

The 2017 ICT Accessibility Testing Symposium: Automated & Manual Testing, WCAG 2.1, and Beyond

Call For Proposals (Updated May 31)

Thursday October 26 & Friday October 27
(Workshops: Wednesday October 25)

Partnership for Public Service Conference Center, Washington DC

Submission deadline: Friday, June 30, 2017

ICTAccessibilityTesting.org

After a successful inaugural event in 2016, keynoted by Judy Brewer (Director, W3C-WAI), we are pleased to announce the Call For Proposals for the second annual Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Accessibility Testing Symposium. The symposium is an opportunity for the accessibility community to gather, present, and engage colleagues in the discussion of current challenges and pressing issues, and to further the science and practice of testing.

Testing is a bedrock element of any accessibility program. Without test results, it is not possible to accurately gauge your current status, or track progress towards meeting your goals. Purposeful implementation and management of accessibility testing programs in organizations can improve efficiency, repeatability, and quality. In recent years, the number of different types of testing tools and testing methods has grown rapidly. With growth comes an abundance of ideas, diversity in approaches, and variations in scope. This growth reflects increasing levels of interest in the inclusion of accessibility as an integral part of mainstream ICT development. We hope that you will consider participating in this event, and help the field collectively evolve and enhance accessibility testing practices.

The symposium will include workshops, presentations and published proceedings from peer reviewed submissions. We welcome national and international submissions from all sectors, including disability associations, academia, government, industry, industry associations, and non-profits.

We welcome your proposals, and look forward to meeting you in Washington, DC in October for the second annual symposium.

Sincerely, Chris M. Law, Chair, 2017 Symposium Committee

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Submissions

Research, development, and practice submissions are welcome under the following testing themes and domains.

Testing method themes

- WCAG 2.0
- WCAG 2.1
- Section 508 Refresh
- Trusted Tester
- Automated Testing
- Manual testing tools
- Standards
- Other / Cross-Cutting

Testing management themes

- Governance and implementation of testing in the systems development lifecycle
- Management of testing teams
- Testing and procurement
- Test results and their use in organizational maturity assessments
- Testing and organizational policies
- Other / Cross-Cutting

Program area themes

- ICT Vendors and customers
- Government (Federal, State, Local)
- Educational Sector
- Legal Sector
- Healthcare & Health Informatics
- Testing as a profession
- Provision of training to testers
- Other / Cross-Cutting

Testing Domains

- Websites and Web Applications
- Enterprise & Desktop Software
- Mobile Applications
- Cloud Computing
- Wearables
- Electronic Documents
- Multimedia
- Closed products (kiosks, ATMs etc.)
- Other / Cross-Cutting

Submission requirements, format, and where to submit

For all submission formats, prepare a 1,000 word description, and indicate your preferred format, thematic area(s) and testing domain.

The submission deadline is June 30, 2017. Submit your proposal at the symposium website: ICTAccessibilityTesting.org

Notifications, and inclusion in the Proceedings

The lead author of successful submissions will be notified by July 31, 2017, with final 'camera ready' papers due by September 22, 2017. Camera ready papers are subject to the page limits given in the table below. Authors will be provided with a template for generating a consistent, accessible format for camera ready papers.

The proceedings for this event will be published online and in hard copy form. Both the accessible electronic copy and the hard copy will be included in the symposium registration. For reference, last year's proceedings can be downloaded at the conference website:

[ictaccessibilitytesting.org/docs/Proceedings of the 2016 ICT Accessibility Testing Symposium.pdf](http://ictaccessibilitytesting.org/docs/Proceedings%20of%20the%202016%20ICT%20Accessibility%20Testing%20Symposium.pdf)

The following presentation formats will be available in the one day preconference and the two day symposium:

Format	Session length	Proceedings page limit
Papers	30-45 minutes each	8 pages
Panel Discussions	60 minutes	2 pages
Hands-on workshops	Half day or Full day	2 pages
Hackathons	Full Day	2 pages

Note: For workshops and hackathons, internet and power connections will be provided for all presenters and participants. Computer equipment for participants is not provided (participants can bring their own device).

Discussions, meetings and break-outs

With researchers and practitioners coming from far and wide, the event provides a great location for planned meetings as well as impromptu discussion among attendees:

- Meeting rooms are available to be booked at cost (lunch can be ordered as an extra). To inquire about booking your meeting, send a message to the symposium chair. Bookings are on a first come, first served basis, with no bookings taken after September 22:
 - Wednesday 25: Up to 14 people half day \$150; or full day \$300;
 - Thursday 26: Up to 14 people, lunchtime only \$150;
 - Friday 27: Up to 28 people, lunchtime only \$300.
- On Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, there will be an area set aside that can be booked for impromptu meetings and break-out discussions. For this space there will be no advance booking prior to the Thursday.

We will also be repeating last year's popular (and fun!) 'Speed Business Card Exchange'.

Student travel bursaries

At the time of writing, two USD \$1,500 student travel bursaries are available to help cover costs of travel, accommodation and registration. To be eligible for a travel bursary, students must:

- Be currently enrolled full or part time in a higher education institution;
- Have their submission accepted as lead author; and
- Indicate on the submission form they wish to be considered for a travel bursary.

Notifications of being awarded a travel bursary will be made at the same time as authors are notified. In the event that more applications are received than bursaries available, committee review scores will determine allocations.

Sponsorship opportunities

We welcome two types of sponsorship opportunity:

- Sponsor of student travel bursaries;
- Sponsor of awards.

Please contact the symposium committee chair to inquire about sponsorship opportunities.

Please also note that this event does not feature opportunities for commercial demonstrations or exhibits.

Venue, Hotel & Registration

Venue

The Symposium will be held at

The Partnership for Public Service Conference Center
1100 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200 East,
Washington, DC 20005

Hotel

The hotel is one block from the Symposium Venue:

Renaissance Washington, DC Downtown Hotel
999 9th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

The event room rate is [\\$259 when booking through this link.](#)

Room block rates good through September 22, or until booked out.

Registration

The two day conference fee will be \$300

Preconference workshops: half day, \$100; full day, \$200

Preconference hackathons: Full day, \$200

Registration for attending the symposium will be via the conference website, and will open on August 8 and close on Sunday October 23.

Please note: There is no on-site registration; this event is in-person, and will not be streamed online.

Important dates in 2017

Call For Proposals announced: Monday, March 27

Proposals (1000 words) due: Friday, June 30

Notifications to authors: Monday, July 31

Symposium registration opens: Monday, August 8

Last day to... Friday, September 22

- Last day to request disability accommodations
- Last day to guarantee spots in preconference sessions
- Last day to book meeting rooms
- Last day to get guaranteed rate on room block at event Hotel (if not filled by this date)

Camera-ready papers due: Friday, September 22

Symposium registration closes: Sunday, October 23

Symposium preconference day: Wednesday, October 25

**Symposium: Thursday 26
& Friday 27 October**

Symposium Committee

Symposium Chair:	Chris M. Law (chrismlaw@accessibilitytrack.com)
Symposium Co-Chair:	Norman Robinson
Marketing & Outreach Chair:	Laura Renfro
Awards Chair:	John Rempel

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Norman Robinson
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Manager, Department of
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Madeleine Rothberg
Senior Subject Matter
Expert, National Center for
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