

Minutes of meeting for the ICA computational methods interest group business meeting

Prague 27 May 2018

Chair: Wouter Van Atteveldt

Vice-chair: Cindy Shen

Secretary: Frederik De Grove (minutes secretary)

General

Opening remarks from Cindy Shen - vice chair.

Minutes of meetings from ICA 2017 are approved without objections

Membership numbers

We have currently grown to 273 members. If we keep this up we can apply for division status next year (5% threshold for two years is needed to be able to apply).

Submissions

We received 100 submissions of which 63% were accepted.

We published special issue of computational methods and measures from last ICA. We are also in the process of publishing a similar issue in the Asian Journal of Communication.

Top Paper Awards

Top paper awards are introduced by Winson Peng. Winners were chosen by a panel with 3 members (names?). Each of these members reviewed six papers; this resulted in two papers that were recommended. Decision criteria included the use of cutting edge methods (e.g. deep learning), a clear guide on how to apply this method and grounding in theory.

The following two papers won the award:

Insert titles

Commented [f1]: Not sure what they were.

Updates from Peter Monge for the next ICA conference

Next ICA will be in Wahsington DC. May 24 to 28 (tentative date: to be confirmed)

Theme: communication beyond boundaries. Some approaches that will be encouraged are:

- Interdisciplinary and international papers and panels.
- Work that touches on porous boundaries with other fields.
- Engagement beyond the academy (more activism, policy issues, non-traditional organisations such as NOGs, industries, end-users).
- Next gen technology: A.I. robotics, internet of things, blockchain, neuroscience

There will be two hotels (all sessions in one hotel) – post conferences would be much appreciated rather than pre-conferences. DC has a number of good universities to organize them on.

The way in which the room blocks are released will be changed. Reservations will only be possible once the conference program is released.

Handbook series for ICA

One of the handbooks may focus on computational methods. People interested in editing are welcome.

Young scholar & early career representative

Due to ICA regulations we need to have a young scholar & career representative. Josephine Lukito is our ad-interim representative but several people have volunteered during the business meeting and it is decided to send out an e-mail to make it possible for participants to (self)nominate.

Information regarding officer positions.

Election chair and vice-chair

It is proposed to not hold an election this fall for chair and vice-chair but the fall after that. The group accepts this proposal.

Secretary

Frederik De Grove has served his two years as the group's secretary and will be replaced by Matthew S. Weber.

Discussion topics

- There are several questions regarding the top paper awards. Should we have other awards to be given out. Should we make a separation between applications and methods? Should we have a separate tool award? A general top paper award? A best student paper?
- Some people suggested to have open reviews (reviews shared with everybody). Popular vote shows that there is not enough support for this (voted by hand raising)
- ICA will provide 3+2 fee waivers. It is discussed how we shall deal with this. Only people that are members can apply. Sentiment goes towards application based method where the chairs decide. Needs can be declared when submitting paper.
- A discussion is held on the 5 submission limit for authors. The following three questions were asked:
 - Is it in any way an issue in our division. After discussion it seems that for our interest group this is not a big issue at the moment.
 - If it is, who is affected? PhD students? If anybody is affected it would mostly be faculty members.
 - Will it reduce diversity

In discussing how to go forward there does not really seem a general agreement. Five per lab? Three presentations? Three or five first authors? A majority voted in favour of limiting the number somebody can be first author. No real agreement was found for going from 5 to 3 presenters and very little people voted in favour of abolishing the rule.

- The lack of ethnic diversity is noted. It is decided to start up a task force that can look into this matter. An e-mail will be sent out to the members to apply.
- Next year ICA :

Commented [f2]: Not sure what the decision was on this onef.

- keep review system as it is.
- Session formats? Mostly high density sessions. Seven would be a good number. Downside is question time and not everybody gets questions. Some solutions might be research escalation session: you and mentor sit together and talk about your paper. Get more papers in the program. Brooke will be in charge of that.
- Members are asked to forward ideas on pre/postconferences. Those proposals go to ICA leadership. Following **ideas emerged but members are welcome to propose more via e-mail**:
 - Deep learning
 - Google machine learning and language
 - What about collaboration with other groups? Jonathan Zhu: collaboration with regional conferences?
- Should we recruit an officer for the website and social media. An e-mail for this will be sent out.
- Random announcement from the chair: tracking tool workshop 28/10 Amsterdam.

No other comments were made.

