SUBMISSIONS CALL: iConference 2021 – Diversity | Divergence | Dialogue
Beijing, China and online
March 2021
Conference website: https://ischools.org/iConference
Conference submissions: https://www.conftool.com/iconference2021

IMPORTANT UPDATE: iConference 2021 will be entirely virtual. Although initial plans called for an in-person element, the Renmin hosts and iSchools Board have decided a remote event is best in this time of travel uncertainty. All authors and applicants should be prepared for remote participation.

iConference 2021 is hosted by the iSchool at Renmin University of China and presented by the iSchools organization. All information scholars, researchers, and practitioners are encouraged to make submissions. In light of this, key submission deadlines have been extended, as noted below.

WHAT: The iConference is an annual gathering of a broad spectrum of scholars and researchers from around the world who share a common interest about critical information issues in contemporary society. Since 2005, the iConference has fostered interdisciplinary discourses that push boundaries of information studies. Visit the conference website for more information, including details on submission types, sample topics and links to past proceedings: https://ischools.org/iConference

THEME: The theme of iConference 2021 is Diversity | Divergence | Dialogue, and the aim is to bring together thinkers and leaders from academia, industry and not-for-profit organizations to discuss emerging challenges and potential solutions for information and data management in our rapidly changing world. Contributors are invited to examine the theme from social, economic and technological perspectives.

WHERE: The all-virtual iConference 2021 will take place entirely online over a span of several weeks in March 2021. Exact dates to be announced.

TRACKS: The iConference presents rigorously peer-reviewed research, as well as providing a venue for thought-provoking interactive sessions and colloquia. The 2021 program tracks are summarized below, and full detail and submission information can be found on the conference track pages: https://ischools.org/Program/

PUBLISHING Springer's *Lecture Notes in Computer Science Series* (LNCS) (https://www.springer.com/gp/computer-science/lncs) will publish full research papers and short research papers in the conference proceedings, which will be indexed by major services such as Web of Science and Scopus. Posters will be deposited in the open-access Illinois Digital Environment for Access to Learning and Scholarship (IDEALS) repository (https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/handle/2142/14872). Other

submissions will be archived to the conference website or other venues.

IMPORTANT LINKS
* Conference home: https://ischools.org/iConference
* Conference contact: iconference2021@ischools-inc.org
* Submissions: https://www.conftool.com/iconference2021
* Past Proceedings: https://ischools.org/Past-Proceedings
* Facebook: IConference: https://www.facebook.com/IConference/
* Twitter: @iConf | #iconf21

SUBMISSION INFORMATION
Submissions can be made via ConfTool: https://www.conftool.com/iconference2021

Unless otherwise noted, all submissions must be in English using the templates and/or formats described on our conference website. All work should be original and not previously published. Complete guidelines can be found on our conference website's track pages: https://ischools.org/Program/

Submission Deadlines
Full- and Short Research Paper submissions due: **October 19, 2020**
Poster, Workshop, SIE, Virtual Interactive Session, Archival Education, Doctoral Colloquium and Early Career Colloquium submissions due: **October 26, 2020**
Chinese Papers due: **October 26, 2020**
Student Symposium and Doctoral Dissertation Award submissions due: **October 19, 2020**

Notification of acceptance
Generally: mid-December 2020
Workshops notifications: mid-November 2020
Doctoral Dissertation Award notifications: mid-January 2021

FULL RESEARCH PAPERS
Full research papers should present new and original research results from empirical investigations and experiments, or from theory and model development. Each paper will be refereed in a double-blind process and accepted papers will be published in Springer's *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*. The full research paper judged the best of the iConference will receive the Lee Dirks Award for Best Paper, which includes a cash prize.
https://ischools.org/Full-Research-Papers
Submissions deadline: **October 19, 2020**

SHORT RESEARCH PAPERS
Short research papers encourage the iConference community to explore new, provocative and cross-cutting themes. They might include, but are not limited to, critical literature reviews of an emerging topic, theory building that is in the early stages of development, or new analysis or methods applied to existing data. Each paper will be refereed in a double-blind process and accepted papers will be published in Springer's in *Lecture Notes in Computer Science*.
https://ischools.org/Short-Research-Papers
Submissions deadline: **October 19, 2020**

POSTERS
Posters provide a short, interactive form of presentation and should present new work, preliminary results and designs, or educational projects. Authors will submit a detailed abstract for double-blind review. Selected authors will subsequently create a poster for presentation at the iConference that is based on their abstract.
https://ischools.org/Posters
Submissions deadline: **October 26, 2020**

