

Title:

Student Travel Support for IUI 2016

Conference:

Intelligent User Interfaces 2016

Sonoma, CA

People:*Student Consortium Chairs:*

Tracy Hammond (Texas A&M University)

Aaron Adler (BBN Technologies)

Conference General Chairs:

Jeffrey Nichols (Google)

John O'Donovan (University of California, Santa Barbara)

Jalal Mahmud (IBM)

IUI Steering Committee Chair:

Michelle Zhou (Juji)

SIGCHI CMC Champion:

Elizabeth Churchill

Subject matter:

We request funding to support student travel to the 2016 IUI Student Consortium and accompanying conference.

The IUI 2016 Student Consortium is similar to the Doctoral Consortium typical to many conferences, but open to students working towards post-graduate degrees at any level. The consortium provides an opportunity for Master's and Doctoral students to present and receive feedback about their research in an interdisciplinary workshop, under the guidance of a panel of mentors selected from senior people in the field. We invite students who feel they would benefit from this kind of feedback on their research to apply for this unique opportunity to share their work with students in a similar situation as well as senior researchers in the field. The strongest candidates will be those who have a clear topic and research approach, and have made some progress, but who are not so far along in their research that they can no longer make changes.

The objectives of the student consortium are to:

1. Provide a supportive setting to provide/receive feedback on students' current doctoral and masters' research and guidance on future research directions
2. Offer each student comments and fresh perspectives on their work from researchers and students outside of their own institution
3. Promote the development of a supportive community of scholars and a spirit of collaborative research
4. Contribute to the conference goals through interaction with other researchers and conference events

The consortium will consist of 1) research presentations by the student participants, 2) panels and interactive advice talks by senior researchers, 3) active mentoring experiences through working one-on-one interactions and working lunches, 4) networking opportunities throughout the conference, and 5) presentation of their ideas during a poster session at the conference.

To apply for the Student Consortium, students must submit:

1. A brief cover letter containing full name, contact details, affiliation, webpage, expected graduation date and target degree, the name of thesis advisor, gender (optional), home country (optional), and whether or not a member of an underrepresented minority group (optional) (one page maximum).
2. A document describing their thesis/dissertation research plan and the progress thus far. This document will be in standard ACM Extended Abstract format (<http://chi2015.acm.org/authors/format/#extendedformat>) and no more than four pages in length.
3. A two-page CV
4. A letter of recommendation from the thesis or doctoral advisor sent separately by email to the Student Consortium Co-Chairs at studentconsortium2016@iui.acm.org.

Funding:

We are requesting US\$10k to support the students participating in the consortium. The money shall be used for student travel and on-site networking meals.

Student Travel (\$9,000-\$9,500):

The majority of the funding will be used to provide travel support for attending students. The conference will include:

Mentoring/Networking Working Meals (\$500-\$1,000):

A small amount of the funding to allow for three group meals during the conference.

- The first is a working lunch (March 10) to allow the participants to make the most of their time at the consortium and continue working.
- The second will be an interactive dinner (March 10) held after the event to help develop a sense of community amongst this year's participants and encourage future leadership amongst them.
- The third will be a networking lunch during the first day of full conference (March 8) where the participants will be broadly broken up into two groups according to research interests. For each of the group, 3-5 famous researchers will also be invited to attend the lunches. This initial networking event will provide the participants valuable networking experiences that will influence their entire conference experience.
- Because we believe the last opportunity will be of value to all participants, we will suggest "Birds of a Feather" lunches for future days of the conference. One of these will include an alumni lunch of past participants of the IUI student consortium, allowing previous recipients to give back to the IUI community.

Expenses details:

Travel:

The majority of the funding will be used to support student travel to the conference. While travel funding will be open to all graduate students, priority will be given to students who have been selected to participate in the student consortium. In the unlikely event that there is funding remaining, students who are first authors on an accepted paper will have second priority for the funding.

In order to receive funding, students must submit the following information:

- 1) A detailed description of their expected costs, including a print out of current airfare costs, details about which hotel they are planning on staying in and if they are sharing a room and expected meal expenses. Students will be expected to use the cheapest available airfare and share rooms (When possible, we will aid in room matches if needed.).
- 2) A copy of their submission to the student consortium and/or a copy of any papers submitted to the conference for consideration. (All recipients must have either applied for

the student consortium or applied for being a co-author on a paper submitted to the conference.)

- 3) A letter of recommendation for the travel award from their advisor. (Note that the same advisor letter can be used for both the student travel award and the student consortium provided it mentions both.)

For those awarded, we will supplement with in-kind support through free registration.

We expect participants to actively participate in entire conference, not just the consortium. They will be expected to volunteer briefly during the conference, such as serve at the registration desk. This not only benefits the conference but also provides valuable networking experiences for the attendees.

Since the distances that students will come will vary, so will the amounts received by the travel award recipients. We expect awards to range from \$500 for nearby participants to \$1500 for international participants. We expect to fund approximately 10 students.

Meals:

A small amount of funding will be used to fund mentoring meals for the students. We expect the meal costs to be (approximately) 1) March 10th working lunch: \$200, 2) March 10th mentoring dinner \$500, and 3) March 8th mentoring lunch \$300.

Relevance:

This project and funding is most relevant to graduate students selected for a travel award. However, the community as a whole will benefit from this funding, as it will ensure that the best and brightest graduate students are able to participate and become involved throughout the conference and become integral members of the research community. It will also help grow the community by allowing students who would not otherwise be able to participate in IUI to consider attending the conference.

Potential value:

Many graduate students do not have research funds to attend conferences. This funding will help to allow the best and brightest of those students to attend IUI 2016. Those students will have the opportunity to present their research to the senior members of the research community

and be presented with valuable mentoring and networking experiences. Participation in the student consortium and the conference as a whole will aid in each student's growth to be a future leader in research in intelligent user interfaces, and will also encourage them to be future leaders of the community as a whole, engaging them in the development of future student consortiums. Many past attendees of the student consortium are now significantly involved in the IUI and CHI community as community leaders.

For participating students, it can be very rewarding to receive this funding and be able to attend the consortium. Not only does an event of this kind offer direction to improve contribution and deepen potential impact, students also become more motivated to continue and extend their research, thus potentially increasing the likelihood of a pursuit of a career in academia. Given we are also intending to have senior researchers from industry give students feedback, we believe there is potential for increased industry-academia idea and career cross-fertilization.

Additional funding:

We are interested in, but not yet identified, other sources of funding. We are quite open to other suggestions. The conference will provide in-kind funding through free registration for those consortium attendees that are selected for a travel award.