
CHI 2011 Doctoral Consortium Format

Your Name

Your Affiliation

Address Line 1

City, State, Postcode, Country

Email address

Abstract

This document describes the expected format of your extended abstract to the Doctoral Consortium. This document is important, as we will use it to judge the strongest candidates to the Doctoral Consortium, i.e., those who have clearly stated their research ideas, theses and goals, who have made some progress, but who are not so far along that they can no longer make changes. Note that this document should be no longer than 4 pages; this is different from some of the other Extended Abstracts.

Your abstract: use the abstract to provide a very brief overview of your document.

Keywords

Choose your own specific keywords

ACM Classification Keywords

H5.m. Information interfaces and presentation (e.g., HCI): Miscellaneous. See [3] for help using the ACM Classification system.

General Terms

Choose your own general terms

Research Situation

Applicants to the Doctoral Consortium should have begun their research, but should not have completed it in its entirety. You should briefly state where you currently are in your university's PhD program. We understand that different universities may organize their programs quite differently, so feel free to give some background if this will help you to be clear. Remember that we are seeking candidates who have an approved dissertation research topic and are carrying out their work, but who have enough work ahead of them that they can benefit from the exchanges and discussions that will take place at the Consortium. Some points you may want to include are:

- What kind of academic program you are in
- How you primarily identify yourself (e.g., computer scientist, ethnographer, social scientist, etc.)

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- How many years you have been in that program, and how many years you anticipate you have left before graduating
- Whether you have completed your candidacy / research proposal stage (if required at your university)
- A brief summary of the state of your research (e.g., what you have done vs. what you have left to do)
- What you hope to gain from attending the Doctoral Consortium

Context and Motivation

Almost every research document begins with a section that frames the research and motivates the problem being studied. It describes some domain, indicates a problem in general terms, and explains why the problem is worth solving. Questions a CHI reader should be able to answer after reading the motivation section are:

- What is the general area being addressed?
- Is this relevant to CHI?
- What is the motivation for studying a particular problem?
- What makes it worth the effort?
- Is it a 'real' problem in everyday life, and/or is it a 'theoretical' problem that is worth solving?
- Would anyone care if I solved this?

Background and Related Work

Provide a miniature literature review to give the reader enough background to (a) gain sufficient knowledge about what others have done, (b) know how your work

will build upon this prior work, and (c) be assured that you have sufficient knowledge of the relevant literature. You should highlight only the key literature here; a full review is not required. Questions a CHI reader should be able to answer after reading this section are:

- Did the author provide enough background to help me know what others have done in this area, as well as what discipline(s) have considered this area?
- Does the author have sufficient knowledge of the relevant literature necessary to do the proposed work?
- How does the author's proposed work fit within and extend what has been done before?

Statement of Thesis or Problem

Provide a very concise statement of your thesis or problem statement. This should be the highest-level problem or goal you plan to address and is sometimes posed as a hypothesis, proposition or conjecture. This is often followed by a small list of specific problems and sub-problems that need to be solved if you are going to satisfy your hypothesis or thesis. Problems should be stated unambiguously. The importance of the problem should be mentioned if it hasn't already been done so in the prior sections. Of course, the problem must be worthy of a PhD thesis. Questions a CHI reader should be able to answer after reading this section are:

- Did the author succinctly identify the thesis, problem or set of problems being addressed?
- Is this problem worthy of a CHI PhD thesis?

Research Goals and Methods

While the previous section details the problem you are addressing, your job here is to translate this into research goals and corresponding methods. Each goal should briefly indicate how you are going to solve the problem, i.e., the research method(s) you will use. Goals should be operational; i.e., if you later claim to achieve your goal, you should be able to match your solution against the goal statement. Then describe what contributions you expect to make if you satisfy these goals. *Note: some authors may prefer to combine problem statements, goals, methods and contributions into a single section.*

We cannot overstate how important it is to have clear goals. When problems, goals, methods and contributions are not clearly stated, readers will be unable to evaluate your solutions. Questions a CHI reader should be able to answer after reading this section are:

- What are the specific goals being pursued?
- Do these goals actually help solve some or all of the stated problem(s)?
- Has the author stated how s/he will achieve this goal (i.e., the method)?
- Are the goals actionable, i.e., will we know when a goal is actually attained?

Dissertation Status

Clearly state what you have done and what you have left to do. Summarize the most important findings thus far, and make it clear how these findings match and inform your original problems and goals. Include a short argument as to why these findings are important.

Include references and brief descriptions to key publications (if any) arising from your thesis work. State how much of your actual thesis document is written, and what form it is in (e.g., outline, rough draft, etc.)

In addition to describing your current status (as of submission), please also include a paragraph about your future plans, for example the research activities remaining, and how much time you expect these to take, and what sorts of assistance you hope to obtain through your participation in the Consortium.

Expected Contributions

Use this section to connect your research approach back to the problem statement. This should be a short section that conveys what you anticipate as results or outcomes from your dissertation project and how it will contribute to the HCI research community.

References (example format below)

- [1] Adobe Acrobat Reader 7.
<http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/>.
- [2] Anderson, R.E. Social impacts of computing: Codes of professional ethics. *Social Science Computing Review* 10, 2 (1992), 453-469.
- [3] How to Classify Works Using ACM's Computing Classification System.
http://www.acm.org/class/how_to_use.html.
- [4] Klemmer, R.S., Thomsen, M., Phelps-Goodman, E., Lee, R. and Landay, J.A. Where do web sites come from? Capturing and interacting with design history. In *Proc. CHI 2002*, ACM Press (2002), 1-8.

Appendix 1 : Statement of Expected Benefits

Attach as a one page appendix a short (one-paragraph) statement of expected benefits of participation for both yourself and the other consortium participants (i.e., what will you contribute as well as gain).

Appendix 2 : Supervisor's Letter of Support

Attach as a second 1-page appendix a signed letter from your supervisor that supports your attendance at the Consortium. To ensure that this letter is helpful in the selection process, please pass on these requests to your supervisor:

To supervisors of Doctoral Consortium applicants: Your letter should not summarize your student's PhD project in detail or his/her past achievements – that is the job of the abstract and CV. Instead please provide the following information:

- How long you have supervised the student and in what capacity
- The status of this student with respect to your institution's PhD requirements

- When you expect the student to complete his/her dissertation
- Why attendance at this year's Doctoral Consortium would be particularly beneficial to the student
- What contributions the student is likely to make to the event if invited to attend

Appendix 3 : Your CV

Attach as a third 1 - 2 page appendix a concise version of your current Curriculum Vita (1 – 2 pages; if it is longer, edit to make more concise)

Formatting guidance

You must ensure that the formatting of all parts of your submission (excluding Appendices) conforms to the Extended Abstracts format posted on the CHI 2011 web site: <http://chi2011.org/authors/format.html>. You may want to use this Doctoral Consortium Format document as your starting point, as it was created using the Extended Abstracts format.