



***Summer News from the  
Association for the Advancement  
of Artificial Intelligence***

**Join Us for the Thirteenth  
AAAI Conference on  
Artificial Intelligence and  
Interactive Digital  
Entertainment  
(AIIDE-17)**

Snowbird, Utah ■ October 5-9

Please join us for AIIDE-17, to be held October 5–9, 2017 at the Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort in Snowbird, Utah. 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, playable experiences, project demonstrations, interactive poster sessions, product exhibits, workshops, tutorials, and a doctoral consortium.

This year's conference features a special topic — Beyond Games. In addition to general topics of interest in game AI, the conference program will feature speakers, panels, and paper ses-

***Important Update! AAAI-18 Conference  
Dates Have Shifted!***

*February 2-7, 2018 ■ New Orleans, Louisiana, USA*

Update your calendar! AAAI-18 will now be held Friday, February 2 – Wednesday, February 7, a shift of two days earlier. This shift in dates will enable us to continue with our traditional pattern of having the workshops and tutorials prior to the commencement of the main technical program. The conference venue remain the same at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside.

Please mark the following dates on your calendar:

- July 1 – September 8, 2017:* Authors register on the AAAI web site
- September 8, 2017:* Electronic abstracts due at 11:59 PM UTC-10 (midnight Hawaii)
- September 11, 2017:* Electronic papers due at 11:59 PM UTC-10 (midnight Hawaii)
- October 16-19, 2017:* Author feedback about initial reviews
- November 9, 2017:* Notification of acceptance or rejection
- November 21, 2017:* Camera-ready copy due at 5:00 PM PDT (California)

sions that focus on a broad range of complementary areas of interactive digital entertainment.

The AIIDE-17 conference will feature three workshops: Artificial Intelligence for Strategy Games (1 day), Experimental AI in Games (2-days), and Intelligent Narrative Technologies (1.5 days). Tutorials will include Deep Learning for Interactive Digital Entertainment by Wookhee Min and Pengcheng Wang (North Carolina State University) and

Answer Set Programming by Adam Smith (University of California, Santa Cruz). Complete details can be found at [sites.google.com/view/aiide2017/home/workshopstutorials?authuser=0](http://sites.google.com/view/aiide2017/home/workshopstutorials?authuser=0).

AIIDE-17 registration information and other program details will be available on the AIIDE-17 website at [www.aiide.org](http://www.aiide.org) this July. Please send inquiries to [aiide17@aaai.org](mailto:aiide17@aaai.org), or to Conference Chair Brian Magerko (Georgia Tech).



## AAAI Gifts Program

It is the generosity and loyalty of our members that enable us to continue to provide the best possible service to the AI community and promote and further the science of artificial intelligence by sustaining the many and varied programs that AAAI provides. AAAI invites all members and other interested parties to consider a gift to help support the dozens of programs that AAAI currently sponsors. For more information about the Gift Program, please see write to us at [donate17@aaai.org](mailto:donate17@aaai.org).

## Support AAAI Open Access

AAAI also thanks you for your ongoing support of the open access initiative. We count on you to help us deliver the latest information about artificial intelligence to the scientific community. To enable us to continue this effort, we invite you to consider an additional gift to AAAI. For information on how you can contribute to the open access initiative, please see [www.aaai.org](http://www.aaai.org) and click on "Gifts."

*AAAI is a 501c3 charitable organization. Your contribution may be tax deductible.*

## Join Us in Quebec City, Canada for the HCOMP 2017 Conference!

The Fifth AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP-2017) 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 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 5th AAAI Conference on Human Computation and Crowdsourcing (HCOMP 2017) will be held October 24 – 26, in Quebec City, Canada at the Hilton Quebec and the Québec City Convention Center.

HCOMP 2017 will be colocated with the conference on User Interface Software and Technology (UIST). A preliminary list of invited speakers includes Niki Kittur of Carnegie Mellon University and Emma Brunskill of Stanford University. The main technical conference on October 25–26, will be preceded by the Doctoral Consortium on October 23 and the workshop program on October 24.

Complete registration will be available in July at [www.humancomputation.com/2017](http://www.humancomputation.com/2017). The early registration deadline will be September 1. The deadline for hotel reservations at the Hilton Quebec is September 22, 2017. The discounted room rate of \$219.00 CAD per night (single/double) may not be available after this date. For further information about booking your hotel room, please see [www.humancomputation.com/2017/attend](http://www.humancomputation.com/2017/attend).

## 2017 AAAI Fall Symposium Series

The 2017 AAAI Fall Symposium Series will be held Thursday through Saturday, November 9-11, at the Westin Arlington Gateway, Arlington, Virginia, adjacent to Washington, DC. The topics of the symposia are available at [www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/fss17](http://www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/fss17). Please note that submissions are due July 21, 2017.

