TAINN'98

The Seventh Turkish Symposium on
Artificial Intelligence and Neural Networks

June 24-26 1998
Bilkent University, Ankara, TURKEY

Miscellaneous Information for Participants

1 Symposium Location

The Symposium will be held in the conference center of the Faculty of Fine Arts, at the south end of the campus mall. This building is within walking distance of the dorms and the Engineering Building. There will be a shuttle service to and from Hotel Bilkent.

2 Registration

You can register and pick up your symposium material at the registration desk in the Faculty of Fine Arts Conference Center, between 8:45 and 11:45 on the morning of Wednesday June 24th. If you have not made your registration payment, please do so at the time of registration. You can pay in TL or US dollars.

3 Banking

If you need to access banking services, there is a bank (Yapi Kredi Bank) on the A-Block entrance level of the Engineering Building which can cash travelers' checks, change currency etc. There is also a banking machine near the bank which will let you access your home account via one of the international networks (Cirrus, Plus, Edc, etc.) and withdraw money from your charge card accounts (in Turkish Liras). Numerous other banking machines can also be found on the campus, mainly in the Faculty of Management Building near the symposium site. The lira is not a meaningful measure these days: a US dollar is about 260,000 TL, a DM is about 150,000. The largest bank-note is for 5,000,000 TL, and there are bank-notes for 1,000,000, 500,000 TL 250,000 TL, 100,000 TL and 50,000 TL. For up to date information on currency rates, check the Central Bank Web server at `http://www.tcmb.gov.tr/`. Credit cards are widely used for all kinds of transactions.

4 Telephone and Mail Services

There are public telephones around the campus. You will need to buy telephone cards (100 unit cards for international calls) from the local PTT office, or from the dispenser in the Engineering Building. Your GSM cellular phone will also work through one of the local operators (TURKCELL or TELSIM).

5 Library

If for some reason you need to access library services, the University Library is the new building next to the Engineering Building.

6 Lunch

There is a cafeteria on the A-Block of the Engineering Building where you can have lunch. There are a number of other places on the campus for lunch. The nearest ones are across from the A-level entrance towards the right. Further eateries for lunch and dinner may be found in the shopping area just outside the university entrance: there are some nice places in the Ankuva Mall, and a few fast food places in the main hall of the Real Supermarket. This area is also within 10-15 minute walking distance of the Hotel.

7 Reception

There will be a symposium reception at 19:30 – 22:30 on Wednesday June 24th at Rector's Hall which is a convenient 10 minute walking distance from the Symposium location. Food and beverages will be served.

8 Transportation

There will be shuttle transportation between the Hotel and the symposium site.

9 Cappadocia Trip

If you have registered for the Cappadocia trip, you will be picked up at the hotel or the dorm in the morning of the trip date (June 27). If you have to pay during the registration on Wednesday June 24th. Additional details on exact pick-up times will be available later. You probably need sneakers or walking shoes. The area is very scenic so do not forget to bring your cameras and/or your camcorders.

10 Weather

During June Ankara is usually very warm (around 25 - 30 degrees centigrade or perhaps higher) but once the sun sets, it cools down pretty fast (possibly below 10). Strong evening showers are possible in June Cappadocia region has a similar weather pattern.

11 Miscellaneous

BE VERY CAREFUL IN THE TRAFFIC. It will seem very chaotic to you and it sure is. The interpretation of the traffic lights by drivers vary (e.g., some regard it as purely advisory!). Although by law pedestrians have the right of way, this does not seem to work in practice. So please be very careful on and off the campus.

SMOKING IS FORBIDDEN IN ALL UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS EXCEPT IN DESIGNATED LOCATIONS.