About MICS

The Midwest Instruction and Computing Symposium (MICS) is a regional conference dedicated to providing an educational experience to students and instructors at higher education institutions. The conference focuses on the teaching of computing and its use in learning processes of all disciplines, and the incorporation of the study of this technology in the curriculum.

Activities include the presentation of technical papers and posters, programming and robotics competitions, and a pizza party. Participants are primarily drawn from across the five-state region of Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. All are welcome to join us in Cedar Falls, Iowa

This is the 55th anniversary of the Symposium. Established in 1967, it is one of the nation's oldest conferences on computer-related issues and associated opportunities and implementation at smaller institutions of higher education.

For more information on the history and goals of the MICS organization, please see our site:

https://micsymposium.org

For information about MICS 2023, including more details about the conference, contest specifics, and links to the online submission and registration systems—please visit:

https://micsymposium.org/mics2023

Conference Location

MICS 2023 will be held at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls, Iowa. All events will occur on campus.

Call for Participation

The MICS Program Committee invites you to submit a paper, poster, demonstration, presentation, panel discussion topic, or nifty assignment. Faculty papers generally address aspects of computer science education, such as the use of computers in instruction, innovative pedagogy, or the integration of research with instruction. Student papers generally discuss a research activity. All submissions undergo thorough review. Student registrants may also participate in the programming and robot competitions. All submissions require an abstract of 300–500 words to be submitted no later than February 11, 2023. Full versions of accepted papers, summaries, and assignments must be received by March 18, 2023. Conference registration is required for acceptance, publication, and presentation of any materials.

Papers

Paper abstracts must provide sufficient details to judge the submission. Student papers are strongly encouraged. (A student paper is one where a full-time student is the primary author and presents the paper; instructors may be secondary authors.) A full version of the paper must be submitted by March 18, 2023. A 25-minute presentation slot (which should include time for questions) will be scheduled. Awards for up to three meritorious student papers will be presented at the Saturday lunch.

Poster/Software Demonstrations

Posters can be stand-alone or follow up on previous presentations. To present a poster, submit an abstract before the initial abstract deadline; a final version should be submitted by the final paper deadline. Presentations will occur during a designated poster session.

Panel Discussions

Panel discussions provide different points of view and facilitate discussion on contemporary topics. To host a panel, submit an abstract describing the topic and proposed panel members. Moderators for accepted panels should submit a short (2–3 pages) summary of panelist positions by the final deadline. Panel members are not necessarily expected to make formal presentations, but to facilitate discussion.

Nifty Assignments

Nifty assignments provide a forum for sharing ideas and materials for interesting classroom assignments. Abstracts should specify the target course and basic pedagogical concepts. A paper should be submitted by the final deadline; a 20-minute presentation will be scheduled as part of a thematic session.

Programming Contest

Student teams will compete against each other to solve a set of programming problems. Conference and contest registration is required and the number of accepted teams may be limited, so be sure to register early. Each team must be accompanied by a registered faculty coach who is willing to act as a contest judge. Cash awards will be presented to the top teams at the Saturday lunch.

Robotics Contest

Student teams will build and program robots to compete against each other in a format to be determined. Conference and contest registration is required. Cash awards will be presented to the top teams at the Saturday lunch.

Important Dates

Abstract submission	**Feb. 11, 2023**
Acceptance notification	**Feb. 18, 2023**
Early registration deadline	**March 18, 2023**
Final paper due	**March 18, 2023**
Student contest registration	**March 18, 2023**
Conference dates	**March 31 and April 1**

Registration Fees

Rates:	By March 18	After March 18
Faculty	$120.00	$150.00
Student	$30.00	$45.00

MICS 2023

Midwest Instruction And Computing Symposium

March 31 and April 1, 2023

Department of Computer Science

University of Northern Iowa

Cedar Falls, Iowa

https://micsymposium.org/mics2023

Friday, March 31st

12 – 3 PM	Registration
1 – 2:30 PM	Technical Session 1
2:30 – 3:00 PM	Break
3:00 – 4:00 PM	Technical Session II
4:00 – 5:00 PM	Transition/Robotics Setup
5:00 – 6:30 PM	Robotics Competition & Pizza
6:30 – 6:45 PM	Programming Contest Rules
7:00 – 10:00 PM	Programming Contest

Saturday, April 1st

8:30 – 9:30	Technical Session III
9:30 – 10:00	Break
10:00 – 11:00	Technical Session IV
11:30 – 12:15	Keynote
12:15 – 12:30	Awards
12:30	Box-lunches and Dismissal

Accommodations

Hotel and dorm accommodations in the Cedar Falls area listed from nearest to furthest from campus:

Property	Phone	Rate
UNI dorm		$41.00*
Country Inn & Suites	319-268-1800	$149
Days Inn	319-266-1222	$76-86**
Hilton Garden Inn	319-266-6611	$129***

* Per person adult rate

** "MICS" block rate reserve before March 4th

*** "MICS" block rate reserve before March 1st

Keynote

Dheryta Jaisinghani is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science at University of Northern Iowa since August 2020. Her research lab – SyNthesIs (Systems for Next generation of Intelligent networkS) at UNI aims to develop user-friendly and cost-effective systems for smart buildings (offices and classrooms), mobile applications to solve student health challenges at the university, and algorithms to improve the performance of operational WiFi networks.