Symposia will be limited to between

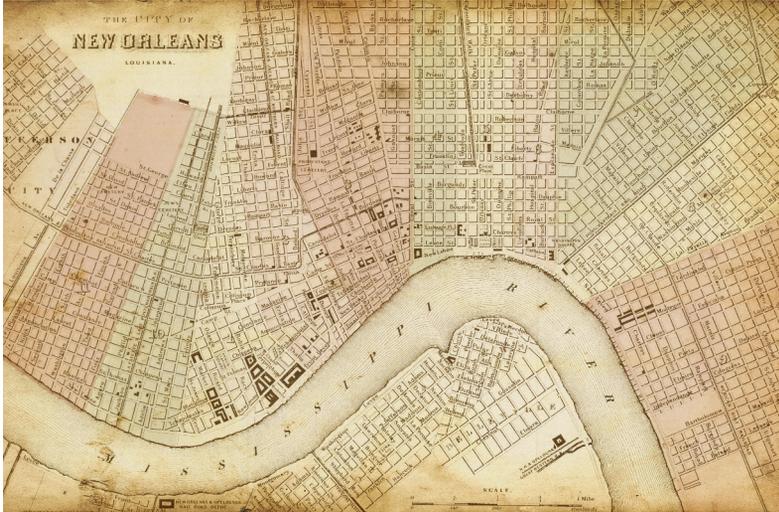
forty and seventy-five participants each. Participation will be open to active participants as well as other interested individuals on a first-come, first-served basis. Complete registration and hotel information will be available in August at [www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/fss17](http://www.aaai.org/Symposia/Fall/fss17). Invited participants must register by September 22, and the final registration deadline is October 13. The deadline for hotel reservations at the Westin is 5:00 PM EDT, October 9, 2017. 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.

## AAAI 2018 Spring Symposium Series

The 2018 Spring Symposium Series will be held March 26-28, 2018 at Stanford University. The Call for Proposals is located at [www.aaai.org/Symposia/Spring/sss18](http://www.aaai.org/Symposia/Spring/sss18). Proposals are due June 15. The Call for Participation will be available in August. Submissions will be due to the organizers on October 20, 2017. For more information, please contact the Symposium Cochairs, Christopher Geib and Ron Petrick, at [sss18chairs@aaai.org](mailto:sss18chairs@aaai.org) or AAAI at [sss18@aaai.org](mailto:sss18@aaai.org). A preliminary list of symposia will be available at the SSS-18 website in late July.

## ICWSM-18 to be Held at Stanford University, Palo Alto, California

AAAI is pleased to announce that, in cooperation with the Center for Computational Social Science at Stanford University, ICWSM-18 will be held in late June at Stanford in Palo Alto, California. The Center is a program of the Institute for Research in the Social Sciences. Founded in 2004 with the broad goal of advancing social science research, the Stanford Institute for Research in the Social Sciences (IRiSS) trains social scientists in advanced and innovative research methods, undertakes high-quality interdisciplinary research, and disseminates research findings that address significant global



*Courtesy, iStock*

## Join Us in New Orleans for AAAI-18!

AAAI-17 will arrive in New Orleans just prior to Mardi Gras and festivities will already be underway. Enjoy legendary jazz music, the French Quarter filled with lively clubs and restaurants, world-class museums, and signature architecture. New Orleans' multicultural and diverse communities will make your experience in the Big Easy unique. The Hilton New Orleans Riverside is located in the thriving Warehouse and Arts District and is an easy walk to the French Quarter, the Audubon Aquarium, and the Butterfly Garden and Zoo. For complete information about options in New Orleans, please visit [www.neworleanscvb.com/visit/](http://www.neworleanscvb.com/visit/).

AAAI-18 Program Cochairs Sheila McIlraith and Kilian Weinberger 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 are also introducing a new program targeting emerging topics in the area of effective collaboration between humans and AI systems and novel applications thereof. Further details about this exciting new theme will be available in July. For complete details on submitting to the technical program, and to view the Call for Papers, please see [www.aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI/aaai18](http://www.aaai.org/Conferences/AAAI/aaai18).

Please join us in 2017 in New Orleans for a memorable AAAI!

[www.aaai.org/aaai18](http://www.aaai.org/aaai18)

challenges. The General Chair for ICWSM-18 is Jeff Hancock (Professor, Department of Communication at Stanford University and Director, Stan-

ford Center for Computational Social Science). Please consult [www.icwsm.org/2018/](http://www.icwsm.org/2018/) for the latest developments, or send inquiries to [icwsm18@aaai.org](mailto:icwsm18@aaai.org).

