

Call for Papers

First International Conference on Computational Cultural Dynamics

<http://www.umiacs.umd.edu/research/LCCD/call-for-papers.html>

Computer technology is leading to sweeping changes in how we can reason about groups in diverse cultures. Examples include computer systems to aid researchers in gathering data about different cultural groups, learning the intensity of opinions that those groups have on various topics, building/extracting models of behavior of those groups, and continuously refining those behaviors through shared, multi-person, learning experiences.

These developments are inherently cross-disciplinary. They blend the behavioral and social sciences—fields such as political science, psychology, journalism, anthropology, and sociology—with technological fields such as computer science, computational linguistics, game theory, and operations research.

Currently, many of these research communities are largely unconnected. There is a need to bring them together to help forge a common understanding of principles, techniques, and application areas. That is the purpose of this conference.

Papers are solicited on computational models for cultural dynamics, and also on applications where such models may be expected to be useful in enhancing cultural sensitivity. Examples of the latter are (but are not restricted to):

- understanding the social patterns that influence the spread of diseases;
- understanding other cultures in order to facilitate international collaboration;
- preventing crime and reducing conflict;
- enhancing understanding the performance of governmental and non-governmental organizations;
- improving the quality of life among groups in diverse multi-ethnic societies;
- assessing the effectiveness of aid programs in a cultural context;
- aiding governmental missions that involve contact with diverse cultural groups;
- recovery from conflicts and disasters.

Paper Submission and Publication:

Authors are invited to submit 10-page extended abstracts, for review by the program committee. All

accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings, which will be published by AAAI. Further details of submission procedures will be posted at the conference web site.

Deadlines:

- April 15, 2007: extended abstracts due
- May 20, 2007: notification of acceptance/rejection
- June 17, 2007: final camera-ready submissions due
- June 22, 2007: deadline for early registration at reduced fee of \$100; thereafter the fee is \$175.

August 27, 2007: conference starts

August 28, 2007: conference ends

Program chairs:

- Dana Nau, Computer Science, Univ. of Maryland
- Jonathan Wilkenfeld, Government and Politics, Univ. of Maryland

Program committee:

- Gary Ackerman, Center for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, Univ. of Maryland
- Kirstie Bellman, Aerospace Corporation
- Claudio Cioffi-Revilla, Computational Social Sciences, George Mason University
- Sarit Kraus, Computer Science, Bar-Ilan Univ.
- Arie Kruglanski, Psychology, Univ. of Maryland
- Shahmahmood Miakhel, UN Mission to Afghanistan
- Jennifer Perry, Defense Threat Reduction Agency
- Antonio Picariello, Computer Science, Univ. of Naples
- Barry Silverman, Systems Engineering, Univ. of Pennsylvania
- V.S. Subrahmanian, Computer Science, Univ. of Maryland
- Amy Weinberg, Linguistics, Univ. of Maryland

This conference is sponsored by the University of Maryland Institute for Advanced Computer Studies

(UMIACS) and the Laboratory for Computational Cultural Dynamics (LCCD).