The Doctoral Consortium

Twenty-Fourth International Conference on Case-Based Reasoning (ICCBR 2016)

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Preface

The Doctoral Consortium proceedings contains the research summaries that were presented at the 8th Annual ICCBR 2016 Doctoral Consortium which was held on Monday October 31st 2016 in Atlanta, Georgia, US. There were 10 accepted submissions consisting of (i) an application cover page, (ii) a research summary, (iii) a curriculum vitae and (iv) a letter of support from the student's advisor.

The objectives, progress, plans and references in each research summary were progressively refined according to feedback from two PC members. Feedback was organised into three broad areas: general outlook in terms of research hypothesis and proposed methodology; detailed comments specific to the student's project; and finally advice for the talk presentation.

Participants in the Doctoral Consortium were split into early-stage and later-stage PhD researchers. In advance of the DC the early-stage participants were assigned a mentor. A face-to-face pre-event meeting opportunity enabled all student-mentor pairs to refine their presentations. The later stage PhD participants were invited to give an informal presentation at this pre-event meeting to offer advice based on their experiences as a PhD student.

The ICCBR-16 DC began on October 30th with an informal meet and greet session followed by a discussion on shared student experiences. The evening ended with the DC participants and mentors meeting with other conference participants for dinner.

On October 31st, the formal program started with an invited talk by Dr Jonathan Rubin from Philips, entitled Impressions and Confessions of a Recent PhD Graduate in Industry. The next sessions featured 15-minute talks presented by the seven early-stage doctoral students on their research summary. Mentors had the responsibility of leading the question and answer session following each mentee presentation. The final session was dedicated to the later-stage participants and the ICCBR conference PC was notified of this in advance to encourage and promote feedback to the participants in advance of submitting their PhD theses. The presentations on the day covered a wide range of CBR topics including similarity and retrieval, prediction and explanation, process-oriented CBR, case-based maintenance and distributed CBR.

Many people participated in making the DC event a success. We wish to thank all our PC members who provided important and useful guidance to DC students, either as reviewers or as mentors. We are very grateful for the generous support of the National Science Foundation a significant sponsor of the ICCBR-16 DC which helped fund travel costs for our students from the US.

Finally thank you to all our DC participants. We had a number of returning PhD student participants which was a valuable indicator that the DC at ICCBR is a useful and beneficial event. We trust that the ICCBR-16 DC enhanced your interest in studying CBR and that the welcome and support from the CBR community has reinforced your interest in this field for the future.

October, 2016

Sarah Jane Delany Stefania Montani