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Prof. Mark J. Embrechts, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
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Prof. Okan Ersoy, Purdue University

Special Sessions

Bioinformatics and Computational Biology

Prof. Stefan Kremer, University of Guelph, Ontario
Prof. Okan Ersoy, Purdue University
Prof. Jack Yang, Harvard
Prof. Mary Yang, MIT

Infrastructure Systems Engineering

Prof. Halil Ceylan, Iowa State University
Prof. Yacoub Najjar, Kansas State University
Prof. Ghassan Abu-Lebdeh, Michigan State University

Geographically Structured Evolutionary Algorithms

Prof. Kenneth "Mark" Bryden, Iowa State University
Prof. Daniel Ashlock, University of Guelph, Ontario

Computational Public Health

Prof. Deborah Stacey, University of Guelph, Ontario
Prof. David Calvert, University of Guelph, Ontario
Prof. Shannon Majowicz, Public Health Agency of Canada
Ms. Victoria Edge, Public Health Agency of Canada
Ms. Caroline Dube, Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Mr. Mike Rimmer, QUESST, Ontario

Algorithm Competition

Binary Time Series Prediction Contest

Prof. Daniel Ashlock, University of Guelph, Ontario

Members

Prof. Levent Acar, University of Missouri-Rolla
Prof. Hojjat Adeli, Ohio State University-Columbus
Prof. Meilin Akay, Dartmouth College
Prof. Alice Armstrong, The George Washington University
Dr. Piero Bonissone, GE Global Research Center
Prof. Oscar Castillo, Tijuana Institute of Technology
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Prof. Rolf Eckmiller, University of Bonn-Bonn
Dr. Usama Fayyad, Microsoft Research
Prof. Colin Flanagan, University of Limerick
Prof. Dario Floreano, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology
Dr. David Fogel, Natural Selection, Inc.
Prof. Walter J. Freeman, University of California-Berkeley
Prof. Mitsuo Gen, Ashikaga Institute of Technology
Prof. John S. Gero, University of Sydney
Prof. Joydeep Ghosh, University of Texas-Austin
Prof. Bruce Golden, University of Maryland
Prof. Stephen Grossberg, Boston University
Prof. D. J. Gunaratnam, University of Sydney
Prof. Simon Haykin, McMaster University-Ontario
Prof. Thomas L. Hemminger, Penn State University
Dr. Muhammad Javed, Honeywell - ASCa, Inc.
Prof. Yukinari Kakazu, Hokkaido University
Prof. George Knopf, University of Western Ontario
Prof. Robert Kosma, The University of Memphis
Prof. E. V. Krishnamurthy, Australia National University
Prof. S. Lakshminivasan, University of Oklahoma
Prof. Stephen Levinson, University of Illinois-Urbana
Prof. Elfed Lewis, University of Limerick
Prof. Robert A. McLaughlin, Texas A&M Univ. - Kingsville
Prof. Patricia Melin, Tijuana Institute of Technology
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Prof. Jose Carlos Principe, University of Florida
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Dr. Tariq Samad, Honeywell Laboratories
Prof. Mika Sato-Illic, University of Tsukuba
Dr. J. David Schaffer, Philips Research Labs
Prof. Gursel Serpen, University of Toledo
Prof. Alice Smith, Auburn University
Prof. Kate Smith, Monash University
Dr. Donald Specht, Lockheed-Martin, Inc.
Dr. Adrian Stolca, Jet Propulsion Laboratory
Prof. John Taylor, Kings College London
Prof. Theodore Trafalis, University of Oklahoma
Dr. Kagan Turner, NASA Ames Research Center
Prof. Janet M. Twomey, Wichita State University
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Prof. Ronald Yager, Machine Intelligence Institute
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Dr. H. Georg Zimmermann, Siemens AG, Muenchen
Prof. Jacek M. Zurada, University of Louisville

ANNIE 2006

November 5 - 8, 2006

**INTELLIGENT SYSTEMS DESIGN: Neural Networks, Fuzzy Logic,
Evolutionary Computation, Swarm Intelligence, and Complex Systems
Systems Engineering Graduate Program - Smart Engineering Systems Laboratory
University of Missouri-Rolla, 1870 Miner Circle, Rolla, MO 65409-0370**

Dear Conference Participant,

On behalf of the Organizing Committee for the ANNIE Conference, I would like to invite you to enter a **Binary Time Series Prediction Contest** for the ANNIE 2006 Conference to be held in St. Louis, Missouri on November 5-8, 2006.

Time series prediction is a standard task for computational intelligence techniques such as neural networks. An entry to the contest is a predictor with an interface written in C or C++: `int Next_Bit(int Current_Bit)`; predictor will be scored on the ability to predict the next bit given the current bit for 20,000 bits, including 10,000 released for training. Training bits are available from Dr. Ashlock at the e-mail given below. The predictor may save bits internally. A brief description of the techniques used to create the predictor must accompany each entry.

Entries should be sent to Dr. Daniel Ashlock, Department of Mathematics & Statistics, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, (dashlock@ouguelph.ca). No more than four submissions by any one entrant will be permitted. **Participants are invited to submit papers on their technique, which will be refereed in the usual conference manner. All entrants must be present at the conference to win.**

Abstracts should be submitted electronically to ANNIE 2006 at annie@umr.edu. Your abstract should be received by **April 14, 2006**. Please reference the Algorithm Competition in your letter of intent. All papers are peer-reviewed by two referees.

Algorithm Competition organizer:

Daniel Ashlock, University of Guelph

Important deadlines for the ANNIE 2006 Conference:

April 14, 2006 - Abstract submission

May 30, 2006 - Paper submission

June 30, 2006 - Paper acceptance notification

July 31, 2006 - Camera ready paper submission

Please do not hesitate to contact me or the ANNIE Conference office at 573-341-6576 if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing you in the beautiful city of St. Louis, the Gateway to the West, next fall with its' rich culture of foliage, one-of-a-kind restaurants, sports activities, and the Gateway Arch.

Sincerely,

Daniel Ashlock
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