



AAAI News

With the increase in AAAI Executive Council activities in the past year, we've decided to establish a news column to appear in every issue of the *AI Magazine*. This column will serve several purposes, including membership and conference attendance statistics, reports on AAAI-sponsored workshops, financial data, Council Committee activities, and other on-going projects pursued by the society.

We welcome your feedback, particularly requests for information that would be valuable to you. Please send suggestions for future news columns by electronic mail to aaai-news@sumex-aim.stanford.edu, or by US mail to the AAAI office. Suggestions, comments, and questions on all aspects of the society are welcome. We can't promise that every item will appear in the magazine, but we'll do our best to respond personally.

—William J. Clancey & Claudia Mazzetti

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Currently there are 16,442 members of AAAI.

AAAI-87 CONFERENCE STATISTICS

AAAI-87 (Seattle) Statistics

Paid attendance: 5026

Other Attendees

Exhibitor staff: 1,500.

Press: 120.

Number of vendors: 98 (largest number of exhibitors ever).

Tutorial seats: 4737 (highest percentage of attendance). For comparison, paid attendance at Philadelphia in 1986 was 5400, with 4900 seats.

Conference Attendee Demographics

Organization Description:

Research, Education, Consulting: 46%

Manufacturer/Publisher/Computer Software: 12%

Manufacturer/hardware: 11%

Government: 11%

Data Processing/Time sharing: 10%

Banking/Finance: 3%

(Total does not equal 100% because of omitted answers)

Occupation.

Engineer: 16%

Research Scientist: 15%

Student: 14%

Staff Scientist: 9%

Programmer: 8%

System Analyst: 9%

Middle Management: 8%

Project Leader: 8%

Educator: 7%

Consultant: 7%

Executive Council Meeting Minutes 12 July 1987

Present were D. Bobrow, B. Grosz, M. Minsky, W. Clancey, L. Erman, W. Bledsoe, E. Feigenbaum, L. Conway, T. Mitchell, J. McDermott, H. Shrobe, K. Forbus, W. Woods, D. Lenat, B. Buchanan, P. Winston, R. Reddy, and C. Mazzetti

Report of Officers and Standing Committees

The Nomination Committee announced the results of the election for President-elect and Councilors. The new President-elect (1987-1989) is Daniel Bobrow and the four new Councilors are Kathleen McKeown, William J. Clancey, Richard Duda, and Hector Levesque.

The other Standing Committee reports will be discussed on Tuesday, July 14, 1987.

Unfinished and New Business

On-line Abstracts Service for the Association: Discussion concluded that the AAAI might want to act as a liaison between existing services or try to support existing services in the

US. Bobrow was commissioned to investigate the possible relationship between the Turing Institute's Abstract Service and the AAAI. He was allocated \$50,000 to pursue this investigation.

Cooperation with Other Societies: Discussion concluded that we would encourage other societies and conferences to share their best papers within our conference program and share mailing lists.

Presidential Nomination Process: It is the tradition of scientific societies to nominate esteemed, respected individuals within their discipline to the honorary position of president. The Executive Council discussed the validity of this policy and concluded that this policy would continue. As a result, the current bylaw wording on the presidential election process would remain the same allowing for one or more nominations to be presented to the electorate.

Double Paper Submission Policy: Although authors may submit as many papers as they want to the National Conference's Technical Program, should we accept papers from other works? The discussion was heated and no conclusion was drawn, except that AAAI would not accept papers accepted for publication from IJCAI conferences.

Support for Public Museum Exhibit on Artificial Intelligence: The Oregon Museum of Science and Industry has approached the AAAI to provide them with technical assistance in preparing their NSF proposal. They plan to develop a museum exhibit on artificial intelligence that will be available for affordable duplication by science museums and technology centers across the nation.

It was concluded that three members of the Council would act as technical advisors during the preparation of the proposal.

An allocation of \$10,000 was given to them to assist the Oregon Museum of Science and Technology.

Executive Council Meeting Minutes 14 July 1987

Present were W. Clancey, B. Grosz, P. Winston, D. Lenat, K. Forbus, H. Shrobe, W. Bledsoe, C. Rich, H.

