in Providence.

1998 National AI Conference

Please mark your calendars now for the Fifteenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-98), which will be held 26 to 30 July in Madison, Wisconsin, at the beautiful new Monona Terrace Convention

Center, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and set on the shore of stunning Lake Monona.

AAAI-98 will turn Madison into a mecca for the AI community. The conference will not only offer its own diverse program but is also cooperating with several smaller AI conferences that will collocate in Madison just prior to and following AAAI. The Machine Learning, COLT, Uncertainty in AI, and Genetic Programming conferences will precede AAAI-98, and the Cognitive Science Conference will directly follow AAAI-98. In addition, the Computing Research Association will hold its Career Development Workshop just prior to AAAI.

Please see the Calls for Papers for the AAAI-98 technical program, AAAI-98 Student Abstract and Poster Program, and IAAI-98 elsewhere in this issue, and watch for further information regarding the tutorial, workshop, robot, Hall of Champions, and demonstration programs on the AAAI web site at www.aaa.org!

Information about the conference is available by writing to ncai@aaai.org or visiting www.aaai.org/Conferences/National/1998/. Please note that the deadline for submission of electronic title pages is 20 January 1998. Final papers are due 22 January 1998.

New Program for AAAI-98! Integrated AI Systems Track

An important force holding our field together is the shared goal of building "artificial intelligences" that perform valued activities in real environments by integrating capabilities from AI's diverse subdisciplines.

To encourage and support the de-

velopment of such integrated AI systems, the AAAI-98 conference program will include a special track highlighting implemented systems that integrate methods from multiple AI subdisciplines. Submissions will be reviewed by a specially selected pool of reviewers who are sensitive to the challenges of presenting this kind of work in a conference format.

Quality standards for this track will be high. Successful papers will advance the field by making clear not only what the system and each component does but also what has been learned from its development and experiments with it. In contrast with IAAI, however, these systems need not be deployed; breadth and depth of integration matter more here. Submitters are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the videotape support option described in the AAAI-98 Call for Papers.

Please watch the conference home page at www.aaai.org and the Winter issue of AI Magazine for further guidelines and instructions regarding this track and for information regarding the AAAI-98 Demonstrations Program, which will also highlight integrated systems.

Jack Mostow and Chuck Rich
AAAI-98 Program Cochairs

1998 Tutorial Forum and Workshop Proposals Sought

The 1998 Program Committee invites proposals for the Tutorial Forum and Workshop programs at AAAI-98. The Tutorial Forum and Workshop programs will be held on Sunday and Monday, 26 to 27 July, just prior to the technical program. For further information about either of these programs, please write to ncai@aaai.org or visit the AAAI web site at www.aaai.org. Deadlines for submission of proposals will be late October 1997.

IAAI-98 Call for Papers

The Tenth Conference on Innovative Applications of Artificial Intelligence (IAAI-98) will be collocated with AAAI-98 in Providence, Rhode Island, and will be held 27 to 29 July. The Call

for Papers can be found elsewhere in this magazine. Based on the successful addition of an emerging applications track in 1997, IAAI-98 will once again solicit papers on deployed applications as well as emerging applications. Paper submissions are due 20 January 1998. For further information about paper submissions or nominations, please contact AAAI at iaai@aaai.org or visit our web site at www.aaai.org/Conferences/IAAI/1998/iaai98.html.

1997 Fall Symposium Series

The AAAI 1997 Fall Symposium Series (FSS-97) will be held Saturday through Monday, 8 to 10 November 1997, at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The topics of the seven symposia are

- Communicative Action in Humans and Machines
- Context in Knowledge Representation (KR) and Natural Language (NL)
- Frontiers in Soft Computing and Decision Systems
- ITS Authoring Tools
- Model-Directed Autonomous Systems
- Reasoning with Diagrammatic Representations II
- Socially Intelligent Agents

A general plenary session, in which the highlights of each symposium will be presented, will be held on Sunday, 9 November, and an informal reception will be held on Saturday, 8 November. Symposia will be limited to 40 to 60 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. Working notes will be prepared and distributed to participants in each symposium but will not otherwise be available unless published as a AAAI technical report or edited collection.

The final deadline for registration is 26 September 1997. For registration information, please contact AAAI at fss@aaai.org or visit AAAI's web site at

www.aaai.org/Symposia/. A hotel room block has been reserved at the Hyatt Cambridge. The cut-off date for reservations is 7 October 1997. Please call 617/492-1234 for further information.

