

FOR IMMEDIATE MEDIA RELEASE

CANBERRA WINS THE 2020 IEEE SYMPOSIUM SERIES ON COMPUTATIONAL INTELLIGENCE (IEEE SSCI)

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA (February 8, 2019) The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering (IEEE), the world's largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity has selected Canberra for the 2020 IEEE Symposium Series on Computational Intelligence (IEEE SSCI).

"I would like to congratulate Canberra for its successful bid to host IEEE SSCI 2020. We selected Canberra due to its competitive bid that demonstrated to us significant local support both from the ACT government and UNSW Canberra as well as involvement of the world class computational intelligence scientists to lead various committees. I am confident that IEEE SSCI 2020 will be a memorable event both technically and otherwise," said Professor Nikhil Pal, President IEEE Computational Intelligence Society.

Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment said the Liberal-National Government's Business Events Bid Fund played a significant role in securing this major conference for Canberra. "This will be a huge economic and tourism boost for the ACT," Minister Birmingham said. "Canberra will have the chance to show-off its unique experiences and attractions whilst at the same time see millions injected into local businesses and the economy. Business events such as this one, are extremely valuable to the local economy, with the average business events visitor spending at least twice as much as a leisure visitor."

"Canberra is Australia's knowledge capital and I am delighted that the IEEE Symposium Series on Computational Intelligence will be held in Canberra in December 2020. The ACT Government is working to develop new industries and new jobs, including in the advanced technology and AI areas. We are proactively working with industry to develop AI capability in Canberra, including funding trials of controls for automated vehicles with local company Seeing Machines. We're combining our thirst for knowledge with a growing tourism sector, with 14 weekly international flights connecting Canberra to Asia, the Middle East and beyond. Canberra is an emerging global city and will be a fantastic host for the Symposium Series." said Chief Minister Andrew Barr MLA.

IEEE SSCI is a flagship annual international conference on computational intelligence sponsored by the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society, promoting all aspects of theory, algorithm design, applications and related emerging techniques. IEEE SSCI 2020 will co-locate a large number of exciting symposiums, each dedicated to special topics within or related to computational intelligence, thereby providing a unique platform for promoting cross-fertilization and collaboration. IEEE SSCI 2020 will feature keynote speeches, panel discussions, oral presentations and poster sessions.

The conference will be hosted at the National Convention Centre Canberra from the 1 – 4 December 2020 with workshops at UNSW Canberra and a range of engaging off site events showcasing Canberra’s capabilities in the sector, proximity of experiences and brilliant possibilities.

“UNSW Canberra is proud to be part of such a great international event. The University is leading national and international collaborative research projects, and educating and mentoring the next generation of Australian leaders and thinkers in the field. Never has the requirement for artificial intelligence expertise and knowledge been greater” said Professor Michael Frater, Rector, UNSW Canberra.

“The secret recipe for a successful bid of an international conference is people with the knowledge, experience, determination, and good will to work together for the bid. This is what I received from the Canberra Convention Bureau; a team of professionals who supported me all the way with their network of connections, experience to get financial support, knowledge of the local environment, and positive attitude. They were in it to win it.” said Professor Hussein Abbass of UNSW Canberra.

“This event is strongly aligned with the ACT strengths in AI. The knowledge exchange when over 500 international delegates arrive in Canberra in December 2020 will deliver a powerful reputational legacy. An early legacy of this event will be the creation of CAI Week – Canberra Artificial Intelligence Week”, said Michael Matthews, Canberra Convention Bureau CEO. “A site inspection of Canberra by the international Executive Committee of the Computational Intelligence Society and a truly collaborative approach to bidding from UNSW Canberra, ACT Government and Tourism Australia saw Canberra secure this event ahead of an international field” he said.

MEDIA CONTACT: Avon Dissanayake, Marketing & Communications Manager. Canberra Convention Bureau
+61 2 6263 5305 avon.dissanayake@canberraconvention.com.au canberraconvention.com.au

Canberra Convention Bureau is the peak body responsible for attracting business events to Canberra region. With the support of a highly collaborative community, the Bureau works to bring conferences, meetings and incentive programs to the region by ensuring Canberra is recognised globally as an exceptional destination. The Canberra Convention Bureau is assisted by the ACT Government through VisitCanberra. For more information visit canberraconvention.com.au