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Institut des sciences
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CALL FOR POSTERS



THE MINDS AND SOCIETIES SUMMER INSTITUTE IN COGNITIVE SCIENCE

June 27th - July 6th 2008

Université du Québec à Montréal, Montréal, Canada

A Summer Institute organized by the Université du Québec à Montréal's Cognitive Science Institute

OVERVIEW

The main theme of the *Minds and Societies* Summer Institute is social cognition, understood both from a psychological and community point of views. From a psychological point of view, the fundamental problem of social cognition is to understand how the human mind processes social information; how it detects, categorizes and applies it in social situations. From a community point of view, the question is understanding how individual cognition is influenced, perhaps even improved and increased, or indeed hampered, by social interactions, for example by communicating and collaborating with intelligent agents, natural and artificial. The two dimensions of social cognition are linked, in that the psychological dimension makes the community dimension possible, and the latter can in return modify the first. The Summer Institute is divided in four tracks, each covering to days of activities:

- *Minds in societies: From culture to cognition and back* (June 28 and 29) will investigate link between individual cognition and the culture. We will be interested, inter alia, if (how and up to what point) it is essential to possess a theory of mind to develop culture?, and which are the cognitive conditions for the propagation of cultural products?, etc.
- *Minds in societies: Emotion as social bond* (June 30 and July 1st) will address the question of the importance and role of the emotions in the constitution and maintenance of social groups. We will ask, for instance, how does the presence of other individuals influence the expression and the perception of the emotions?, whether the development of co-operation is a factor in the evolution of certain moral emotions, such as anger or culpability?, etc.
- *Societies of Minds: Network and knowledge* (July 3 and 4) will look into cognitive communities: how can the existence of a social network, often not perceived by its members, nevertheless influence their behavior? or how do individuals share knowledge and thus build a collective cognitive good?
- *Societies of Minds: Cultural Contagion and Robotic Semiotics/Navigating the Noosphere* (July 5 and 6) will tackle the thorny issue of collective cognition. We will ask, for instance, whether community of individuals collaborating in cognitive tasks itself has emerging cognitive capacities, or why certain communities support, even increase the cognitive capacities of their members, whereas others cause some pathological forms of cognition.

POSTER SESSIONS

The poster session provides an excellent forum for authors to present their work in an informal and interactive setting. Posters are ideal for presenting speculative, late-breaking results or for giving an introduction to interesting, innovative work. Posters are intended to provide authors and participants with the ability to connect with each other and to engage in discussions about the work. Posters that present Work In Progress and draw important conclusions from practical experience are especially welcome. Posters are being solicited in areas including but not limited to:

- From culture to cognition
- Social Emotion
- Network and knowledge
- Cultural contagion and robotic semiotics
- Theories of mind
- Morality
- Knowledge communities
- Navigating the noosphere

REFEREED POSTER SUBMISSIONS

Successful posters are carefully designed to convey ideas. They should also attract the attention of attendees as they stroll past the displays. The goal is to develop a poster that encourages and facilitates small groups of individuals interested in an issue to gather and interact.

Posters will be reviewed and selected by the Poster Committee. An award will be given at the conference for the best poster.

A submission must include an abstract of up to 400 words. Including a rough sketch of the poster is recommended.

Authors of accepted submissions must provide a one or two page summary (and/or an electronic copy of the poster itself) for publication on the Summer Institute's web site. This brings the subject to an even larger audience. These summaries will be posted on the Summer Institute web site one week prior to Summer Institute to give all participants a chance to review the content of the presentation before the event.

Posters will be submitted on the conference website: www.summer08.isc.uqam.ca

All participants must register, including those presenting a poster.

PRACTICAL

- The posters will be located in a public area, close to the exhibition, viewable for all conference attendees.
- Posters shall fit in a 1.40x1.40m space. Push pins can be used to attach material to the board.
- A small table on which you can put leaflets or your laptop for a live demo is available upon request.
- The posters are to be set up before the first poster session on June 30th.
- Someone must be present at the poster to interact with conference attendees on at least one of the two official occasions: June 30th and July 4th. It is also possible, but not required, to be present at other times. Putting a time schedule on the poster is recommended.
- Advice for the preparation of a poster can be found on ISC's website: http://www.er.uqam.ca/nobel/cogsci2/isc/article.php3?id_article=218
Most of the content is in French, but some of it is in English.

IMPORTANT DATES – Please note Extended Deadline

SUBMISSION START	March 3 rd , 2008
SUBMISSION DUE	March 17 th , 2008
EXTENDED DEADLINE	March 31 st , 2008
NOTIFICATION TO AUTHORS	April 7 th , 2008
SUMMARY DUE	May 30 th , 2008
POSTER GO UP	June 30 th , 2008
MUST BE PRESENT TO DISCUSS POSTER	June 30 th and/or July 4 th , 2008

Please send all inquiries to summer08.isc@uqam.ca