

## **Title: Student Travel Support for UMAP 2018**

### **Conference: User Modeling, Adaptation and Personalization 2018**

Singapore, 8-11 July 2018

<http://www.um.org/umap2018/>

#### **People:**

*UMAP Steering Committee Chair:*

Lora Aroyo, VU University, Amsterdam

*Conference General Chairs:*

Tanja Mitrovic, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

Jie Zhang, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

*Program Chairs*

David Chin, University of Hawaii

Li Chen, Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong

UMAP (User Modelling, Adaptation and Personalization) is the premier international conference for researchers and practitioners working on systems that adapt to individual users, to groups of users, and that collect, represent, and model user information.

#### **Subject matter:**

We request funding to support student travel to the UMAP 2018 conference and Doctoral Student Consortium. The Consortium provides an opportunity for the doctoral students to explore and develop their research interest under the guidance of a panel of distinguished research faculty. Doctoral students are invited to apply to present their research to the researchers in the field, who provide constructive feedback and advice. The UMAP community values the Doctoral Consortium highly, as this mechanism support a new generation of researchers.

Students are selected for the consortium based on their submissions, which are reviewed by senior researchers. Good quality applications are selected to be presented at the Doctoral Consortium Session as a part of the conference. Promising, but less well-developed applications are selected for presentation at a poster session.

Each student with an accepted submission is assigned a mentor who will provide feedback on the student's work and discusses the doctoral research with the student and the audience at the consortium.

To apply for the UMAP 2018 Doctoral Student Consortium, students will be asked to submit a paper that describes:

- The problem being addressed;
- The motivation for addressing the problem;
- The main contributions that the PhD project aims to achieve;
- The progress made to date, including a clear description of the proposed methodological approach and preliminary results, as well as the plan for further research;
- Expected outcome and impact of the research project.

#### **Funding:**

We are requesting US\$4,500 to support the students participating in the consortium.

#### **Expenses Details:**

The money shall be used for student travel and onsite expenses. The overall support per students would depend on the actual costs, but is estimated to be \$1,500. Students will be required to submit an application for funding, including their expected costs, information about the paper(s) accepted for the conference, a letter of recommendation from their advisor. For those awarded, we will supplement with in-kind support through free registration. The selected students will be expected to participate not only in the Doctoral Consortium, but the whole conference. They will also be expected to volunteer at the conference.

**Relevance:**

Although the selected students will directly benefit from the funding, the community as a whole will also benefit, as it will help group the community and support the next generations of researchers.

**Potential Value:**

Some doctoral students do not have research funds to attend conferences. The requested funding will allow us to support the best students (selected as described above) to attend UMAP 2018. The selected students will have the opportunity to present their research to the UMAP community and obtained high-quality feedback and advice. In this way future leaders will be supported.