

Technical Program Chairs' Welcome

The ACM CHI 2026 technical program is held on-site at the Centre de Convencions Internacional de Barcelona, from Monday to Friday (13th to 17th of April, 2026). We welcome you not only to an outstanding technical program but also to a brand new format of the CHI conference, which dedicates its mornings for paper sessions and afternoons for interactive, hands-on, and specialized content. This long-awaited restructuring, since its inception and initial announcement by the CHI Steering Committee, aims to improve the overall conference experience by boosting engagement, collaborations, and conversations within our community.

The conference schedule has also been adjusted to a 5-day event (Monday through Friday). Previously, workshops and the doctoral consortium were on the weekend followed by a 4-day conference. This shift allows for workshops to be more open to attendees and CHI moves to a single registration fee, with no additional fee for participating in workshops.

The conference will run across nine technical tracks: Papers, Posters, Interactive Demos, Panels, Workshops, Meet-Ups, Student Research Competition, Student Mentoring Program, and invited Journal talks. This year, there are two new tracks: Meet-Ups (topical events that foster community by bringing together attendees with shared interests) and the Student Mentoring Program (a refactoring of the previous Doctoral Consortium that provides broader access to resources for early-career scholars in navigating the CHI conference, their careers, and PhD theses). The contributions presented in each track can be found in our comprehensive conference program, the largest one ever before, available in ACM Digital Library in the Papers Proceedings and Extended Abstracts Proceedings. Papers are the most rigorously peer-reviewed and are considered the most prestigious material presented at the conference. The remaining categories of work are collected in the Extended Abstracts.

Our program further includes SIGCHI award panels, the SIGCHI plenary panel, the SIGCHI academy panel, town hall, and the global plaza, which also includes the new Global Science Program of talks. As well as a number of networking and special events, such as the opening and closing plenaries, conference reception, job fair, and others.

The statistics for submissions and acceptance rates for this year are as follows: Papers 1702/6730 (25.3%), Posters 789/2068 (38.2%), Workshops 69/198 (34.8%), Meet-Ups 32/60 (53.3%), Interactive Demos 67/333 (20.12%), Panels 8/36 (22.2%), Student Mentoring Program (Dissertation Research Roundtable) 40/115 (34.8%), Student Research Competition 12/77 (15.6%). More than 12000 authors were accepted across all of the above venues, spanning virtually all continents. This year's technical content was reviewed by thousands of volunteers; for example, 6069 volunteer reviewers contributed paper reviews, 2024 volunteer reviewers contributed poster reviews, as well as numerous reviewers contributed for all other tracks.

Moreover, in this year's paper track, the Awards Chairs (assisted by the program committee) selected 62 papers to receive the CHI Best Paper Award and 213 papers to receive the CHI Honorable Mention Award—we extend our congratulations to these authors.

Our sincere gratitude goes to the publication chairs and rest of our dearest conference organisation committee, the CHI Steering Committee, especially our liaisons (Cliff Lampe and Per Ola Kristensson), the SIGCHI Executive Committee, the members of the program committee, reviewers, session chairs, the SIGCHI Operations team, and many members of the HCI community (namely our colleagues Julie Williamson and Koji Yatani).

Finally, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to our TPC assistants: Jas Brooks, Alexandra Kitson, Xiang Li, and Maximiliane Windl, with whom we have spent the last couple of years working in CHI 2026, and nothing would have been possible without them.

We are truly excited to welcome you to Barcelona, for what we sincerely believe is an exceptional CHI technical program full of intellectual rigor, innovation, and inspiration.

Heloisa Candello, *Intel, Brazil*

Pablo Cesar, *CWI, Netherlands*

Pedro Lopes, *University of Chicago, USA*

Technical Program Chairs, CHI 2026

Jas Brooks, *MIT, USA*

Alexandra Kitson, *University of Victoria, Canada*

Xiang Li, *University of Cambridge, UK*

Maximiliane Windl, *LMU Munich, Germany*

Assistants to Technical Program Chairs, CHI 2026

