



Human-Like Computing

Imperial College
London

EPSRC
Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council

<http://hlc.doc.ic.ac.uk/>

HLC CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOR TRAVEL AWARDS FOR IJCLR 2024

Closing date:
25th June 2024

Funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research
Council (EPSRC)

SUMMARY

The EPSRC Network+ on Human-Like Computing (HLC) is inviting proposals for travel awards involving presenting an HLC-related paper at the International Joint Conference on Learning and Reasoning (IJCLR2024). This conference is being held at the University of Nanjing this year, and the award will provide a contribution of up to £2,400 towards your travel, accommodation and subsistence costs. Please note that Imperial College London will reimburse you 80% of these costs.

Applications for the Travel Award must be from members of the HLC Network, restricted to those eligible for EPSRC funding. Submission will be assessed on the basis of evidence that the grantee relevance to the aims of the EPSRC+ HLC Network. Please note that Travel Grant submissions should be made before submission of the paper you hope to submit.

The award will be contingent on evidence that a paper or poster by the author has been selected for presentation at IJCLR2024 and that the awardee is registered for IJCLR2024 as an in-person delegate. Additionally, awards will be decided on a first-come, first-served basis.

BACKGROUND

Human-Like Computing (HLC) research aims to endow machines with human-like perceptual, reasoning and learning abilities which support collaboration and communication with human beings. Such abilities should support computers in interpreting the aims and intentions of humans based on learning and accumulated background knowledge.

The development of computer systems which exhibit truly human-like computing and co-operative properties requires sustained inter-disciplinary collaboration between disparate and largely disconnected research communities within AI and Psychology. The proposed Network is needed in order to forge a new UK-based scientific community involving collaboration between leading groups in these disciplines.

The 4th International Joint Conference on Learning and Reasoning (IJCLR2024) will be held at Nanjing University International Conference Center, Nanjing, China, 20-22 September 2024. It follows on from the IJCLR2021 meeting in Athens, Greece (25-27 October 2021), IJCLR2022 in Cumberland Lodge, UK (28-30 September 2022) and IJCLR2023 Bari, Italy (13-15 November 2023). Previous IJCLR conferences have involved separate sub-meetings on Human-Like Computing (HLC), together with other related topics including Inductive Logic Programming (ILP), Inductive Programming (AAIP), Statistical Relational AI (StarAI) and Neuro-Symbolic Learning (NeSy). The IJCLR Steering Committee has made a decision this year to combine these meetings into a single conference, with these separate topics as sub-areas, with topic-oriented sessions and a common Springer Proceedings and Machine Learning Special Issue

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THIS CALL

The Network+ will provide funds for travel awards.

Key objectives for the HLC area were identified by the community. We aim to order these community-generated objectives into a series of Roadmap Themes which relate to key topics associated with the development of HLC from **Foundational Components of HLC** (Years 1+2), **Scaling-up HLC systems** (Year 3) to **Applications of HLC** (Years 4+5).

Year	Phase	Topic 1	Topic 2
Y1	Foundational (1)	Comprehensibility	Representation Change
Y2	Foundational (2)	Small data learning	Memory and forgetting
Y3	Scaling-up	Bridging high and low-level	Verbal and non-verbal
Y4	Applications (1)	Intelligent tutoring	Programming assistance
Y5	Applications (2)	Social agents	Scientific assistance

The topics above will be used by the Management and Grants Committee as a guide to preferred areas for funding of submitted industrial engagement funding and travel grants projects in successive years of the network. Although all submissions will be encouraged in the indicated areas, the committee will also support strong applications in other areas of HLC research.

APPLICATION GUIDELINES FOR TRAVEL AWARDS

The application process for this call is deliberately lightweight. The submission should contain:

- A maximum of a 2-page proposal which is expected to include the title and abstract of your submitted paper/poster and your expected travel costs to IJCLR 2024.
- All HLC supported travel awards should submit a trip report within one month from the end date of the award, up to 1 page long. A final version of your paper should also be included with your trip report.
- The trip report should be submitted via EasyChair .
- **HLC Network reserve the right to reject applications that do not meet these requirements.**

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ELIGIBILITY AND CONDITIONS

Applicants must be based in institutions eligible to apply for EPSRC funding. Submissions are limited to one travel proposal per person for this call. Awards will not be made retrospectively.

Your submission title on EasyChair should include "Proposal for X: ...", where X is either for Network membership or for a travel award. You do not need to first apply for membership before applying for funding.

Please note that when you apply for an award then everybody named in the application, will automatically be added to the HLC Network membership list. If you don't wish to be added to the HLC Network membership list, please email Bridget Gundry on bridget.gundry@imperial.ac.uk to opt out.

The funders are committed to full and open publication of the research outputs, in line with normal academic practice. The funding and contract will be subject to the EPSRC's standard terms and conditions; a draft copy of the contract can be made available on request.

Subject to your submission being successful, and you deciding to accept it, then you should submit your travel costs via an Imperial College London expense claim form up to a total of £2,400, of which 80% of the costs will be reimbursed to you (£2,000 maximum). As the project will close shortly after the conference, claims should be submitted no later than Tuesday 15th October 2024, in order to ensure they are processed before the close of the project.

Your claim will require the relevant VAT receipts and/or proof of payment (for eg. your bank statement). Where you have booked a flight, the email confirmation is fine provided it shows the proof of payment (in your name) and not just the flight details. Where you have purchased a meal, we will need the original detailed receipt.

In accordance with UKRI Terms and Conditions, please note that "All travel claims should evidence value for money alongside environmental impact, welfare and business need. Consequently, these should only include travel by standard class by train and economy class by air. Exceptions to this would be permitted where there is a justifiable health and wellbeing need and approved by the Imperial College London Research Organisation prior to purchase and evidence of this should be available. Consideration to the environmental impact of travel should be in line with the institutional policy."

<https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/UKRI-161123-FECGrantTermsAndConditionsGuidance-Nov2023.pdf>

As this award will be processed via an expense claim, submitted to Imperial College London, the expense claim will also be subject to the Imperial College London expenses policy. This expenses policy will be send to you at the time of the notification and purchases should be made in line with the policy. For eg. you may still wish to book a premium economy flight to China however screenshots will be required showing the difference in cost between an economy flight and premium economy flight. Only the cost of the economy flight will be reimbursed (80%) and you will need to cover the difference in cost between the premium economy and economy costs yourself or charge these to your own institute.

Imperial College is a charity, and a large recipient of public funds in the form of income from HEFCE and grants from other public bodies and charities. Recipients of this award are expected to be prudent in their spending and ensure that economy, efficiency and effectiveness are achieved in respect of all expenses incurred while attending IJCLR 2024. The College will reimburse actual costs incurred upon receiving appropriate receipts

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APPLICATION AND SELECTION

All submissions are via EasyChair <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=hlc2024> and should be submitted by 25th June 2024. In the box for "Keywords", please include IJCLR2024 Travel Award.

Proposals will be assessed by a panel of analysis, testing, and verification experts from academia, industry and government, who will judge the proposals on quality, viability and significance.

Enquiries regarding the academic scope and objectives of this call should be directed to [Dr Alireza Tamaddoni-Nezhad](#), Technical Director. Enquiries regarding the application process should be addressed to [Bridget Gundry](#), Administrator.

KEY DATES:

CALL PUBLISHED

15th March 2024

CLOSING DATE

25th June 2024

RESULT ANNOUNCEMENT

By 21st August 2024*

* Subject to IJCLR 2024 organisers issuing their result announcements.

IJCLR2024 DATES

20th to 22nd September 2024