

Policies and Organization of ECIT Conference Series

The policies, rules and organization of ECIT Conferences Series are in line with the best policies of other major academic conferences. Because the series of conferences (excepting the first) have been supported by the state, laws and regulations regarding the public funds apply in the first place. A brief list of the main rules is provided below.

Who are the main Co-Organizers

The main Co-Organizers of ECIT2006 are grouped in a consortium of Romanian universities, research institutes and learned societies, traditionally acting under the aegis of the Romanian Academy and the Romanian Ministry of Education and Research in the organization of these events. These institutions are: the Iasi Branch of the Romanian Academy, Technical University of Iasi – Department of Electronics & Telecommunications, University “Al.I. Cuza” of Iasi – Department of Mathematics and Department of Informatics, the National Institute of Inventics Iasi, the Institute for Theoretical Informatics and Computer Science of the Romanian Academy, the Commission for Fuzzy Systems & A.I. of the Romanian Academy and the Romanian Society for Fuzzy Systems.

Who supports the organization of the ECIT Conferences

All ECIT Conferences, excepting the first edition in 2000, have been partly supported by the Romanian Ministry of Education and Research and by the Romanian Academy – Iasi Branch. Also, logistical support has been provided by all the main Co-organizers. In 2004, a modest financial support has been offered by IEEE-Romania. The ECIT conferences bills have been balanced by sponsors and by the conference fees.

The financial matters are dealt with by the National Institute of Inventics – a state owned institute governed directly by the Ministry of Education and Research. The financial matters of the ECIT conferences are audited by the state. The expenses of the ECIT conferences include mainly the publication of the volumes and the expenses related to the conference (bags, banners, coffee breaks etc.). The financial policy of the conferences is to evenly close the balance. There were two exceptions: in one year the conference balance was positive and a computer was acquired and donated to the Technical University of Iasi to help organizing the next ECIT event; in another year, the main official of the conference had to cover the losses of about 1000 USD from personal money.

All fees and donations to the conference are submitted to the regulations regarding the public funds. No fee or donation is privately collected. Participants are required to pay the conference fees only to the bank accounts of the conference, which are accounts audited by the state. The only exception is fee payment at the conference site, when participants are required to ask for an official receipt. The fees collected at the conference are regulated by the same rules as those paid into the accounts.

Who are and how other Co-organizers are accepted

1. "Co-organizers" can be any academic or research institution, moreover learned societies or similar institutions. The main Co-organizers may invite institutions to act as co-organizers.
2. There are no financial obligations for the co-organizers. However, Co-organizers can also be supporters if they ask for. The supporting Co-organizers have a say on all financial matters and may have a benefit from the organization.
3. Co-organizers have no material benefits. Members of the co-organizers are eligible for some benefits, at the discretion of the supporting co-organizers.
4. There are two categories of Co-organizers: Co-organizers of ECIT and Co-organizers of a special event, like a workshop, special session, etc.

5. Co-organizers are expected to have representatives in the conference and to support the conference by providing referees, chairmen, speakers, etc.
6. Co-organizers are expected to provide a formal letter of intention or a letter of agreement to act as co-organizer of ECIT2006.
7. Co-organizers are expected to announce the event on their web site, or in other media they have.
8. Co-organizers benefit of fee reductions and may benefit of some support from ECIT.
9. Co-organizers have their say in matters on the event co-organized. If you are a Co-organizer, please send us the proposals and opinions you have on the organization and scientific matters.
10. Members of the co-organizers are submitted to all the rules applying to participants in ECIT.

Sponsors

Sponsors have to benevolently offer their help, with no preconditions except those in the official Sponsorship Contract. Sponsorship has to be agreed by the Committees of the Conference. The rejection decision of the Committee is final and needs not to be explained.

Committees

The Committees are proposed by the main organizers. The preliminary committees are approved by the Ministry of Education and Research when the conference grant is offered.

Special sessions, invited sessions, specialized symposia, workshops, round tables

The Co-organizers recognize the need of invited sessions, special sessions, specialized symposia and other similar special, focused sections of the conference. In general, such sections inside the ECIT Conferences have their own committees and specialized panels of referees. The papers in these sections of the conference will be reviewed by at least one member of the Conference Scientific Committee, beyond the reviewing process inside the specific event. Participants in such events have no specific privileges. The organization of such sections may be completely transferred to special event organizing committees. The ECIT Organizing Committee retains the right to supervise and amend the decisions of the special event organizing committees.

Twined events and constellations of events

ECIT Conferences are traditionally twined with ROSYCS Symposia and may be tightly associated with other reputed scientific events. Twinning is in the benefit of the participants, as they get the right to attend sessions of the twinned events. Moreover, twinning allows the events to minimize the organization costs and to increase the visibility of each event in the constellation of events jointly organized.

Who can participate in the ECIT Conferences

Anyone can submit papers to the ECIT Conferences. Once the paper is accepted, at least one author per paper should register and pay the conference fee. Ph.D. students and students can ask for a reduced fee, fee waiving, moreover, for some other form of support. Support offering is dealt with individually, based on the membership to a co-organizing institution, quality of submission, country of residence, and other criteria at the discretion of the organizing committee.

Referees

All the members of the Scientific Committee are required to act as referees. Referees are also selected among the authors of submitted papers (cross-refereeing); additional referees are selected from a pool of

specialists of the Co-Organizers or from other institutions. PhD students with proved scientific performance may also be involved in the reviewing process. Moreover, representatives of the industry can be involved in special cases.

How the papers are reviewed

Every paper is reviewed for scientific quality, novelty, and style. We make every effort to make sure that the referees are anonymous. The Review Form is public. Please check it on the web page of the conference.

Based on the quality of the papers and on their interest for the topics of the conference, papers may be rejected, accepted with minor changes and corrections, or accepted provided major corrections are made. When received after the deadline, the papers are normally rejected without any reviewing and needs not to be explained to the authors.

The referees are encouraged to provide advice to the authors on improving their papers whenever possible. Any hostile reviewing is strongly discouraged, regarded as non-ethical, and penalized by removing from the pool of referees.

Offensive responses of the authors are strongly discouraged and may be seen as non-ethical.

Publications

Accepted papers fall into several categories: papers accepted for presentation but not for publication in the CD Proceedings, because the formatting is improper, or because the paper reports results that are too preliminary, and papers accepted for publication in the CD Proceedings.

Papers accepted for publication in the CD Proceedings are further refereed by a set of guest editors for possible publication in edited printed volumes dedicated to specific topics or in special issues of journals. The selected papers are further improved and extended by the authors.

Publication is at the discretion of the Scientific Committee and of the Organization Committee. Their decisions are final and can not be contested. The decisions need not to be explained.

Copyrights

The authors are required to transfer the full copyrights to the ECIT Conference.

Ethics

Authors determined to have mislead the Conference, or to behave in a manner that is not conforming to the academic rules generally accepted in such events, may have their paper rejected and discussed in the Committees of the Conference, may have the right to participate in the Conference limited for one or several years, or may suffer the law punishment, in graver cases.

The Conference retains the right to make public the serious ethical offences. When submitting a paper, any author implicitly agrees with this rule. Authors may be required to submit a signed declaration that their papers strictly adhere to the ethics of scientific research and publications, including the declaration that the paper is original and produced by the authors mentioned on the paper.

The decisions of the committees of the conference are final in ethics matters.