26th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence

Program Co-Chairs:
Jörg Hoffmann & Bart Selman
Program Highlights

- **Alan Turing Centenary**: ACM Turing Award Lecture
  Judea Pearl, AAAI Turing Lecture Christos Papadimitriou

- **Special tracks**: AI and the Web, Cognitive Systems, Computational Sustainability, Robotics

- **EAAI**: Educational Advances in AI

- **IAAI**: Innovative Applications of AI Conference

- **Sub-Area Spotlights track**: Combines Best-Paper track à la IJCAI 2011 with invited presentations on current trends (“What's Hot”) and open issues (“Challenges”) in AI sub-areas

- **Competitions and demos**: AI Video Competition, General Game Playing, Computer Poker, Robotics Multimedia Fair
... ah yes, and BTW we turned the whole program structure upside down.

- **Oral vs poster papers:** Both accepted as FULL papers with SAME standards; presentation form decided based on *broadness of interest*

- **Poster advertisement talks:** Posters associated with technical sessions. Each poster will be advertised using 1 slide in 2 minutes

- **Poster sessions:** ALL posters together in ONE common room, to foster interaction across areas

⇒ **Reduced number of parallel sessions (5)**

⇒ (Ideas stolen from IJCAI 2011)
Alan Turing Centenary

- ACM A.M. Turing Award Lecture:
  Judea Pearl
  The Mechanization of Causal Inference: A "Mini Turing Test" and Beyond

- AAAI Turing Lecture:
  Christos Papadimitriou
  The Origin of Computable Numbers: A Tale of Two Classics
AAAI Invited Talks

- **Henry Kautz:** Revisiting the Dream
- **Regina Barzilay:** Learning to Behave by Reading
- **Ross D. King:** Automating Biology Using Robot Scientists
- **Joshua B. Tenenbaum:** How to Grow a Mind: Statistics, Structure and Abstraction
- **Luis von Ahn:** Duolingo: Translating the Web with Millions of People
Yet another Record number of submissions! (tops previous 2011 record by 139 papers)

1129 technical paper submissions, 294 accepted

- 26 Area Chairs + 74 SPC members
- 785 PC members
- ≈ 4500 reviews and meta-reviews!
- ≈ How many emails read and sent by PC Chairs? You name it!
IAAI Conference Chairs:
Markus Fromherz
Hector Munoz-Avila

EAAI Symposium Chair:
David Kauchak
Special Track Chairs

**AI and the Web:**
Denny Vrandecic, Chris Welty

**Cognitive Systems:**
James Allen, Matthias Scheutz

**Computational Sustainability:**
Carla P. Gomes, Brian C. Williams

**Robotics:**
Kurt Konolige, Sidd Srinivasa
Event Chairs

• **Conference Committee Chair:** Dieter Fox
• **Turing Centenary:** Toby Walsh
• **Sub-Area Spotlights Track:** Bernhard Nebel, Marco Ragni
• **Tutorials:** Carmel Domshlak, Patrick Pantel
• **Workshops:** Michael Beetz, Holger Hoos
• **Doctoral Consortium Chairs:** Peter McBurney, Elizabeth Sklar
• **Student Abstracts and Posters:** Kristian Kersting, Rudolph Triebel
• **Robotics Fair:** Jim Little, Junaed Sattar
• **Poker Competition:** Eric Jackson, Jonathan Rubin, Chris Archibald
• **AI Video Competition:** Mauro Birattari, Marco Dorigo, Rehan O'Grady
Who Really Did the Work

Carol Hamilton
Keri Harvey
Corina Anzaldo-Vaughn
Colleen Boyce
Mike Hamilton
Thomas Preuss

Special Thanks to Andrei Voronkov for making the assignment of papers to reviewers!
Sponsors

**Platinum:**
- *AI Journal*
- Steven Kuhn
- National Science Foundation

**Gold:**
- Microsoft Research

**Silver:**
- Cornell Institute for Computational Sustainability
- Google, Inc.
- University of Rochester

**Bronze:**
- GE Global Research
- IBM Research
- NICTA

**Sponsors:**
- ACM/SIGART
- Barbara J. Grosz
- David E. Smith
- Videolectures.net
Awards
Outstanding Area Chair

Eyke Hüllermeier
Philipps-University of Marburg, Germany
Outstanding Senior PC Member

Edith Elkind
Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Roni Khardon
Tufts University, USA
Outstanding PC Member

Lloyd Elliott
University College London, UK

Andrey Kolobov
University of Washington, USA

Scott Sanner
NICTA, Australia

Kiri Wagstaff
Jet Propulsion Laboratory, USA
Outstanding Paper, Computational Sustainability Track

MOMDPs: a Solution for Modelling Adaptive Management Problems
Iadine Chadès, Josie Carwardine, Tara G. Martin, Samuel Nicol, Régis Sabbadin, Olivier Buffet

Tuesday, July 24, 3:05 pm

Coupling Spatiotemporal Disease Modeling with Diagnosis (Outstanding Student Paper)
Martin Mubangizi, Catherine Ikae, Athina Spiliopoulou, John A. Quinn

Thursday, July 26, 10:20 am
Outstanding Paper, Honorable Mention

**Knapsack Based Optimal Policies for Budget-Limited Multi-Armed Bandits (Poster!)**
Long Tran-Thanh, Archie Chapman, Alex Rogers, Nicholas R. Jennings

*Wednesday, July 25, 5:30 pm*

**Predicting Disease Transmission from Geo-Tagged Micro-Blog Data (AI & Web Track)**
Adam Sadilek, Henry Kautz, Vincent Silenzio

*Wednesday, July 25, 5:10 pm*
Outstanding Paper

Learning SVM Classifiers with Indefinite Kernels
Suicheng Gu, Yuhong Guo

Tuesday, July 24, 2:25 pm

Document Summarization Based on Data Reconstruction
Zhanying He, Chun Chen, Jiajun Bu, Can Wang, Lijun Zhang, Deng Cai, Xiaofei He

Wednesday, July 25, 10:20 am
Enjoy the 26th AAAI!