



Call for Proposals for Organization of Social Simulation Conference

Introduction

The European Social Simulation Association (ESSA) invites institutions interested in hosting Social Simulation Conference (SSC) to submit their proposals. Deadline for proposals is April 15. The ESSA Management Committee (MC) will decide on the hosting institution in its meeting following the deadline. Selected potential hosts may be asked to make a presentation to the MC.

The Social Simulation Conference aims to provide an interdisciplinary forum for social scientists, theorists, applied researchers and simulation modelers to cooperate and exchange ideas concerning state of the art in methods and applications of computational social sciences.

Contents of the proposal

We encourage proposals to provide the following information:

- Name of host institution
- Proposed date of the conference. It is expected that the conference will be organized in September
- Person responsible for organization of the conference (Chair of Organizing Committee, single point of contact for ESSA MC regarding the conference) and experience with organizing events such as the SSC.
- Preliminary budget breakdown and planned fees (ESSA Members/ESSA non-members/students by early/late registration).
- Details of any sponsorship or support from the local area.
- Proposal of venue of the conference and information how it is suited to organization of conferences.
- Characteristics of the location of the conference (travel & accommodation)
- Planned important dates of the conference (Registration opens, Paper submission closes, Notification of acceptance, Final manuscript due, Early registration deadline).
- Proposed format of publication of conference proceedings.
- Proposed address of the conference website (it should be guaranteed that the website is accessible for a long period after the conference – permanent link to the conference site is maintained on ESSA website).
- Details of any scope for co-located events (e.g., in the past, Artificial Economics Conference was organized along with SSC conferences) and likely benefits derived from the co-location.
- Information if the organizer is willing to collocate ESSA Summer School.
- Proposal of keynotes for the conference (optional but welcome; ESSA can support conference organizers in suggesting and contacting keynotes).

Expected conference format

The conference should last five days from Monday to Friday. Monday should be reserved for, conference workshops (typically half-day events) and an Ice Breaker reception (during the evening). ESSA will also have a General Assembly during the conference week and hand out a few rewards (depending on the conference year, either 2 or 4). On Friday, the conference is usually closed at lunch time.

Typically accepted submissions have the following formats:

- **Long paper** – in the length of 10 to 12 pages, which should be comprehensive and consist of detailed presentation of theory, methodology and simulation results
- **Short paper** - in the length of 6 to 9 pages, which should be comprehensive and consist of detailed presentation of theory, methodology and simulation results
- **Extended abstract** – in the length of 3 to 4 pages, which presents the current topic in progress with enough detail to ensure proper evaluation
- **Poster** – usually concerning work in progress

You can expect to have around 100-150 submissions and participants during the conference. Each submission should be reviewed by at least two anonymous reviewers. In order to ensure that this process is smooth, it is recommended to invite around 80 reviewers, who customarily become members of Program Committee. You will get support from ESSA in identification of the list of possible reviewers.

The standard for SSC reviewing process is to manage it using EasyChair. ESSA provides to SSC organizers access to EasyChair Executive license and support from an experienced ESSA MC member. Data from the previous SSC can be imported to facilitate the handling of the Easychair process

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday the conference should host one keynote presentation. You can expect support from ESSA in identification and invitation of keynote presenters if this would be needed.

Regular presentations should be given during preferably up to three parallel streams of sessions. It is customary to invite ESSA members and ESSA Special Interest Groups (SIG) to organize special streams of presentations during the conference.

Usually, one evening (typically Thursday) is reserved for a conference dinner, which may be preceded by the yearly ESSA General Assembly. Preferably, payment for conference dinner should be included in conference fee. It is also customary to organize some social event on Wednesday evening. Usually, the social event requires a separate payment (not included in conference fee).

Typical conference fee levels from the past are given in the following table:

Category	Early registration	Late registration
Students	125 EUR	175 EUR
ESSA members	275 EUR	325 EUR
ESSA non-members	325 EUR	375 EUR
Business	425 EUR	475 EUR

ESSA support

The proposing party is fully responsible for organization of the conference, in particular for the budget and finances. However, you can expect the following support from ESSA during organization of the conference:

- Promotion of the conference among ESSA members and the wider social simulation community (organizers are strongly encouraged to promote the conference independently themselves).
- Support in finding members of Program Committee of the conference (who would serve as reviewers; Program Committee should be invited well in advance before the reviewing process starts).
- Support in identification and invitation of keynote presenters.
- Support in finding track and workshop organizers for the conference (particularly from ESSA's Special Interest Groups).
- Option to publish selected best conference papers in JASSS (subject to agreement with the editor of JASSS).
- Funding of "Best student paper" and "Best poster" awards and organization of Award Committee.
- Possibility of financial support for student participants (travel and conference fee grants); participants' proposals for funding are individually considered by ESSA MC.
- Organization of ESSA@Work during Monday.
- Support in contact with organizers of past ESSA conferences regarding: (a) the detailed breakdown of types of participants, (b) publication of conference proceedings and (c) conference expenses (please note, however, that significant local differences of costs should be expected).
- Handling of Easychair.

Social Simulation Conference Scope

The topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Applications of agent-based modeling in social sciences
 - Agent-based computational economics & finance
 - Conflict resolution & cooperation
 - Coupled human-natural systems
 - Diffusion of innovations
 - Dynamics of trust, social norm, structures, reputation & opinion
 - Epidemiology & pharma-economics
 - Group decisions & collective behaviors
 - Market design, mechanism design & auctions
 - Privacy, safety & security
 - Public policy & regulatory issues
 - Resource management, environmental practices & policy
 - Social emergence & evolution of institutions
 - Social media and volunteered information
 - Social networks and their dynamics
- Tools and methods for development of simulation models
 - Advanced distributed computing
 - Agent ontologies
 - Agent-embodied Artificial Intelligence
 - Model replication, verification & validation
 - Participatory & Human-in-the-Loop simulations
 - Simulation software & programming computational frameworks
- Techniques for visualizing, interpreting and analyzing simulation outputs
 - Coupling simulations and optimization methods
 - Data analysis software for simulations
 - Experiment design and data farming for simulations
 - Simulation metamodels
 - Statistical & data mining techniques for simulated data