

CALL FOR HOSTS

iConference 2026



WHAT IS THE iCONFERENCE?



The [iConference](#) is an annual gathering of a broad spectrum of scholars and researchers from around the world who share a common concern about critical information issues in contemporary society. The iConference pushes the boundaries of information studies, explores core concepts and ideas, and creates new technological and conceptual configurations - all situated in interdisciplinary discourses.

An openness to new ideas and research fields in information science is a primary characteristic of the event. Attendance has grown every year (e.g. ca. 500 participants in Changchun 2024, a third only virtual, two thirds hybrid); participants appreciate the inspiring sense of community, high quality research presentations, and myriad opportunities for engagement.



The iConference attracts researchers and leaders in the field of information science around the world. Hosts showcase their school to a global audience, strengthen national and international bonds and bring the global community together. The iConference takes place hybridly: a virtual part (3-5 days) and an onsite part (3-5 days).

**SOMETIMES
later becomes
NEVER. DO IT NOW!**

The venue for the iConference could be a university campus (e.g. iConference 2014 in Berlin, iConference 2018 in Sheffield) or a conference hotel (e.g. iConference 2019 in Maryland, iConference 2024 in Changchun). The venue is only needed for the second part of the iConference (onsite part).

VENUE?

Rooms should include one major keynote room (capacity 200 people min.) and up to 6 parallel available Session and Workshop rooms (capacity around 30 people). The venue should provide the possibility to serve lunch and coffee breaks between the sessions.

A conference dinner is recommended but not obligatory.



WHO CAN APPLY FOR HOSTING?

The iConference locations rotate annually to maximize representation and participation of the iSchools members in each region. In 2026 the iConference will come back to Europe and Africa. Only iSchools member institutions are eligible to apply for hosting the iConference. A single host or multiple hosts is possible. We recommend not more than two hosts per proposal. A proposal from multiple schools needs to specify how they will divide the responsibilities. Please specify which institution serves as the primary contact.



WHEN IS THE CONFERENCE TAKING PLACE?

Each iConference usually takes place between March and April.

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WHAT IS THE RAW TIME SCHEDULE?

31 October 2024

Applications for hosting due

December 2024

Decision about the hosts for 2026

March 2025 iConference

We recommend the 2026 hosts taking part in the conference to learn about the major processes, iConference 2026 host(s) will be introduced during iConference 2025

April 2025

Kick-off Meeting with the iSchools staff for the planning committee

Summer 2025

Call for submissions issued, track chairs committee established, reviewer pool established, contracts with possible venues arranged, Conftool set up

Autumn 2025

Review phase starts, preparations for the virtual platform start, registration starts

Winter 2025/2026

Onsite preparations, virtual platform completed, acceptance announced, proceedings prepared, ... conference preparation!

Between March and April 2026

iConference 2026 takes place



WHAT DOES IT COST?

It depends: There are fixed costs for the virtual part of about 30.000 USD which will be covered by the iSchools organisation. Depending on the venue location (on campus / hotel), the costs for the physical part can vary tremendously - the iSchools organisation and the host(s) will arrange a shared cost strategy for the onsite costs.

WHO IS HELPING WITH THE CONFERENCE?

The iSchools staff has years of experience in organising the iConference in all regions of our membership in the virtual, physical, and hybrid format. We support the hosts in all aspects of planning the iConference in accordance with their vision.

INTERESTED?



Please contact admin@ischools-inc.or if you have any questions.



Visit the iConference Host Website:
<https://www.ischools.org/hosting-iconference>



Or fill out the application survey directly:
<https://s.surveypal.com/20bbp0m5>

The survey will ask information about the hosting institution, possible Co-Hosts, responsible people, the venue etc.