WORKSHOPS
Workshops can be half- or full-day and are intended to foster interactive discussions, especially focusing on topics associated with the iConference 2021 theme. Workshops provide a great opportunity for attendees with shared interests who want an opportunity for intensive and timely discussions. Proposals must follow the guidelines on our website and will undergo single-blind review.
https://ischools.org/Workshops
Submissions deadline: **October 26, 2020**

SESSIONS FOR INTERACTION AND ENGAGEMENT (SIE)
These sessions provide an excellent opportunity to present ideas, facilitate discussions, and foster knowledge sharing in unconventional ways. Proposers are encouraged to step "out of the box" in proposing unique and provocative sessions. Formats can include, but are not limited to, panels, debates, fishbowls, research critique, performances, storytelling, roundtable discussions, wildcard sessions, demos/exhibitions, installations and more. We expect these on-site sessions to be participatory, informal, engaging, and pluralistic. Proposals must follow the guidelines on our website and will undergo single-blind review.
https://ischools.org/Sessions-for-Interaction-and-Engagement
Submissions deadline: **October 26, 2020**

VIRTUAL INTERACTIVE SESSIONS
For this new track we invite proposals for interactive sessions that are *entirely virtual,* in which all presenters and participants take part remotely via Zoom or other media. This requires a shift in thinking away from physical events like workshops and SIEs, and instead focusing on the unique capabilities and benefits of remote media. Think broadly! This is an opportunity to shape the iConference in 2021 and beyond. We're looking for creative approaches that can help expand the future of global collaboration across the information field.
https://ischools.org/Virtual-Interactive-Sessions
Submissions deadline: **October 26, 2020**

ARCHIVAL EDUCATION
This special track for iConference 2021 focuses on Archival Education. It will bring scholars, professionals and students from the archival community to discuss the theme "Archival Education in the Era of Digital Transformation." Proposals are invited for panel discussions to be held during the conference.
https://ischools.org/Archival-Education/
Submissions deadline: **October 26, 2020**

DOCTORAL COLLOQUIUM

The Doctoral Colloquium provides doctoral students the opportunity to present their work to their peers and faculty members, and engage with one another in a setting that is relatively informal, but that allows for the fullest of intellectual interactions. Students receive feedback on their dissertation work from faculty and student peers. Participation in the Doctoral Colloquium will be restricted to students who have applied for and been accepted into the Colloquium.
https://ischools.org/Doctoral-Colloquium
Submissions deadline: **October 26, 2020**

EARLY CAREER COLLOQUIUM
The Early Career Colloquium provides a high-quality learning and networking opportunity for early career researchers (e.g., assistant professors, early career lecturers, post-docs, or others in pre-tenure positions) who work in an iSchool or similar department, or who want to work in an iSchool. Participants will engage in collaborative inquiry and scholarly discourse to improve their possibilities for a future career in an iSchool. This year's colloquium will focus on the topic of "Collaborative Teaching and Research in Crisis." Prospective participants must apply and be accepted in order to take part.
https://ischools.org/Early-Career-Colloquium
Submissions deadline: **October 26, 2020**

CHINESE PAPERS
This special track for 2021 is an excellent opportunity for scientists, scholars and participants throughout China to present their latest research results, and to exchange views or experience not only in Library and Information Science, but also in other related areas. The theme for the Chinese Papers track is "Information Field in Discipline Integration." Submissions to this track are exempted from the English-language requirement and may be in Chinese.
https://ischools.org/Chinese-Papers
Submissions deadline: **October 26, 2020**

STUDENT SYMPOSIUM
The Student Symposium is a half-day networking and professional development event, which will be an opportunity for undergraduate and master's students to present their research in a friendly setting of peers and invited senior researchers. Students will receive feedback on their work and have the opportunity of networking with other conference participants and faculty members. Prospective participants must apply and be accepted in order to take part.
https://ischools.org/Student-Symposium
Submissions deadline: **October 19, 2020**

DOCTORAL DISSERTATION AWARD
Recognizing the outstanding dissertation of the preceding year, this competition is open to all iSchools member institutions. Each member school may submit one dissertation for consideration. The winner will receive a cash prize of $2,500, the runner up $1,000; both will be honored at the iConference.
https://ischools.org/Doctoral-Dissertation-Award
Submissions deadline: **October 19, 2020**

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

iConference 2021 Chair
Bin Zhang, Renmin University of China

iConference 2021 Honorary Co-Chair
Sam Oh, Sungkyunkwan University, Korea

Program Chairs
Yuenan Liu, Renmin University of China
Samuel Kai-Wah Chu, The University of Hong Kong
Hui Yan, Renmin University of China

Local Arrangements Chairs
Jian (Jenny) Wang, Renmin University of China
Hui Yan, Renmin University of China
Minghui Qian, Renmin University of China

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