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To:

SIGCHI Conferences board for the specialized conferences development fund

Support request for IUI 2020

Dear SIGCHI specialized conferences development fund committee,

IUI 2020 is going to be a special event, it will be the 25th IUI and this special event needs to be noted. IUI is traditionally generously supported by SIGCHI (50% by SIGCHI and 50% by SIGAI). Over the years, most of the times IUI also ended with a surplus. IUI 2018 set a record, both for submission as well as for participation. As a result, it ended with a surplus of about 60,000 USD. IUI 2019 ended with a surplus of about 30,000 USD as well.

IUI traditionally encouraged students to participate at the conference by setting a relatively modest registration fee for students + applying for support dedicated for supporting students' participation, especially from low-income countries.

IUI 2020 and IUI 2021 are going to be especially challenging as IUI 2021 is planned to take place in Chile and as part of getting ready for IUI 2021 and expanding IUI reach to south America, we would like to put a special emphasis on encouraging south American graduate students to submit papers and participate in IUI 2020, as a step towards IUI 2021 and IUI reaching out to south America.

In recent years, support was provided by SIGCHI and SIGAI, the German association of AI and the NSF and also from IUI budget.

As IUI is co-sponsored 50%-50% by SIGCHI and SIGAI, a separate support request will be submitted to SIGAI chairs.

25 years of IUI

Several researchers that published at IUI 1993, continued to publish at IUI and attend it over the years, are still active. We request funding to support the travelling of 2-3 researchers that were involved in IUI from early days until recently, to discuss and reflect of 25 years of IUI. Looking at the early proceedings of IUI. For that purpose, we ask for 3,000 USD so we can support their participation at IUI 2020.

Students travel support request

We request funding to support travel expenses of students to IUI-2020. This funding will be particularly beneficial for disadvantaged students, who otherwise would not be able to attend IUI 2020. These students will have the opportunity to present their research to the community and receive valuable feedback and networking experience. The community as a whole will also benefit from this funding, as it will guarantee that the best and brightest students are able to attend and participate in IUI-2020 and become integral members of the community.

In particular, we will give priorities to women and minority students, as well as students from countries with historically low participation rates in IUI, and, as noted above, a special attention will be given to south America. We are requesting US\$10,000 to support about 8-12 students for this kind of participation. As budget permits, the conference will aim to complement this funding with free registrations (and possibly increase the number of supported students). Students are required to submit a short abstract of why they are interested in participating in this workshop and how they can benefit from it.

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

1. Detailed description of their expected costs, including the airfares, accommodation, and expected meal expenses. The students will be expected to use the cheapest available airfare and (where appropriate) share rooms .
2. A copy of their submission to IUI.
3. A letter of recommendation from their advisor, detailing why additional funding would enable the student to participate in IUI.

Based on this information, a special committee (general chairs of IUI-2019, student volunteer chairs, and local chairs) will decide on the individual amount of funding for every applicant. We expect an average funding in the range of 500\$-1,500\$ (USD) for every awardee. Funded students will be expected to volunteer during the conference and help the conference organizers with casual tasks such as manning the registration desk, assisting the conference attendees, and helping during the sessions. Part of the funding will be dedicated to the organization of a special event for the undergraduate and High School students, if enough participants are attracted.

Sincerely,

Tsvi Kuflik

Chair, ACM-SIGCHI IUI steering committee

