

General Chairs' Welcome

We are excited to welcome you to CHI 2019 in Glasgow! This is the first time CHI has been in the UK and we very happy to host it in Scotland. Our theme is 'Weaving the Threads of CHI', reflected in our celtic knot symbol of strength and friendship. The threads of CHI are people from different disciplines, cultures, communities, backgrounds – designers, researchers, practitioners – weaving together around the common purpose of technology that works for people and society.

The theme of weaving informed all our planning and we are excited to present a vibrant programme for you to experience. Apart from an outstanding technical programme, we have created many other opportunities for 'weaving' to happen: Lunch@CHI on Monday-Wednesday; CHI Stories on Tuesday evening; and an evening UX Industry event with a special invited speaker. We have also organised open social events every evening, including a Newcomers reception on Sunday and a sponsors reception on Wednesday in the Science Centre.

A particular highlight is the Interactivity and Demonstrations programme, launched at the Reception on Monday evening, giving a live glimpse into the future with 50 hands-on prototypes, artworks, design experiences as well as inspirational technologies, and including a special 20 year anniversary exhibition from Nottingham University's Mixed Reality Lab.

We are thrilled with our dynamic keynote speakers. Aleks Krotoski is a broadcaster, journalist and academic who presents the BBC Digital Human series and The Guardian newspaper's Tech Weekly podcast. Ivan Poupyrev (Google) is an award-winning technology leader, scientist and designer working at the cutting edge of interactive technologies and textiles.

We are also excited to continue the commitment to making CHI, and CHI content, more widely accessible. We will be live-streaming most paper sessions. We will support remote attendance to social sessions through a new form of telepresence being trialed this year. We also support diversity and inclusion by providing a nursing room, all-gender bathrooms, badge pronouns, a desensitization room and a prayer room. We have appointed Equity chairs for the first time to take a broader overview of equity concerns. Our new Sustainability chairs are also helping us take steps towards making the CHI event more sustainable.

We have also had many organisational changes to CHI this year: a virtual programme committee meeting, a new submission system, new paper templates, a new logistics company and a new registration system, to name a few. Some of these have caused you and us headaches but all of them will make CHI stronger for future years.

We welcome you to Glasgow and our hope is that, over the next six days, you weave yourself ever more as a part of the CHI community, exploring technology and world-class research, engaging in discussions with your community of designers, researchers, students, and practitioners and all attendees!

Stephen Brewster

CHI'19 General Chair

University of Glasgow, Scotland, UK

Geraldine Fitzpatrick

CHI'19 General Chair

TU Wien, Austria