ICAIF’21 Workshops: Call for Proposals

ACM ICAIF’21 follows on a successful 2020 event hosted virtually in October 2020, with over 950 participants. ICAIF’21 is an ACM conference organized in collaboration with Oxford University and the Turing Institute.

ICAIF 2021 Conference will be held virtually between **Nov 3 - Nov 5, 2021**
ICAIF Workshops will be held virtually on **Nov 3, 2021 (Wednesday)**

ICAIF organizing committee invites proposals for ICAIF Workshops from academia, government, regulatory agencies, financial institutions, NGOs and other researchers and practitioners in the AI and Finance community. We particularly encourage proposals from women and individuals from underrepresented minorities. Workshop organizers are responsible for the full execution and planning of the workshop.

**Workshop Goals**
1. ICAIF Workshops provide a platform for bringing together people with common interests to form communities. Good workshops can help to evaluate and contrast competing perspectives.
2. ICAIF Workshops aim to tackle emerging topics, explore industry-wide challenges, strategic opportunities, novel tools and techniques, and start industry-wide conversations.
3. ICAIF Workshop schedules should encourage lively debates, stimulate the production of new ideas and the discussion of controversial issues.

ICAIF does not provide travel funding for workshop speakers.

**Important Dates:**

1. **Workshop Application Deadline:** June 14, 2021
2. **Workshop Acceptance Notification:** Jun 30, 2021
3. **Submission Date for Workshop Contributions:** Sept 25, 2021
4. **Mandatory Accept/Reject Notification Date:** Oct 5, 2021
5. **Workshop Date:** Nov 3, 2021 Wednesday

**Duration**
All ICAIF Workshops will be half day events (including all paper presentations, talks and other events).
Proposal Submissions
ICAIF Workshop proposals should be 4-6 pages in length and include:

*Workshop Topic and Title:
Describe the specific topic(s) the workshop will focus on. Only the workshops on AI in financial services will be considered.

*Motivation:
Discussion on why the topic is of importance for AI in finance. If applicable, please include discussion on prior workshops in the area.

*Organizing Committee:
-Brief biographies for the organizing committee - focusing on the relevant experience, highlights and expertise in the field of the workshop. If applicable, please highlight prior workshops organized by the organizers.
-The names and contact information of the organizing committee members.
-Identify primary contact (email/phone number) to coordinate with the ICAIF Organizing Committee.

*Tentative Program Committee and Invited Speakers:
The proposals are expected to include a tentative list of invited and keynote speakers as well as a list of program committee members. Workshops may include keynotes, invited talks, paper presentations, poster sessions. The organizers of the workshops are free to design their own formats. However, in the past
   (1) Keynote/ Invited talks
   (2) Keynote/ Invited talks + Poster Session
   (3) Keynote/ Invited talks + Paper presentations (Optional: Poster Session)

*Format:
Describe the workshop format including but not limited to the invited talks, panels, poster sessions, paper presentations, other events such as discussions.
All ICAIF Workshops will be half day events (including all paper presentations, talks and other events).

*Comparable Workshops:
Please discuss comparable or similar workshops organized at prior ICAIF and/or AI conferences. Please specify if the workshop is a continuation of a series of workshops in other venues. This information will be used to assess the novelty and context of the workshop as well as the contents with respect to comparable workshops.

*ICAIF workshops are expected to be academic workshops. Hence product offerings and marketing based workshops will not be considered.

Organization
ICAIF workshops will be run by the organizing committees independently, in coordination with the ICAIF Organizing Committee (as well as Program and Steering Committees as applicable).
(1) Proposal Evaluations:
ICAIF Workshop proposals will be evaluated by a committee of experts from AI in Finance, consisting of industry, academia and government contacts. Program committee for proposals and accepted workshops will be announced on ICAIF website.

Main selection Criteria:
  a) The novelty, timeliness and relevance to AI Finance community.
  b) The degree to which it is expected that the community will find the workshop interesting, exciting, and valuable.
  c) Quality of proposed invited speakers.
  d) Organizational experience and ability of the team.

(2) Call for Papers/Call for Participation:
Workshop organizers will be responsible for creating and publicizing a Call for Papers/Call for Participation for their respective workshops. Call for submissions deadlines are required to be aligned with the dates and deadlines, as specified above.

(3) Workshop Attendance
Accepted papers and workshop attendance decisions will be made by the Workshop organizers. Accepted papers should be announced in accordance with the ICAIF general guidelines as specified above. Workshop organizers are responsible for the acceptance communications as well as the paper review process. They are expected to propose a program committee for the review process. Workshop organizers are required to provide a tentative list of participants by Oct 10th and encourage registration prior to the conference registration deadline.

(4) Website and Proceedings
The workshop proceedings will not be a part of the ACM proceedings of the main conference. ICAIF Workshops are required to maintain workshop websites including the workshop proceedings.

(5) Quality and Content Criteria
ICAIF workshops are expected to meet the quality and content standards similar to the main conference. The workshop topics should be broadly within the field of AI in finance. Workshops on topics outside of the scope will not be considered.
Workshop organizations are expected to follow common academic quality and conflict of interest criteria. Papers accepted to the ICAIF 21 main program cannot be part of the Workshop programs. ICAIF Workshop organizers are encouraged to ask for novel contributions in the call for papers, limiting publications of papers in prior venues to a minimum.

(6) Platform Support
ICAIF 2021 conference will be held online through a virtual conference platform. ICAIF will provide access and logistic support to the virtual conference platform for the workshops. Workshops are also encouraged to use the review platform selected by ICAIF for their specific programs, while independently maintaining in their paper decisions and committee/reviewer lists.

(7) Dates and Schedule
Workshop dates and start/end times will be determined by the ICAIF organizing committee. However, the Workshop organizers are responsible for the workshop program, including but not limited the detailed schedule of the workshop itself. The Workshop program and other workshop information should be included on the workshop website.

*ICAIF reserves the right to drop any workshop or tutorial if the organizers miss the above deadlines, requirements or if there is insufficient participation.

**Submission**

Workshop proposals should be electronically submitted to the link below no later than June 14, 2021 in PDF format.

Workshop submission notifications will be announced by June 30, 2021.

Workshop related questions should be directed to: ai.finance.acm@gmail.com