

OZCHI Code of Conduct

December 2018

This Code of Conduct for the OZCHI conference has been written to make explicit the academic and personal behaviour that is expected from all attendees at this conference. Regular OZCHI attendees will find this code confirms the standards of behaviour they have typically experienced at OZCHI; for new attendees this code establishes a baseline of personal and academic behaviour that they can expect from others, and to practice themselves.

The personal behaviour we expect is in line with the norms of the 21st century. Therefore behaviour or language that discriminates or intimidates on the basis of gender, age, ethnicity; race; religion; sexuality; gender identity or expression; status as a student, academic or professional; academic discipline; national origin; family status or care responsibilities; disability or physical appearance is not acceptable. In particular, harassing behaviour will not be tolerated. Harassing behaviour includes offensive verbal comments, intimidation, sustained disruption of talks, nonconstructive feedback and physical assault.

A foundation of this Code of Conduct is the academic and personal respect that attendees will show towards each other. In terms of academic respect, OZCHI attracts papers from a diverse range of disciplines and academic practices that meet under the banner of Computer-Human Interaction. When attendees who hold differing points of view interact, either in the paper sessions or individually, that interaction should be respectful and be in pursuit of mutual understanding. Attendees should recognise that the papers presented at OZCHI have been accepted to the conference, and that it is not acceptable academic practice to question the validity of any paper as part of the conference. However, it is acceptable to ask a respectful question about the context of work presented at this conference, both as an audience member in the presentations and separately with the presenter.

To illustrate these two aspects we can consider two different ways that an audience member might probe the context of a speaker's presentation. "Would you please explain more about the academic context of your work?" is a fair and reasonable question. In contrast "What does this work have to do with OZCHI?" is a hostile question.

We recognise that, due to the nature of OZCHI, there may be talks that include sensitive or challenging material. Speakers delivering such talks are asked to consider the sensitivities of their audiences when preparing talk materials. The presence of such material, however, does not necessarily transgress this Code of Conduct.

Session chairs will be asked to manage behaviour during talks and ensure questions and presentations meet the Code of Conduct. In any other context, if you feel that you are being harassed or if you notice someone else being harassed then please notify a conference committee member (or ask a student volunteer to find a committee member for you) and we will assist you to feel safe until the issue is resolved.

Should you engage in harassment you may be asked to leave the conference without refund, or have limits placed on your interactions with other attendees.

This code of conduct applies to all OZCHI events, including talks, breaks, workshops, the reception and the conference dinner.