Title	Sponsor / Organizer	Amount
Theoretical Issues on Natural Language Processing	New Mexico State / Wilks	\$5,000
Knowledge Acquisition	Boeing / Boose	\$5,000
Symbolic Coupling	Boeing / Kanusz	\$7,000
Machine Learning	University of California, Irvine / Langley	\$10,000
Qualitative Reasoning	University of Illinois / Forbus	\$10,000
Reasoning about Knowledge	IBM Almaden / Vardi	\$10,000
Artificial Intelligence and Medicine	University of Washington / Kalet	\$5,000
Mathematical Theories of Language	University of Pennsylvania / Joshi	\$7,000
Theoretical Concepts of Information Processing	University of Maryland / Hendler	\$10,000
Natural Language Processing and Logic Programming	Simon Fraser / St. Dizier	\$2,000
International Conference on Genetic Algorithms	MIT / Gensserette	\$2,000
Foundations of Artificial Intelligence	MIT / Kirsh	\$10,000
Uncertainty and Probability	NASA / Cheeseman	\$3,000
Architectures for Intelligent Interfaces	Lockheed / Sullivan	\$5,000
Lexicon	ACL / Walker	\$5,000
Intention, Communication, and Discourse	CSLI / Cohen	\$10,000
Knowledge Representation in Unix Help Domain	University of California, Berkeley / Norvig	\$10,000
Concurrent Logic Programming	Xerox PARC / Kahn	\$1,450
Nonmonotonic Reasoning	Siemens / Reinfrank	\$10,000
AI and Statistics	AT&T Bell Laboratories / Gale	\$5,000
Connectionist Summer School	Carnegie Mellon University/ Touretzky	\$10,000
Agricultural Applications	Texas A&M / Whittaker	\$5,500

1987-1988 AAAI Sponsored Workshops

Levesque, D. Bobrow, W. Woods, R. Reddy, C. Mazzetti T. Mitchell. B. Buchanan

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

Raj Reddy suggested that Councilors need to become more involved with association activities.

Publication Committee Report: The committee discussed the on-line abstracts service. The committee's recommendations were discussed at the Sunday night meeting.

Conference Committee: The committee reported the decrease in attendance. The committee discussed reshaping the technical program content in the future. That responsibility will be in the hands of next year's Program Committee.

Program Committee The committee reported on developing a different set of criteria standards for the evaluation of application papers. They also advised the continuation of the Best Paper Awards per category and Invited Survey Talks as a feature of the conference.

Unfinished and New Business

Continuation of Double Submission Policy After another lengthy discussion, the Council reaffirmed a no double publication policy.

AAAI Investigator Award At last year's Council meeting, Doug Lenat was appointed to investigate a post-graduate program. Lenat presented his proposal to establish an AAAI Investigator Award for post-graduate research. The intent is to provide a buffer for new graduates, providing a time for development of research capability and interests before tenure-track pressures and an increased teaching burden begins. The Council concluded that the AAAI would establish a Post-Doctoral program for at least 2 years. The development of specific policies and selection criteria would occur in the following year by a new committee. Volunteers for this committee were solicited at that time.

AAAI-SPONSORED WORKSHOPS

AAAI sponsors workshops in order to promote detailed technical discussions at small meetings.

An organizer submits a proposal to

Workshop Co-Chairs John McCarthy or Peter Hart, for review. Most workshops are by invitation only, with an average attendance of under 50 participants.

As can be seen by the table above, the topics and sponsoring organizations span a broad range of interests

Other Conference News

Related to the news about the AAAI Investigator award, AAAI will be increasing the number of scholarships given for students attending the National Conference. In 1987 24 scholarships for an amount of 25,000 were awarded.

The first AAAI Symposia will be held at Stanford in March. Raj Reddy and Claudia Mazzetti are members of the Symposium Committee. Possible topics for the next three years have been identified, following the format of multiple research topics and one application area in five parallel sessions. For example, in 1988 the application area will be AI and Medicine. Send suggestions for future topics to the committee.