

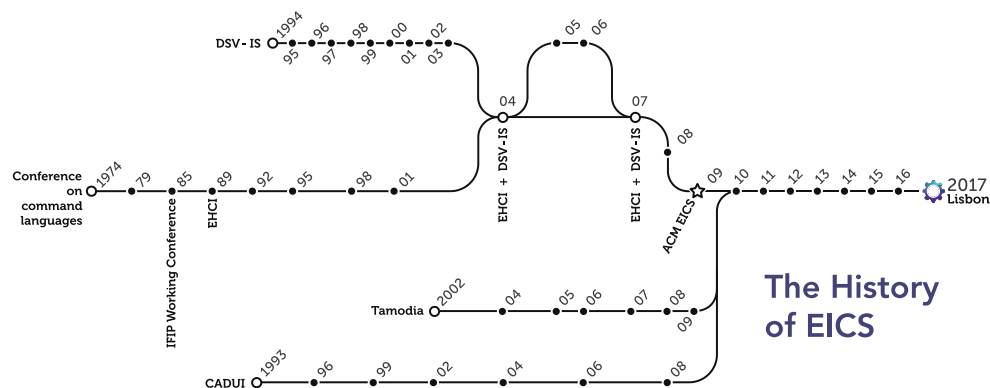
Welcome to the First Issue of PACMHCI EICS

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the first issue of PACMHCI EICS, which features full papers appearing at the 9th ACM SIGCHI Symposium on Engineering Interactive Systems (EICS'17). The conference takes place in Lisbon, Portugal on 26-29 June, 2017.

EICS gathers researchers that aim to improve the ways we build interactive systems. Building interactive systems is a multi-faceted and challenging activity, involving a plethora of different actors and roles. This is particularly true in the domain of HCI, where we continuously push the edge of what is possible, where there is a crucial need for adequate processes, tools and methods to build reliable, useful and usable systems that help people cope with the ever-increasing complexity of work and life. The primary goal of the EICS conference series is to provide a venue for novel and high quality contributions in this direction.

EICS is probably the longest running HCI conference in the field. Its starting point in history goes back as far as 1974 to an IFIP Conference on Command Languages held in Lund, Sweden, from July 29 to August 2. Although it only has been an ACM SIGCHI sponsored conference since 2009, EICS is a continuation and merge of a set of series of conferences, symposiums and workshops - most notably the IFIP WG 2.7/13.4 conference on Engineering HCI (EHCI) - that shared a common interest: the engineering aspects of HCI. The figure below shows a timeline of the conference and its parent conferences.

This issue represents a transition for the EICS publication model, where full papers have traditionally been submitted and reviewed once per year and appeared in conference proceedings. Going forward, and in accordance with the PACMHCI vision, there will now be multiple paper deadlines spaced throughout the year, and papers will be reviewed and decisions made within approximately two months. Accepted papers will appear in an issue of the PACMHCI EICS journal shortly after acceptance, and authors will be invited to give a talk on their work at the next EICS conference.



A benefit of this process is that authors may take advantage of the iterative reviewing model of a journal and the continuity that it provides. Authors of papers that are not accepted at one deadline but show promise will be encouraged to submit a revised version of their manuscript at a subsequent deadline, and the committee members and reviewers assigned to a paper will remain as constant as possible across revisions.

This issue contains papers accepted over two iterations of this new review process. The first round of reviewing received 40 submissions, of which 11 were accepted in that round (27.5% acceptance rate). Authors of papers that were not accepted were encouraged to submit a revised version to a second round deadline, to which 10 papers were submitted and 3 were accepted (30% acceptance rate). For many of those papers, authors received shepherding and guidance by a senior PC member. This shows the commitment of the EICS community to not only ensure high quality contributions at the conference, but also to educate and enable authors to write down and present their best work for this conference.

15 senior PC members selected reviewers from a set of expert program committee members to ensure high quality and insightful reviews for all papers in both rounds, and reviewers and committee members were kept as constant as possible for papers that submitted to both rounds. A physical program committee meeting with the senior PC members and paper chairs to discuss the full paper submissions in person was organized on March 17 in Paris.

We would like to thank all who contributed to PACMHCI EICS and EICS'17, including the senior PC members, reviewers, members of the EICS organizing committee, and the members of the EICS steering committee that pushed for EICS to become one of the first contributing conferences to PACMHCI. We would also like to thank the sponsors of EICS'17, especially ACM SIGCHI for their continuous support, and ACM Europe, INESC, TEC, NOVA LINCOS, Turismo de Lisboa and EPAL for contributing to the organization of EICS'17.

Finally, we would like to invite you to submit your work to a future deadline for PACMHCI EICS, the next of which will be July 2017. Also consider submitting to the other tracks of EICS 2018, and plan to attend that conference which will be held in Paris (France) at the end of June 2018.

We hope that you will find this issue interesting and thought-provoking.

Gaelle Calvary
Jeffrey Nichols
PACMHCI EICS Papers Chairs

José Creissac Campos
Nuno Nunes
EICS'17 General Conference Chairs

Pedro Campos
EICS'17 Technical Chair