Delft University of Technology

General chairs' welcome message

Amsaleg, Laurent; Huet, Benoit; Larson, Martha

Publication date
2019

Document Version
Final published version

Published in
MM 2019 - Proceedings of the 27th ACM International Conference on Multimedia

Important note
To cite this publication, please use the final published version (if applicable).
Please check the document version above.

General Chairs' Welcome Message

We are delighted to welcome you to Nice, France, for ACM Multimedia 2019, the 27th ACM International Conference on Multimedia. ACM Multimedia is the premier international conference in the area of multimedia within the field of computer science. Since 1993, ACM Multimedia has been bringing together researchers and practitioners from academia and industry to present innovative research and discuss recent advancements.

This year's conference delivers the cutting-edge research results, covering the latest findings in the field, for which the ACM Multimedia conference series is already widely known. In addition, we are offering some key innovations, which we would like to highlight in this welcome message.

We are proud to introduce, for the first time at ACM Multimedia, a Reproducibility Track, whose goal is to incentivize and support researchers in sharing resources that will help others to reproduce their work. The track is dedicated to publishing papers that document the reproducibility of work that has previously appeared at ACM Multimedia, and implements the ACM Artifact Review and Badging system.

Also, for the first time, the conference features a Sisters and Ambassadors session. This session provides a window on what is happening at other conferences of the SIGMM, as well as related conferences in other fields.

It is a special pleasure to host an innovative networking event at the conference, called "Meet the Chairs". The event will bring together newcomers with established members of the community in a "ConfLab", which is a natural interaction activity, which simultaneously serves two goals: allowing people to get to know each other and also creating a multimodal data set. The data set will be made available to the community to study multimodal research questions related to human behavior and communication. ConfLab serves as a model for best practices in ethical sourcing of data for multimedia research.

You will quickly notice that this year posters are a centerpiece of the conference. Reading posters and interacting with authors during poster sessions are a highly effective channel of communication of research results and discussion of findings. All conference papers will be presented as posters, which are hanging throughout the conference. We hope that you take advantage of the poster sessions, but also other breaks, to study the posters and to interact directly with the paper authors.

During the oral sessions, selected papers will be presented as 10 minute presentations, followed by a question and answer period. Make good use of this opportunity to ask the authors about their work. Other papers will be presented as two minute "flash" presentations. These presentations will direct the audience to specific posters for further interaction with the authors. There is no status distinction between these presentation modes. Selection of presentation format for accepted papers is based on breadth of interest and topical balance of the program.

Continuing ACM Multimedia's commitment to building diversity, this year's conference will feature a special conference-wide diversity event. Maria Menendez-Blanco and Pernille Bjørn of the Department of Computer Science, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, will make a presentation on their experiences in broadening the participation of women in computer science research. They will also offer an interactive installation, which supports discussions about inclusion in computer science, and actively contributes to building new perspectives beyond the narratives that currently dominate in our field.

We are pleased to have a diverse and interesting art exhibition at this year's conference, please take time to engage with and appreciate the art. We hope that you enjoy the lunch keynote of

Jean-Marc Chomaz of the Hydrodynamics Laboratory of CNRS/École Polytechnique, France who will introduce us to his world where art and science intertwine.

This year we are honored to welcome two distinguished morning keynote speakers. The opening keynote will be delivered by Jean Carrive of the National Audiovisual Institute of France (INA). Multimedia is an important part of the culture of a nation, and Carrive's keynote will discuss how Artificial Intelligence can be used to preserve audiovisual archives, which contain national treasure. The second keynote will be delivered by Mireille Hildebrandt of Free University of Brussels (VUB), Belgium and Radboud University, Netherlands. She will be introducing us to the new European General Data Protection Regulation, which has been receiving international attention, and explaining how this regulation works in support of the reproducibility of scientific research results.

In addition to the main track, the conference has tracks devoted to brave new ideas and to multimedia demos. As always, a particular highlight is the Open Source Software Competition and a Doctoral Symposiums offers the opportunity for young researchers to present and discuss their work with experts.

Acceptance statistics are presented in the following table:

	Reviewed	Accepted
Main track	936	252
Brave New Ideas	28	4
Demos	48	33
Reproducibility Track	9	4
Open Source Software Competition	10	6
Doctoral Symposium	6	3

The conference offers two panels. One panel has the aim of opening a discussion about "Ethical Challenges in Multimedia Research". Due to the critical importance of ethics, this panel is a plenary session. The other panel will look forward to the future of the field, deliberating "Challenges for Multimedia/Multimodal Research in the Next Decade".

No ACM Multimedia would be complete without Grand Challenges. This year we are very happy to offer seven different Grand Challenges. A special effort was made to focus on Challenges that will run for multiple years, allowing the community to build on the successes of past years in order to achieve comprehensive solutions.

On the tutorial and workshop days, eight tutorials provide the opportunity to learn about new directions in multimedia research, and stay up to date on the latest developments. We are also pleased to offer a diverse set of 10 workshops which cover a range of cutting-edge topics important for the field of multimedia.

A conference such as ACM Multimedia is made possible by the expertise, dedication, and hours of hard work of a large number of people. We would like to extend a resounding word of thanks to everyone who contributed. It was our pleasure to collaborate with this year's outstanding organizing committee, who have worked to deliver an interesting and impressive program. We would also like to thank everyone who served as area chairs for their work in guaranteeing the novelty and scientific rigor of the main-conference program. A special thanks goes to the reviewers for their work in reviewing submissions across all tracks of the conference. Finally,

we would like to thank all the authors who submitted to ACM Multimedia. The heart of the conference is your research discoveries, which is what drives our field forward.

We close by wishing all conference participants a wonderful stay in the Côte d'Azur. This stretch of the Mediterranean coast has historically exerted an irresistible pull on the world, and appeals strongly to the human senses: the stunning visual beauty of the blue sea, the audio-visual magic of the Cannes Film Festival, and the flavor and color as Italian and French traditions collide to create the local cuisine. For the same reason, this area of France also exerts a pull on the ACM MM community, whose focus is content that addresses multiple human senses. Have a good conference, and a wonderful stay in France.

Laurent Amsaleg
ACM Multimedia'19
General Co-Chair
CNRS-IRISA, France

Benoit Huet
ACM Multimedia'19
General Co-Chair
EURECOM, France

Martha Larson
ACM Multimedia'19
General Co-Chair
Radboud University and
TU Delft, Netherlands