

Dear SWARM2019 Participants,

We hope this finds you well and you are looking forward to your visit to Okinawa for SWARM2019. We have an exciting lineup of talks and posters for the conference. This email contains some useful information in advance of your visit.

We look forward to welcoming you in Okinawa soon.

With Regards,

Kazuki Tsuji (Conference General Chair)

Information for SWARM 2019

1. Program

The program has been finalized, please view the times of all the talks at this link.

<https://easychair.org/smart-program/SWARM2019/>

2. Venue Information

The venue for SWARM 2019 is the OIST conference center

(<https://www.oist.jp/conference-venue#Conference-Center>). OIST ([google map](#) and [access info](#)) is located in Onna village, approximately 1hr drive from Naha airport. The conference-affiliated hotels are within a few km of the venue at OIST.

3. Transport from Naha Airport to the Onna village area (and back):

There are several options to get to your hotel and/or OIST from Naha Airport

Conference Shuttle From Airport

We have hired shuttle buses to transport participants from the airport to the hotels on Nov 19, and return Nov 22nd and Nov 23rd.

The shuttle schedule is here:

<https://va.apollon.nta.co.jp/swarm2019/files/SWARM2019%20Shuttle%20Bus%20schedule.pdf>

Information on finding the airport shuttle is here:

<https://va.apollon.nta.co.jp/swarm2019/files/Naha%20AP%20Information.pdf>

Limousine bus (not organized by conference)

There is private bus company that has routes from the airport to hotels in the Onna area (including conference hotels Moon Beach, Rizzan Sea Park, and Moon Beach is a close walk to Onna MarineView Palace and Pink Marlin Club). It costs around 2,000 yen or less. More information here <https://www.oist.jp/limousine-bus>

Taxi

Taxis are available for hire at the airport. To get to the Onna-area from Naha Airport, it would cost approximately 12,000-15,000 yen.

Public Bus

There are also options for public transportation, which are described in more detail here (<https://www.oist.jp/directions-southern-okinawa>).

Rental Car

Rental cars are available and are generally reasonably priced, for example ([Visit Okinawa Japan](#)). This is recommended if you want to look around the island before or after the conference. For international visitors, you must have an international driver's license to drive a car in Japan.

4. Daily transportation from hotels to and from the conference venue (OIST):

We have arranged a free shuttle to travel from Moon Beach, Rizzan Sea Park, and Onna MarineView Palace, to OIST and back on the morning and evening of each conference day. The schedule is here:

<https://va.apollon.nta.co.jp/swarm2019/files/SWARM2019%20Shuttle%20Bus%20schedule.pdf>

Taxis can also be ordered for local trips between your hotel and the conference, and it is only a few km walk from area hotels if you are so inclined.

5. Food during SWARM2019

Bento boxes are included in the conference fees and will be provided for lunch on Nov 20, 21, and 22. There are limited options for other food close to the venue so please bring your own snacks, etc.

The Banquet is on the night of the 21st, at Rizzan Sea Park Hotel (tickets extra). The conference does not provide dinner on the 20th or 22nd but there are restaurants available at and near the hotels in the area.

6. Presentation information

Oral presentation

You are welcome to bring your talk on your own laptop to connect to the A/V system. We also will have laptops available if you bring your talk on a USB memory device (ppt or pdf).

Poster presentation

The poster should follow the International Standards Organization (ISO) size A0. The dimensions for A0 format are 84cm x 119cm. The orientation of the poster should be portrait. At least one of the authors of each accepted poster is required to be present at the poster during the core time (13:00-14:00 for odd number posters, 14:00-15:00 for even number posters). Check your poster number in the program.

Further instructions for talks and posters can be found here:

<https://arilab.unit.oist.jp/swarm2019/#program>

7. Workshops

We have two fantastic workshops after the main symposium on the 22nd afternoon. The venue for the workshops is the OIST conference center.

- **Role of movement-based active perception in navigation and its neurorobotic correlates** (organizers: Danish Shaikh and Alejandro Pequeño Zurro, University of Southern Denmark)
- **Swarm Intelligence in AI and ALife** (organizers: Takashi Ikegami, University of Tokyo and Hemma Philamore, Kyoto University)

Further information is available here:

<https://arilab.unit.oist.jp/swarm2019/#ws>

8. Money

ATMs that accept foreign cards can be difficult to find in the Onna area, so bringing some Japanese Yen cash is recommended. ATMs are at the airport (particular JP Post accepts many foreign cards). Most larger hotels may be able change foreign cash into Yen, but check with your hotel.

9. SWARM Secretariat

For general questions, please contact the SWARM Secretariat (swarm2019.secretariat@gmail.com).