Welcome!

Texas is Big ...
Everything Is Bigger in Texas

Texas Cappuccino

Thanks for the Honor

• Thank you, WSOM Steering Committee for the honor of hosting WSOM 2016.

• Thank you’all for traveling here from all over the world to share your research.

• Thank you, Professor Kohonen, for inventing SOMs and LVQs. We wish you were here.
Thanks for Support!

- Brown School of Engineering Rice University
- Department of Statistics, Rice University
- Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Air Force Institute of Technology, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
- Human Signatures Branch, 711 Human Performance Wing Wright-Patterson AFB, OH
- Brasil@Rice Program, Rice University
- Shepherd School of Music, Rice University
- Anonymous benefactor

WSOM 2016 Statistics

- # of participants > 45
- # of authors > 90
- # of countries = 15
- # of continents = 5
- We contribute 30 full-length papers to SOM literature
The SOM in Machine Learning Context

Number of Papers Published Using the SOM, 2010 - 2015

Credit: Prof. Guilherme A. Barreto

Salute to Our Invited Speakers

Professor Marie Cottrell
Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne

Professor Risto Miikkulainen
University of Texas at Austin

Professor Pablo Estévez
University of Chile and Millennium Institute of Astrophysics, Chile
Introducing

Professor Keith Cooper
Associate Dean Of the Brown School of Engineering, and Professor of Computer Science, Rice University

Greetings Remarks

Organizers, Contact Info
Listed on inside cover of brochure

Yeshaya Adler      Jose Vera-Garza
Logistics

First order of urgent business

• You must make your choice for box lunch for Thursday, before 10:30am today
  – Please fill out an order sheet with Phyllis or Jonathon
  – If you do not do it, you will get a surprise lunch 😊

• Internet: everywhere on campus, “Rice Visitor”, no password needed.

Proceedings

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Session Logistics

• Speakers in regular sessions:
  – Please check in with your session chair ahead of time
  – If you use a flash drive please contact Shaya
  – Kadim Taşdemir and Shaya will meet the first set of speakers here after Prof. Cottrell’s talk

• Session Chairs: We expect tight time control
  – Warn speaker at 20 min, cut off at 24 min. The last 1 min is for change of speakers

  – Help with this hard task ...
  – from our intelligent agent, Trigger

Group Photo, Lunch

• Before lunch today, group photo in front of Duncan Hall. Follow Shaya and Trigger!

• Lunch: Cohen House – follow us, have your badge and lunch ticket
  – See Duncan Hall and Cohen House on the campus map on the back cover of the conference brochure
Posters, Ballots

- Posters: Display before 3:30pm, ask Phyllis for a stand just outside this room

- Vote for “Best paper”, “Best poster”, “Best presentation” in regular sessions
  - Ballots in your packet, box will be at registration desk
  - Results & prizes will be announced at conference closing

This Evening

- 5:30pm - Walk to Turrell SkySpace
  - follow us (map on back cover of program)

- 6:00 pm - Move to the East Lobby of the Music School for wine reception
  - In case of rain we leave here at 5:45pm, directly to Music School.

- The shuttle will pick you up at the Music School at 7:00pm
- Or, you can walk to Rice Village to find dinner.
  - Maps and restaurant recommendations are on pages 21 – 23 of the conference brochure
Social Program Tomorrow

- VIP tour of the Johnson Space Center
- Banquet
- Bus leaves 1pm sharp
- Box lunch on bus

Consult the program and us for details

Tomorrow & After

- Further details in program, we will keep you updated
- Ask us for any details

HAVE A GREAT STAY!