



Call for Thematic Tracks

EPIA'2009 – 14th Portuguese Conference on Artificial Intelligence

The *14th Portuguese Conference on Artificial Intelligence, EPIA'2009*, will take place at the University of Aveiro in October 12-15, 2009. As in previous years, this international conference is hosted with the patronage of the Portuguese Association for Artificial Intelligence (APPIA). The purpose of this conference is to promote research in all areas of Artificial Intelligence (AI), covering both theoretical/foundational issues and applications, and the scientific exchange among researchers, engineers and practitioners in related disciplines.

Conference format

To promote discussions among participants, the coming conference will be structured as a set of thematic tracks. In addition to the parallel sessions for the different tracks, there will be plenary sessions with invited lectures given by leading scientists. Depending on the number of tracks, up to 3 parallel sessions may be scheduled.

Submitted papers should be prepared according to the formatting instructions of Springer LNAI series, with a maximum of 12 pages for full papers. Short papers with a maximum of 4 pages may be allowed in some tracks.

A selection of high quality full papers presented in the different tracks is expected to appear in a book published by Springer, in the LNAI series. All remaining papers presented at the conference will be published in a conference proceedings book.

Thematic tracks

The worldwide AI research community is invited to submit proposals of thematic tracks for the *14th*

Portuguese Conference on Artificial Intelligence.

Thematic tracks are intended to provide an informal environment that fosters the active cross-fertilization of ideas between researchers within specific sub-areas of AI, including theoretical/foundational, integrative, application-oriented and newly emerging areas.

Each track is coordinated by an Organizing Committee composed of, at least, two researchers in the field, from different institutions. The organizers should also create an international Program Committee for the track, with recognized researchers within the track's scientific areas.

The selection of thematic tracks will be performed by the Program Chair and the General Chairs in consultation with the Advisory Committee. We aim to build a strong, well-balanced conference program. If there are significant thematic gaps in the program after the track proposal submission closes, the chairs may actively solicit additional proposals.

More detailed and up-to-date information may be found at the EPIA 2009 website (<http://epia2009.appia.pt>).

Organization

General Chairs

Luís Seabra Lopes, UA, Portugal
Nuno Lau, UA, Portugal
Pedro Mariano, UA, Portugal

Program Chair

Luís Rocha, Indiana University, USA

Advisory Committee

Amílcar Cardoso (UC, Portugal)
Arlindo Oliveira (IST, Portugal)
Carlos Ramos (IPP, Portugal)
Ernesto Costa (UC, Portugal)
Eugénio Oliveira (UP, Portugal)
Gabriel Pereira Lopes (UNL, Portugal)
Gaél Dias (UBI, Portugal)
Hélder Coelho (UL, Portugal)
José Carlos Maia Neves (UM, Portugal)
José Carlos Príncipe (USF, USA)
José Manuel Machado (UM, Portugal)
Luís Camarinha-Matos (UNL, Portugal)
Luís Correia (UL, Portugal)
Luís Moniz Pereira (UNL, Portugal)
Manuel Filipe Santos (UM, Portugal)
Manuela Veloso (CMU, USA)
Pavel Brazdil (UP, Portugal)
Pedro Barahona (UNL, Portugal)
Pedro Rangel Henriques (UM, Portugal)
Salvador Abreu (UE, Portugal)

Assignment of responsibilities

The Organizing Committee of each track will be responsible for:

- Producing and distributing the Call for Papers (CfP) for the track open to all members of the AI community. The CfP should specify as submission guidelines those established for the conference, with the option of allowing short papers. As soon as available, the CfP should be sent in PDF format to epia2009@det.ua.pt.
- Coordinating the review process for the papers submitted to the track, ensuring that each paper is reviewed by at least three program committee members.
- Assisting the EPIA2009 Program Chair in the paper selection process.
- Delivering final versions of papers accepted for the track in accordance with the guidelines and deadlines defined by the EPIA 2009 organizers.
- Coordinating track session chairing assignments.
- Presenting a short report of the track (15 min) at a plenary session of the conference.

The EPIA 2009 organization will arrange:

- A meeting place for the track sessions.
- Publishing the track papers.
- A web-based tool to support the entire scientific organization process (paper submission, paper reviewing, paper selection, etc.).

In case of any disagreement over procedures or arrangements, the EPIA 2009 organizers will have final authority. The EPIA 2009 organizers reserve the right to cancel any track if deadlines are missed, or if the number of registered attendees is too low to support the costs related to organizing and running the track.

Proposal contents

Track proposals should not exceed 3 pages and should contain the following information:

- Thematic track title.
- A brief description of the specific scientific/technical scope of the track. (max 500 words)
- A list of topics of interest (max 20 topics)
- The reasons the track should be held within EPIA'2009.
- Name, postal address, phone and fax numbers and email address of all the members of the track Organizing Committee.
- Identification of the member of the track Organizing Committee who is the contact person.
- The list of members of the track Program Committee.
- A preliminary version of the track Call for Papers.
- The planned format (e.g., invited talks, paper presentations, panel discussions, etc.) and duration of the track.
- Planned forms of publicizing the track.
- A list of audio-visual or technical requirements and any special room requirements.
- Specific initiatives to support and improve the quality of the overall conference.

Important dates

- Deadline for track proposals: Nov. 15, 2008
- Notification of track acceptance: Jan. 10, 2009
- Deadline for paper submission: April 15, 2009
- Notification of paper acceptance: May 31, 2009
- Deadline for final versions: July 15, 2009
- Conference dates: October 12-15, 2009

Proposal Submission

Track proposals should be submitted electronically, in PDF, to epia2009@det.ua.pt. The deadline for track proposals is November 15, 2008.