

Proceedings of the 18th Irish Conference on
Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science

Sarah Jane Delany and Michael Madden (eds)

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AICS 2007

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Preface

These proceedings contain the papers that were accepted for publication at AICS-2007, the 18th Annual Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science, which was held in the Dublin Institute of Technology; Dublin, Ireland; on the 29th to the 31st August 2007. AICS is the annual conference of the Artificial Intelligence Association of Ireland (AIAI). Since its inception in 1988, it has provided a forum for the exchange of ideas and the presentation of results relating to work conducted in Ireland and worldwide.

The conference spans both basic and applied research in the areas of Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science, broadly construed. This year's papers covered topics including constraint satisfaction, artificial life, intelligent user interfaces, information retrieval, machine learning, and multi-agent systems. All submissions were reviewed by three anonymous reviewers; 45% were accepted for oral presentation, 24% were accepted for poster presentation and the remaining 31% were not accepted.

This year's conference also featured thought-provoking and interesting keynote talks by two distinguished AI researchers. Dr Mehran Sahami, a senior research scientist from Google, spoke about trends in making use of large Web datasets and the potential they offer for further advancing research and development in Artificial Intelligence. Dr Eamonn Keogh, a professor in the University of California, Riverside, spoke about the lack of reproducibility of results in data mining and machine learning and argued that this is crippling research progress, and allowing a large number of false research findings go unchallenged and enter the popular consciousness as true..

We thank all authors for submitting their work to AICS, and the PC members and additional reviewers who all provided thoughtful analyses and critiques of the submissions. We are also grateful for the help and support we received from DIT's School of Computing, in particular the administrative support from Denise Murray and technical support from Michael Gleeson. We also appreciate the advice received from Derek Bridge, Chair of AIAI, and other members of AIAI who have organised this conference previously.

We sincerely thank this year's sponsors of AICS: Dublin Institute of Technology, School of Computing; Enterprise Ireland, ARC Informatics Commercialisation Team; and Google. Their financial support has enabled the participation of our keynote speakers, the provision of a substantial prize for best paper, and a convivial social programme, while ensuring that participation remained affordable for attendees.

Finally, we are grateful to all of the researchers who support AICS each year by their attendance at the conference, and we hope that the papers in these proceedings will be a useful resource to AI and Cognitive Science researchers internationally.

Michael Madden & Sarah Jane Delany
AICS-2007 Programme Chairs
August 2007.

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