The AAAI-99 Program Committee invites proposals for the Workshop Program of the American Association for Artificial Intelligence's Sixteenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-99).

Workshops will be held at the beginning of the conference, July 18-19, 1999. Workshop participants will have the opportunity to meet and discuss issues with a selected focus — providing an informal setting for active exchange among researchers, developers and users on topics of current interest. Members of all segments of the AI community are encouraged to submit proposals.

To foster interaction and exchange of ideas, the workshops will be kept small, with 25-50 participants. Attendance is limited to active participants only. The format of workshops will be determined by their organizers, who are encouraged to leave ample time for general discussion. Workshops will typically be one full day in length, although half-day and two-day proposals will be considered.

Proposal Content

Proposals for workshops should be about two (2) pages in length, and should contain:

- A description of the workshop topic. Identify the specific issues on which the workshop will focus.
- A brief discussion of why the topic is of particular interest at this time.
- A brief description of the proposed workshop format, regarding the mix of events such as paper presentations, invited talks, panels, and general discussion.
- An indication as to whether the workshop should be considered for a half-day, one or two-day meeting.
- The names and full contact information (e-mail and postal addresses, fax and telephone numbers) of the organizing committee — 3 to 4 people knowledgeable in the field — and short descriptions of their relevant expertise. Strong proposals include organizers who bring differing perspectives to the workshop topic and who are actively connected to the communities of potential participants.
- A list of potential attendees.

Workshops are an excellent forum for exploring emerging approaches and task areas, for bridging the gaps between AI and other fields or between subfields of AI, for elucidating the results of exploratory research, or for critiquing existing approaches. Because workshops are intended for focused exploration of special topics, topics that are already the subject of regular meetings are not appropriate.

Workshop Organization

Workshop organizers will be responsible for:

Producing a call for participation. The Call is due November 13, 1998. This Call will be mailed to AAAI members by AAAI and placed on the AAAI web. Organizers are responsible for additional publicity such as distributing the Call to relevant newsgroups and electronic mailing lists, and especially to potential audiences from outside the AAAI community.

Selecting participants. Workshop attendance is by invitation of the organizers. Selection of attendees will be made by the organizers on the basis of submissions due March 12, 1999. Workshop organizers will need to provide AAAI with a preliminary list of the participants by April 16, 1999.

Coordinating the production of the workshop notes. AAAI provides a small budget to cover publication, mailing and administrative support. AAAI can reproduce and mail copies of the working notes if materials are received by May 21, 1999. Working notes may contain a collection of statements by participants or other relevant material, but are limited to a total of 200 pages.

Workshop organizers who want to publish the papers from their workshop (or significant portions of it) will have the opportunity to do so through the AAAI Press. The Press (which retains the right of first refusal to publish) will furnish details of its program to interested organizers and authors.

AAAI will provide logistic support, and meeting places for the workshops, and will determine the dates and times of the workshops. AAAI reserves the right to drop any workshop if the organizers miss the above deadlines. Workshops are not to be used as a vehicle for marketing products. All workshop participants must register for the AAAI-99 Technical Program.

Proposal Submission

Workshop proposals should be submitted as soon as possible and must be received no later than October 9, 1998. Plain text e-mail submissions are preferred. Organizers will be notified of the committee's decision by October 30, 1998.

The Workshop Program is Chaired by David B. Leake of Indiana University. Please submit workshop proposals and address inquiries concerning workshops to:

David B. Leake
Computer Science Department
Lindley Hall 215, Indiana University
Bloomington, IN 47405
Tel: 812-855-9756
Fax: 812-855-4829
leake@cs.indiana.edu