

NOSSDAV 2010

The 20th International Workshop on Network and Operating Systems Support for Digital Audio and Video

Amsterdam, The Netherlands. June 2-4, 2010

Important Information for Participants

In about a week's time, the 20th edition of NOSSDAV will start in Amsterdam. The note will help you prepare for your visit to the workshop. If you have any questions or if you need help when you arrive, please feel free to contact the local NOSSDAV team here in Holland.

Getting Around Town

The best way to make your way around Amsterdam is by public transportation. There is an extensive (and safe) network of trams and busses that can take you to most of the sites discussed below. For information on the city's transport system, see: <http://gvb.nl/>. The municipal transport authority (the GVB) has an iPhone app which can help guide you thru town. See: <http://itunes.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewSoftware?id=370393784&mt=8&affid=1380330>.

Important note: As of June 3, only new public transport chip cards may be used for travel in the city's metro, tram and bus network. You may purchase tickets on the tram, but it is significantly less expensive to get an anonymous chip card for the duration of your stay. These can be purchased from the GVB information point at Central Station, or at local tobacco shops. Your hotel can give you information.

Opening Reception

The opening reception for NOSSDAV 2010 will be held on Wednesday evening from 5pm-7pm in the city centre of Amsterdam (**not** at CWI, the workshop venue). We will host the reception at the *Cafe de Jaren*, which is located at *Nieuwe Doelenstraat 20, 1012 CP Amsterdam*. General information on the cafe may be found at <http://cafedejaren.nl>. We have selected this venue because (a) it is a nice place, (b) it is close to places that you could consider for dinner after the reception, and (c) because it is easily accessible from the two main workshop hotels.

To get to Cafe de Jaren from the NH Tropen hotel, take tram 9 from the hotel (toward *Central Station*) and get off at the stop **Muntplein**. To get to the Cafe de Jaren from the NH City Centre hotel, walk along the Singel (the canal on which the back of the hotel is located) toward the flower market, which ends at Muntplein. Cafe de Jaren is next to the Hotel de l'Europe.

There will be hot and cold snacks at the reception. Every NOSSDAV registrant will receive two drink tickets for the reception. You may purchase additional drinks, if you wish.

A fun fact: Cafe de Jaren is located in the building in which Rembrandt's famous painting *The Night Watch* was created.

Workshop Venue: CWI

NOSSDAV is being held at CWI: Centrum Wiskunde en Informatica, *Science Park 123, 1098 XG Amsterdam*. CWI is located on the south-eastern edge of town. You can get to CWI by following the GVB's instructions to Science Park. There is also a Dutch Railways stop at Science Park. We will have maps available at Wednesday's reception.

When you arrive at CWI, you will need a badge for our internal security system. These are available at our reception desk. We will have coffee and light breakfast rolls available at CWI on Thursday and Friday mornings from 8am onward, but unless you are a light eater, you should probably have a real breakfast at your hotel or in the city.

Lunch will be provided on Thursday and Friday at the workshop. These meals are included in your registration fees. There will also be catered morning and afternoon breaks.

The scientific program will start at 8:30 on both days.

NOSSDAV Banquet

The NOSSDAV reception will be held on Thursday evening. We will leave for the banquet by boat from the NH Tropen hotel at 6pm on Thursday. (Busses will be provided for people at CWI. If you have family or guests with you, have them meet at the dock across from the Tropen Institute.) After a nautical tour through the city's canals, we will eat at *Bickers aan de Werf* (Dutch website: <http://bickersaandewerf.nl/>). After dinner, there is a chance to visit some local bars, terraces and other local treats.

If you expect to purchase an extra banquet ticket (US\$100), please let us know ASAP so that we can alert the restaurant. Send me a note at Dick.Bulterman@cw.nl.

Other NOSSDAV PAQs

Here are some potentially-asked questions related to NOSSDAV 2010:

1. *Will there be wireless access available at the workshop?*
Yes. You will be able to surf the Web and print documents at CWI. (With reason, of course.)
2. *Will there be printed proceedings available?*
Yes.
3. *I still need to pay some fees at the workshop. Does CWI accept credit cards?*
No! You must pay us in cash (euro's only!) for any expenses at the workshop. Sorry.
4. *Will my North American mobile phone work in Holland?*
If you have GSM-based service and if you have international roaming enabled, you should have no technical problems. You may have a loan to pay the roaming charges, however, especially if you make extensive use of data access outside of CWI.
5. *Will I need a power converter for my electronic gear?*
Most modern power supplies can take 100-220v, 50-60Hz, so a power converter is usually not required. You *will* need a European plug for your power cord. CWI's power receptacles use plugs with two round plug pins. Plug adapters are available at many hotels or at the electronics store *Aurora* on the Vijzelstraat, near Muntplein (and the site of the Wednesday reception). Note: CWI **does not** have a supply of converter plugs.
6. *Will there be people around to run errands for me during the workshop?*
No. (Of course, our support staff will be glad to help with conference-related issues.) We will provide a set of emergency contact numbers once you arrive.
7. *What is the weather like in June?*
June is a great time to be in Holland. The weather is warm, but not hot. High temperatures will be around 20C (in the mid-70'sF). Evenings will be cool. At this time of year, it stays light outside until about 10:30pm. A rain shower is always a possibility, so bring a jacket or raincoat whenever you go outside for longer periods.

Final NOSSDAV Thoughts

The Icelandic Ash Cloud seems to be keeping quiet. There are no plans for public strikes. The weather forecast is good. Registrations for NOSSDAV 2010 are up over 30% from last year. We expect a great keynote from Klara Nahrstedt. We have a strong and diverse scientific program.

I look forward to meeting you all in Amsterdam next week!

Dick C.A. Bulterman, General Chair, NOSSDAV 2010

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