Call for Proposals

2007 AAAI Spring Symposium Series

Sponsored by the American Association for Artificial Intelligence

AAAI invites proposals for the 2007 Spring Symposium Series, to be held March 26-28, 2007 at Stanford University, California.

The Spring Symposium Series is an annual set of meetings run in parallel at a common site. It is designed to bring colleagues together in an intimate forum while at the same time providing a significant gathering point for the AI community. The two and one half day format of the series allows participants to devote considerably more time to feedback and discussion than typical one-day workshops. It is an ideal venue for bringing together new communities in emerging fields.

The symposia are intended to encourage presentation of speculative work and work in progress, as well as completed work. Ample time should be scheduled for discussion. Novel programming, including the use of target problems, open-format panels, working groups, or breakout sessions, is encouraged. Working notes will be prepared, and distributed to the participants. At the discretion of the individual symposium chairs, these working notes may also be made available as AAAI technical reports following the meeting. Most participants of the symposia will be selected on the basis of statements of interest or abstracts submitted to the symposia chairs; some open registration will be allowed. All symposia are limited in size, and participants will be expected to attend a single symposium.

Proposals for symposia should be between two and five pages in length, and should contain:

- A title for the symposium.

- A description of the symposium, identifying specific areas of interest, and general symposium format.

- The names and addresses (physical and electronic) of the organizing committee: preferably three or more people at different sites, all of whom have agreed to serve on the committee.

- A list of potential participants that have been contacted and that have expressed interest in participating. A common way of gathering potential participants is to send email messages to email lists related to the topic(s) of the symposium. Note that potential participants need not commit to participating, only state that they are interested.

Ideally, the entire organizing committee should collaborate in producing the proposal. If possible, a draft proposal should be sent out to a few of the potential participants and their comments solicited.

Approximately eight symposia on a broad range of topics within and around AI will be selected for the 2007 Spring Symposium Series. All proposals will be reviewed by the AAAI Symposium Committee: Alan Schultz (Naval Research Lab), chair; Marjorie Skubic (University of Missouri-Columbia), cochair; and Karen Myers, associate chair. The criteria for acceptance of proposals include:

Perceived interest to the AAAI community. Although AAAI encourages symposia that cross disciplinary boundaries, a symposium must be of interest to some subcommunity of the AAAI membership. Symposia that are of interest to a broad range of AAAI members are also preferred.

Appropriate number of potential participants. Although the series supports a range of symposium sizes, the target size is around 40–60 participants.

Lack of a long-term ongoing series of activities on the topic. The Spring Symposium Series is intended to nurture emerging communities and topics, so topics that already have yearly conferences or workshops are inappropriate.

An appropriate organizing committee. The organizing committee should have (1) good technical knowledge of the topic, (2) good organizational skills, and (3) connections to the various communities from which they intend to draw participants. Committees for cross-disciplinary symposia must adequately represent all the disciplines to be covered by the symposium.

Accepted proposals will be distributed as widely as possible over the subfields of AI, and balanced between theoretical and applied topics. Symposia bridging theory and practice and those combining AI and related fields are particularly solicited.

Symposium proposals should be submitted as soon as possible, but no later than April 21, 2006. Proposals that are submitted significantly before this deadline can be in draft form. Comments on how to improve and complete the proposal will be returned to the submitter in time for revisions to be made before the deadline. Notifications of acceptance or rejection will be sent to submitters around May 5, 2006. The submitters of accepted proposals will become the chair of the symposium, unless alternative arrangements are made. The symposium organizing committees will be responsible for:

- Producing, in conjunction with the general chair, a call for participation and registration brochure for the symposium, which will be distributed to the AAAI membership

- Additional publicity of the symposium, especially to potential audiences from outside the AAAI community

- Reviewing requests to participate in the symposium and determining symposium participants

- Preparing working notes for the symposium

- Scheduling the activities of the symposium

- Preparing a short review of the symposium, to be printed in AI Magazine

AAAI will provide logistical support, will take care of all local arrangements, and will arrange for reproducing and distributing the working notes. Please submit your symposium proposals by electronic mail (no postal submissions), and inquiries concerning symposia, to:

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March 26–28, 2007 ❧ Stanford University ❧ Stanford, California

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