## Member News

### Kenneth Ford Inducted into Florida Inventors Hall of Fame

AAAI congratulates AAAI Fellow Ken Ford, cofounder and CEO of the Florida Institute for Human and Machine Cognition, who was elected to the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame for his pioneering work in artificial intelligence and human-centered computing, and his significant contributions to the United States and Florida's technology and research communities. He will be formally inducted at the 4th Annual Florida Inventors Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Gala on September 8, 2017, at the Hilton Tampa Downtown. The Florida Inventors Hall of Fame (FIHF) recognizes and commends Florida inventors whose achievements have advanced the quality of life for Floridians, the state and the nation.

### In Memoriam

AAAI Fellow Alain Colmerauer passed away on May 15, 2017. Colmerauer was elected to AAAI Fellowship in 1991. He was best known for his work on machine translation, PROLOG, and constraint logic programming, for which he was honored widely, including being made Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur by the French government in 1986. After completing his Ph.D. at the University of Grenoble, he was an assistant professor at the University of Montreal for three years, and then spent most of his career at the University of Aix-Marseille, France, eventually becoming an emeritus professor in 2006. He was also head of the Laboratoire d'Informatique de Marseille (LIM), a joint laboratory of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, the University of Provence and the University de la Mediterranee from 1993 to 1995.

### AAAI Fellows Nominations Solicited

The 2018 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 [fellows18@aaai.org](mailto:fellows18@aaai.org). Nomination materials are also available on the AAAI web site at [www.aaai.org/Awards/fellows.php](http://www.aaai.org/Awards/fellows.php). The deadline for nominations is September 30, 2017.

### 2018 Special Award Nominations

AAAI is pleased to announce the continuation of its two special awards in 2017, and is currently seeking nominations for the 2018 AAAI Classic Paper Award, and the AAAI Distinguished Service Award. The 2018 AAAI Classic Paper Award will be given to the author of the most influential paper(s) from the Seventeenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence, held in 2000 in Austin, Texas, USA. The

2018 AAAI Distinguished Service Award will recognize one individual for extraordinary service to the AI community. Awards will be presented at AAAI-18 in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. Complete nomination information, including nomination forms, is available at [www.aaai.org/Awards/fellows.php](http://www.aaai.org/Awards/fellows.php). The deadline for nominations is September 30, 2017. For additional inquiries, please contact Carol Hamilton at [hamilton@aaai.org](mailto:hamilton@aaai.org).

### AAAI/EAAI Outstanding Educator Award

The AAAI/EAAI Outstanding Educator award will be presented for the third year during AAAI-18 in New Orleans. 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](http://www.aaai.org/Awards/eaai-award.php) or write to [eaaiaward@aaai.org](mailto:eaaiaward@aaai.org). The submission deadline is October 13, 2017.

### 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



## AAAI Honors High School Students at Intel ISEF

AAAI is pleased to announce the winners of the recent AAAI Special Awards at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, held May 14-19 in Los Angeles, California. The winners of the AAAI honors were:

*First Prize:* Erin Smith (Overland Park, Kansas, USA) for A Novel, Telemedicine Diagnosing and Monitoring Tool for Parkinson's Disease: The Use of Digital Action Unit Biomarkers Generated by Spontaneous and Posed Facial Expressions

*Second Prize:* Anushka Nair (Lake Oswego, Oregon, USA) for Radiochemistry and AI: Development of an Analytical Capability Using Machine Learning Algorithms for Early Detection of Radionuclides in the Environment

*Third Prize:* Michael Lee (Manhasset, New York, USA) for MFT: Improving Convolutional Object Tracking with Feed Separated Learning

Honorable Mention went to the following students:

Prathik Naidu (Alexandria, Virginia, USA) for DNALoopR: A Novel High-Performance Machine Learning Predictor to Identify Genome-Wide 3D DNA Interactions in Cancer

Manan Shah (San Jose, California, USA) for Deep Learning Assessment of Tumor Proliferation in Histopathological Images for Categorical and Molecular Breast Cancer Severity Diagnosis

Thao Chi Nguyen and Trang Ngan Tran (Hai Phong, Viet Nam) for Mind Hand: A Comprehensive Solution Supports Two-Way Communication for the Deaf Mute

Luiz da Silva Borges (Aquidauana, Brazil) for Hermes Braindeck: A Brain-Computer Interface for Communication with Patients Initially Classified as Comatose or Vegetative

Justin Zhang, Kavya Kopparapu and Neeyanth Kopparapu (Alexandria, Virginia, USA) for Inexpensive Mobile Diagnosis of Diabetic Retinopathy Using Deep Learning

AAAI thanks Yolanda Gil (Head Judge), Bill Swartout, Yonatan Bisk, Emmanuel Johnson, Eric Deng, Daniel Garjijo, Marjan Ghazvini Nejad, all from the University of Southern California, who served as AAAI's judges at the event, for their generous donation of time and effort.

The Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, a program of Society for Science & the Public, is the world's largest precollege science competition, and includes more than 1,800 high school students from more than 75 countries, regions and territories. Society for Science & the Public, a nonprofit organization dedicated to public engagement in scientific research and education, owns and has administered the International Science and Engineering Fair since its inception in 1950. To learn more about the Society for Science and the Public, visit [www.societyforscience.org](http://www.societyforscience.org).

## Jitendra Malik to Receive the ACM-AAAI Allen Newell Award

AAAI is delighted to report that Jitendra Malik has been selected to receive the ACM-AAAI Allen Newell Award for seminal contributions to computer vision that have led the field in image segmentation and object category recognition. Malik is recognized as one of the world's leading researchers in computer vision. He and his lab at UC Berkeley solved several important problems in computer vision, including how to remove "noise" from images in order to identify critical elements such as edges, how to segment images, and how to represent and match shapes. Many of Malik's former graduate students are now recognized leaders in the field. Through his own research and mentorship, Malik has been a driving force in transforming computer vision from a niche interest to a successful and influential discipline. Computer vision plays an increasingly important role in social media, Internet search, entertainment and autonomous vehicle development. 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. Malik will be formally honored at the ACM Awards Banquet on June 24 in San Francisco.

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 2017 John McCarthy Award is Dan Roth, The Beckman Institute, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Roth is recognized for major conceptual and theoretical advances in the modeling of natural language understanding, machine learning and reasoning.

## IJCAI-17 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 2017 IJCAI Computers and Thought Award is Devi Parikh, assistant professor at School of Interactive Computing, Georgia Institute of Technology. Parikh is recognized for her contributions at the intersection of words, pictures, and common sense—from semantic image understanding, to the use of visual attributes for human-machine collaboration and visual abstractions for learning common sense, to enabling humans to interact with visual content via natural language.

## Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award

The IJCAI Distinguished Service Award was established in 1979 by the IJCAI Trustees to honor senior scientists in AI for contributions and service to the field during their careers. At IJCAI-17, the Donald E. Walker Distinguished Service Award will be given to Ramon Lopez de Mantaras, Research Professor of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC) and Director of the Artificial Intelligence Research Institute of the CSIC. Lopez de Mantaras is recognized for his substantial contributions, as well as his extensive service to the field of artificial intelligence throughout his career.

references must conform to the requirements listed on the form, and must be received by September 30, 2017. For complete details and an application form, please see [www.aaai.org/Awards/senior.php](http://www.aaai.org/Awards/senior.php), or contact Carol Hamilton at [seniormember18@aaai.org](mailto:seniormember18@aaai.org).

## AAAI Congratulates New ACM Fellows

ACM named 53 of its members as 2016 ACM Fellows for major contributions in areas including artificial intelligence, cryptography, computer architecture, high performance computing and programming languages. Among the winners are several AAAI Fellows, including Yolanda Gil, honored for her leadership in advancing the use of artificial intelligence in support of science and for service to the community; Carla Brodley for applications of machine learning and for increasing participation of women in computer science; James Hendler for contributions to artificial intelligence and the development of the Semantic Web; Manuela Veloso for contributions to the field of

artificial intelligence, in particular in planning, learning, multi-agent systems, and robotics; and Zhi-Hua Zhou for contributions to machine learning and data mining. The new fellows will be formally honored at the ACM Awards Banquet on June 24.

## IJCAI Awards Announced

AAAI congratulates the winners of the 2017 IJCAI Awards!

## IJCAI-17 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 2017 Award for Research Excellence is Andrew Barto, a professor emeritus, College of Information and Computer Sciences, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Barto is recognized for his groundbreaking and impactful research in both the theory and application of reinforcement learning.

## IJCAI-17 John McCarthy Award

The John McCarthy research award is



### Danny Bobrow, 1935–2017

It is with deep sorrow that we report the passing of former AAAI President Danny Bobrow on March 20, 2017. Danny graduated from the Bronx High School of Science and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, then earned a Master's Degree from Harvard and a PhD in Mathematics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology under the supervision of Marvin Minsky. He went on to become one of Silicon Valley's defining figures in artificial intelligence, pioneering numerous systems starting with his doctoral dissertation, *STUDENT*, and followed by the widely-used programming languages Logo and Interlisp; the (innovative) operating system TENEX; the knowledge-sharing system Eureka; and more recently, Powerset, the natural language search engine.

As AAAI's President from 1989-1991, Bobrow was instrumental in establishing the AAAI Press, as well as the AAAI Fellows program. He also served as president of the Cognitive Science Society and editor-in-chief of the *Artificial Intelligence Journal*. He was a recipient of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Software Systems Award and a fellow of both the ACM and AAAI. His family, friends, and colleagues from the Palo Alto Research Center and around the world recently gathered at PARC to commemorate his life and work.