

STAIRS 2004

2nd European Starting AI Researcher Symposium

General Information

STAIRS'2004 is the second European Starting AI Researcher Symposium, an international meeting aimed at AI researchers, from all countries, at the beginning of their career: PhD students or people holding a PhD for less than one year. STAIRS'04 will be held jointly with ECAI'04 in Valencia, Spain, on August 23rd and 24th. The Symposium will be hosted by the "Departamento de Sistemas Informáticos y Computación (DSIC) of the Universidad Politécnica de Valencia".

STAIRS'04 offers doctoral students and young post-doctoral AI students:

- a first experience on submitting and presenting a paper in an international forum with a broad scope and thorough selection process
- the opportunity to gather knowledge and exchange ideas related to their research problems and approaches
- information on European research careers and mobility

Location

The Symposium will be located at the Computer Science School of the Universidad Politécnica de Valencia. Further information about the location can be found at the URL:

<http://www.dsic.upv.es/ecai2004/stairs2004>

Paper Submission

Submissions of original work are invited in all areas of Artificial Intelligence. Submission is a two-stage process. Authors are asked to submit to the STAIRS'04 co-chairs (see below) a brief summary of their paper by Thursday, April 1, 2004, followed by their full paper by Wednesday, April 7, 2004 (23:59 CET).

The strongly preferred submission method for summaries and full papers is to use the web-based submission form. Submitted summaries will be assigned a unique tracking number that should be marked on the full paper submission. Authors without access to the web should send a summary including the title, authors, contact address and abstract of the paper (maximum 200 words), plus keywords to the STAIRS'04 PC co-chairs. Only PDF files will be accepted. Electronic or hardcopy submissions may also be made if web-based submission is problematic for the authors.

The deadline for receipt is 7 April 2004 for both electronic and hardcopy submissions. Paper received after that date will not be reviewed. Notification of receipt of full papers will be mailed to the corresponding author soon after receipt.

Review process

Papers should address significant research works undertaken by the authors. At least one of the authors must be a PhD student, or a person holding a PhD for less than a year. Preference will be given to papers whose authors are all in such condition.

All submissions will be subject to academic peer review by the STAIRS'04 Program Committee. The papers will undergo an anonymous reviewing process. Each paper will be assigned at least two reviewers. Review criteria include originality of ideas, technical soundness, significance of results, and quality of presentation.

Multiple submission policy: Multiple submissions with ECAI is allowed if this is clearly indicated on a front page preceding the paper itself. In borderline cases single submissions will be preferred over multiple submissions. In case of multiple acceptance the author(s) are strictly required to withdraw their paper from all but one event.

Notification of acceptance or rejection of submitted papers will be emailed to the corresponding author by May 21, 2004.

Conference Proceedings

The conference proceedings will be published and distributed by IOS Press. The authors will be responsible for producing camera-ready copies of papers, conforming to the STAIRS'04 formatting guidelines, for inclusion in the proceedings. The deadline for receipt of the camera-ready copy is June 4, 2004.

For each accepted paper, at least one author, and most preferably one of the beginner researchers involved in the work, is required to attend the conference to present the paper.

All the details of the submission process as long as the submission guidelines, social events, review process, etc. will appear in the Conference Web Pages at URL:

<http://www.dsic.upv.es/ecai2004/stairs04>

Important dates

Title and abstract due to the PC co-chairs:	April 1, 2004
Paper submission deadline:	April 7, 2004
Notification of acceptance sent to authors:	May 21, 2004
Final paper due:	June 4, 2004
Symposium venue:	August 23-24, 2004

Program Co-Chairs:

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