1988 Fall Symposium Series

The 1988 Fall Symposium Series (FSS-98) will move to a new location in 1998! After several years in Cambridge, Massachusetts, the series will be held in Orlando, Florida. Please mark your calendars now for 23 to 25 October 1998. At this writing, one symposium, entitled Robotics & Biology: Developing the Connections and organized by Barbara Webb (bhw@vpsyc.psychology.nottingham.ac.uk) has been accepted. Additional proposals are being sought. All proposals will be reviewed by the AAAI Symposium Committee (Chair: Bonnie Dorr, University of Maryland, College Park; Associate Chairs: Leslie Pack Kaelbling, Brown University; and Ian Horswill, Northwestern University). Symposium proposals should be submitted as soon as possible but no later than 15 October 1997. Notifications of acceptance or rejection will be sent to submitters around 24 October 1997. A Call for Participation will be issued in December. Please see www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/ for further information.

1998 Spring Symposium Series Call for Participation

AAAI presents the 1998 Spring Symposium Series, to be held Monday through Wednesday, 23 to March 1998, at Stanford University. The topics of the eight symposia are

- Applying Machine Learning to Discourse Processing
- Integrating Robotic Research: Taking the Next Leap
- Intelligent Environments
- Intelligent Text Summarization
- Interactive and Mixed-Initiative Decision-Theoretic Systems
- Multimodal Reasoning
- Prospects for a Commonsense Theory of Causation
- Satisficing Models

Symposia will be limited to 40 to 60 participants. Each participant will be expected to attend a single symposium. Working notes will be prepared and distributed to participants in each symposium. A general plenary session, in which the highlights of each symposium will be presented, will be held on Tuesday, 25 March, and an informal reception will be held on Monday, 24 March. 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. Registration information will be available by 15 December 1997. Please contact AAAI at sss@aaai.org or visit our web site at www.aaai.org/Symposia/.

Submission Information

Submissions for the symposia are due 24 October 1997. Notification of acceptance will be given by 14 November 1997. Material to be included in the working notes of the symposium must be received by 17 January 1998. The complete Call for Participation is available as www.aaai.org/Symposia/Spring/1998/sssparticipation-98.html.

1998 Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining

The Fourth International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining (KDD-98) will be held in New York City from 27 to 31 August 1998 following the Very Large Databases Conference. The Call for Papers is available by writing to kdd@aaai.org or visiting www.aaai.org/Conferences/KDD/1998/kdd98.html. Papers are due 17 March 1998.

Web Site News

In September, all AAAI members who have provided their e-mail address will receive an electronic mailing inviting them to subscribe to the AAAI members list. This expanded and timely version of AAAI News will provide subscribers with news of significant new items on the web, send out notifications of important events, and let members know of last-minute

changes to programs and AAAI events.

In the membership area of AAAI's web, prospective new members will now find electronic registration completely automatic (you can even subscribe to the members list-serv with a click of the mouse). Watch, too, for a completely new look to the site, coming early this winter.

Finally, by the end of the year, book buyers will be able to use a shopping cart to purchase items electronically.

New Press Catalog

AAAI Press has just published its catalog for 1997-1998. You should receive one in the mail in October. If you would like additional copies for colleagues or your library, please contact the AAAI office at 650/328-3123. A PDF version is also available on the AAAI web site.

Deadline for Executive Council Nominations Moved to Fall!

Each 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 it for consideration. The Nominating Committee, in turn, will nominate eight candidates for councilor later this year. In addition to members' recommendations, the committee will actively recruit individuals to provide a balanced slate of candidates. AAAI members will vote in the spring.

To submit a candidate's names for consideration, please send the individual's name, address, telephone 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 is 1 November 1997. (Please note that the candidate name submission deadline has shifted from the spring to the fall to balance committee members' time commitments.)

1998 AAAI Executive Council Nominations

Please type or print clearly. Please contact the individuals you are nominating before submitting their names. Nomination forms must be received at the AAAI office no later than 1 November 1997.

Nominee for Councilor

Name: _____

Position: _____

Organization: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Nominee for Councilor

Name: _____

Position: _____

Organization: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name of Nominator

Date of Submission: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Department: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please send this form to AAAI Nominations, 445 Burgess Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025-3442. You can also fax the information to us at 650/321-4457. For more information, please contact Carol Hamilton at hamilton@aaai.org or 650/328-3123.