NordiCHI 2018 Conference Report

The NordiCHI 2018 conference was hosted by the University of Oslo and Oslo Metropolitan University in Oslo, Norway during September 29th – October 3rd, 2018. The conference attracted a total of 273 participants (see the program on page 4).

Of these, 117 participants attended the pre-conference activities including workshops (93 participants), tutorials (14 participants) and doctoral consortium (10 participants) in addition to the 25 student volunteers (see the program on page 3).

Three current and engaging plenary keynote speeches were given (see the program for details):

Carly Gloge: Moonshot thinking at (Google) X
Jeanette Blomberg: AI at Work
Steven Jackson: Sustainability Beyond Design: HCI Meets the Anthropocene

The program included 20 parallel thematic paper sessions. The thematic sessions comprised a mix of full papers, work-in-progress papers, future scenarios, design cases and industrial experiences to stimulate fruitful discussions. Participants were also given a unique chance to network and interact during the juried plenary poster session and demo session. Time was also set aside for a successful panel debate. The peer-reviewed conference proceedings were published by the Association for Computing Machinery and is available through the ACM digital library. In addition to the thematic sessions the conference program also included coffee/tea breaks with fruit and cakes, lunch, and social events. The social program included an informal and intimate get-together on Sunday evening (122 participants), a reception in the Town Hall with the Mayor and Rector of OsloMet (172 participants) and a conference dinner at Sjømagasinet restaurant at Tjuvholmen with the Rector of Oslo University (165 participants).
A total of 46 participants completed the post-conference online feedback form (a response rate of 26.6%). Overall, participants’ feedback on the conference was highly positive and encouraging. Example comments are listed below.

We would like to thank the SiO catering for providing delicious food and refreshments during the conference, and the Town Hall and Sjømagasinet for facilitating unique user experiences. We are most grateful to our sponsors: The Research Council Norway, Nordic Semiconductor and Tobii (Silver) and Oxford University Press (Bronze). Their support helped us break even!

Last but not least: we want to thank the fantastic Student Volunteers that made everything run smoothly!

Best regards,

Tone & Frode

Comments from the online evaluation form:

Positive
1. Like NordiCHI more than CHI because of the small size
2. Google keynote
3. All keynotes
4. Workshops
5. Town hall, dinner by the sea
6. Mixed sessions
7. Panel session, especially the topic
8. Themed sessions worked well
9. Good food
10. Informal atmosphere
11. High quality and interesting paper presentations
12. Industry presentations
13. Not too much advertisement and commercialism as it is too much of at CHI
14. Student volunteers who guided us between buildings and to the social activities
15. Design fiction
16. Warm welcoming community
17. Multidisciplinary papers
18. Amazing student volunteers
19. Intimate atmosphere
20. Thoughtful order of presentations

Negative:
1. Low quality papers, same as 10 years ago
2. Expensive registration fee
3. Google keynote
4. Flawed methods in the papers
5. Papers not mindblowing
6. Invisible demos
7. Split location
8. Poster area a bit small
9. Lacking practitioners
10. Days too long
11. No bar at the dinner
12. Too few senior participants
13. Better signs for the food (i.e. sign for chicken)
14. Some uninteresting presentations
15. Too little interaction in the sessions
16. Registration and payment was confusing
17. Hard to get a list of names for the attendants for our workshop
18. Too few people involved in the organization – tone and Frode did everything
19. Maybe not mix future scenarios and design cases with papers
20. Too academic, professors celebrating themselves
21. No local fruits
22. Too few exhibitions
23. Would like to meet more local students
24. Sessions in parallel
25. Conference website design
26. Confusing booklet for finding locations
27. Not enough time to ask questions
28. Only one exhibiter
Suggestions

1. Workshops during conference
2. Organized city tour (no time to look)
3. More demos
4. Shorter conference 1 + 1.5 days
5. More poster
6. More panels
7. Interdisciplinary matchmaking
8. Work in progress also as posters, now few posters hidden away
9. More industry connections
10. More information about the publication and where to find it
11. New ways of engaging with the speakers for “shy” people, i.e., electronically
12. Get email before the conference with updates and information.
13. Create more space around the posters
14. Introduce shorter 10 min presentations (as discussed in the panel)
15. Practical lessons, e.g. use of data tools
16. Picture guide of how to get to venue and move around venue.
17. Poster session earlier in the day
18. Buddy system for first timers, e.g. to navigate at reception etc.
19. Last keynote at the end of the day
20. Go full vegetarian or vegan next time
21. Use a real conference venue
22. Certificate of participation
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Monday October 1</th>
<th>Tuesday October 2</th>
<th>Wednesday October 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8.00</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.30</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.00</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Methods in business</td>
<td>Smart and sustainable environments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.30</td>
<td>P32: Large aud</td>
<td>P32: Large aud</td>
<td>Keynote: Steven Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>P32: Large aud</td>
<td>Keynote: Carly Gloge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>Robots and autonomous things</td>
<td>Keynote: Carly Gloge</td>
<td>Smart and sustainable environments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>Explaining the role of feedback</td>
<td>Exploring relationships</td>
<td>Keynote: Steven Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>Interaction with physical things</td>
<td>Interaction with physical things</td>
<td>Interaction with physical things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.30</td>
<td>P35: PH322</td>
<td>P35: PH322</td>
<td>P35: PH322</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>Multidisciplinary and final encounters</td>
<td>Multidisciplinary and final encounters</td>
<td>Multidisciplinary and final encounters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.30</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Design and measurement</td>
<td>Design and measurement</td>
<td>Design and measurement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.30</td>
<td>Alliances and Android life</td>
<td>Alliances and Android life</td>
<td>Alliances and Android life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.00</td>
<td>Data economy (film)</td>
<td>Data economy (film)</td>
<td>Data economy (film)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>Reception Town Hall</td>
<td>Reception Town Hall</td>
<td>Reception Town Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>Conference dinner Sjømagasinet</td>
<td>Conference dinner Sjømagasinet</td>
<td>Conference dinner Sjømagasinet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.30</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>