



AIS MWAIS Newsletter

Association for Information Systems

Midwest Association for Information Systems

Fall 2025

Greetings from Lingyao (Ivy) Yuan, President of MWAIS

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Dear MWAIS members,

What an extraordinary year it has been for the MWAIS community! The 2024–2025 academic year will be remembered as a milestone in our history—driven by the energy and dedication of our members, the vision of our executive board, and the tireless work of the 2025 conference committee. Together, we have built powerful momentum that will continue to shape the future of our community. This year, we celebrated a landmark achievement—the 20th Annual MWAIS Conference, hosted at the Spears School of Business, Oklahoma State University, in Stillwater, Oklahoma (May 13–15, 2025). The event was nothing short of a triumph! With faculty and students traveling from across the U.S. and even Europe, the conference reaffirmed MWAIS as a truly global hub for IS scholarship. We were honored to welcome Dr. Jason Bennet Thatcher (University of Colorado Boulder) as our keynote speaker, whose inspiring talk set the tone for a program rich with innovation and collaboration.

The conference drew 70 submissions, from which 46 papers were accepted into the proceedings and showcased through 40 presentations, including 32 full papers and 8 lightning sessions. These contributions spanned diverse and timely topics: online communities, healthcare, IT governance, cybersecurity, HCI, machine learning, IS education, and the fast-growing field of AI research. The conference also hosted two workshops on AI: one on leveraging digital twins in IS and another on building AI applications. Notably, our reach extended far beyond the Midwest and the U.S.—with international submissions from Germany and Sweden.

Our awards celebrated the best of this scholarly excellence:

- The 2025 Daniel J. Power Best Paper Award went to “*Building Trust in AI: Evaluating the Response Effectiveness of Conversational Tools and Their Impact on User Confidence*” by Shan Xiao, Hailey Nguyen, and Botong Xue.



President's Address (Continued)

- The Best Student Paper Award was earned by Zachary Roemer, Robert Sumerauer, Emma Sundquist, and Jeffrey Merhout for *“IT Governance Framework for the Internet of Medical Things in the Healthcare Industry.”*
- The Best HCI Paper Award was presented to Jacob Young and Sahar Farshadkhah for *“The Stunted Evolution of Whistleblowing Research: A Matter of Artificial Selection.”*

This success is a testament to the leadership of the conference team. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Honorary Conference Chair Dr. Ramesh Sharda (Oklahoma State University), Conference Co-Chairs Dr. David Biros and Dr. Andy Luse (Oklahoma State University), Program Co-Chairs Gabriel Bahr (Oklahoma State University) and Dr. Madhav Sharma (Kansas State University), Track Chairs Dr. David Sikolia (Pittsburg State University) and Dr. Peter Liang (Iowa State University), and the entire committee whose dedication made this event possible.

Our community is also growing stronger than ever. This year, MWAIS proudly reached 185 members, with 40 new members, including 20 doctoral students. Engaging and supporting PhD students will remain one of our highest priorities, as they are the future of our field and the heart of our community.

At the annual business meeting, new leaders were elected, and I am excited to work alongside this outstanding executive board: Deanna House (University of Nebraska at Omaha, President-elect), Dahui Li (University of Colorado Springs, Past President), Halbana Tarmizi (Bemidji State University, Treasurer), Caleb Krieger (Creighton University, Secretary), Foluso Ayeni (Metro State University, Membership/Publicity/Newsletter Chair), Deepak Khazanchi (University of Nebraska at Omaha, At-Large Director), and myself. We also express our deepest gratitude to Past President Andy Luse and other leaders whose terms have concluded for their exceptional service to MWAIS.

Our achievements this year have also been recognized beyond our region—MWAIS was honored with the 2024 AIS Outstanding Chapter Award, further proof of the vibrancy and impact of our chapter.

Looking ahead, we are thrilled to announce that the 21st Annual MWAIS Conference will be hosted by the Ohio University College of Business in Athens, Ohio, May 21–22, 2026 (<https://sites.ohio.edu/mwais/>). The conference theme is “The Future of Work: Adapting to the Age of AI and Automation”. The Conference Chair, Dr. Gaurav Bansal, is working diligently to ensure a well-organized and successful event. In 2027, we will return to the University of Illinois at Springfield, which previously hosted us in 2007 and 2017. We are also seeking host institutions for conferences beyond 2027, and we welcome interested universities to reach out to the executive board.

Finally, I want to acknowledge the continued excellence of the Journal of the Midwest Association for Information Systems (JMWAIS), which remains a vital platform for disseminating high-quality research. Our thanks go to Editor-in-Chief Barbara D. Klein (University of Michigan–Dearborn) and Managing Editor Rassule Hadidi (Metro State University) for their outstanding leadership and commitment to the journal.

President's Address (Continued)

Thank you all for your passion, your scholarship, and your support. MWAIS is thriving because of you. Let us continue to grow, engage, and inspire as we move forward together. I cannot wait to see you at MWAIS 2026 in Ohio and at other AIS events in the year ahead!

Best regards,

Lingyao (Ivy) Yuan

MWAIS President

Iowa state University

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Highlights of MWAIS Conference 2025 Stillwater, OK

The 20th conference of the Midwest AIS was held in Stillwater, Oklahoma. The conference was held at the Spears School of Business, Oklahoma State University. MWAIS 2025 provided an intimate environment in order to facilitate the sharing of ideas, and close interaction among participants. Overall, about 75 attendees attended the conference. Ramesh Sharda and David Biros, conference co-chairs welcomed attendees to the conference. Jason Thatcher, Tandeane Rustandy Esteemed Endowed Chair, and Professor at Marriott School of Business, Leeds School of Business, University of Colorado Boulder was the keynote speaker. *"Building Trust in AI: Evaluating the Response Effectiveness of Conversational Tools and Their Impact on User Confidence"* by Shan Xiao, Hailey Nguyen, and Botong Xue won the best paper award.

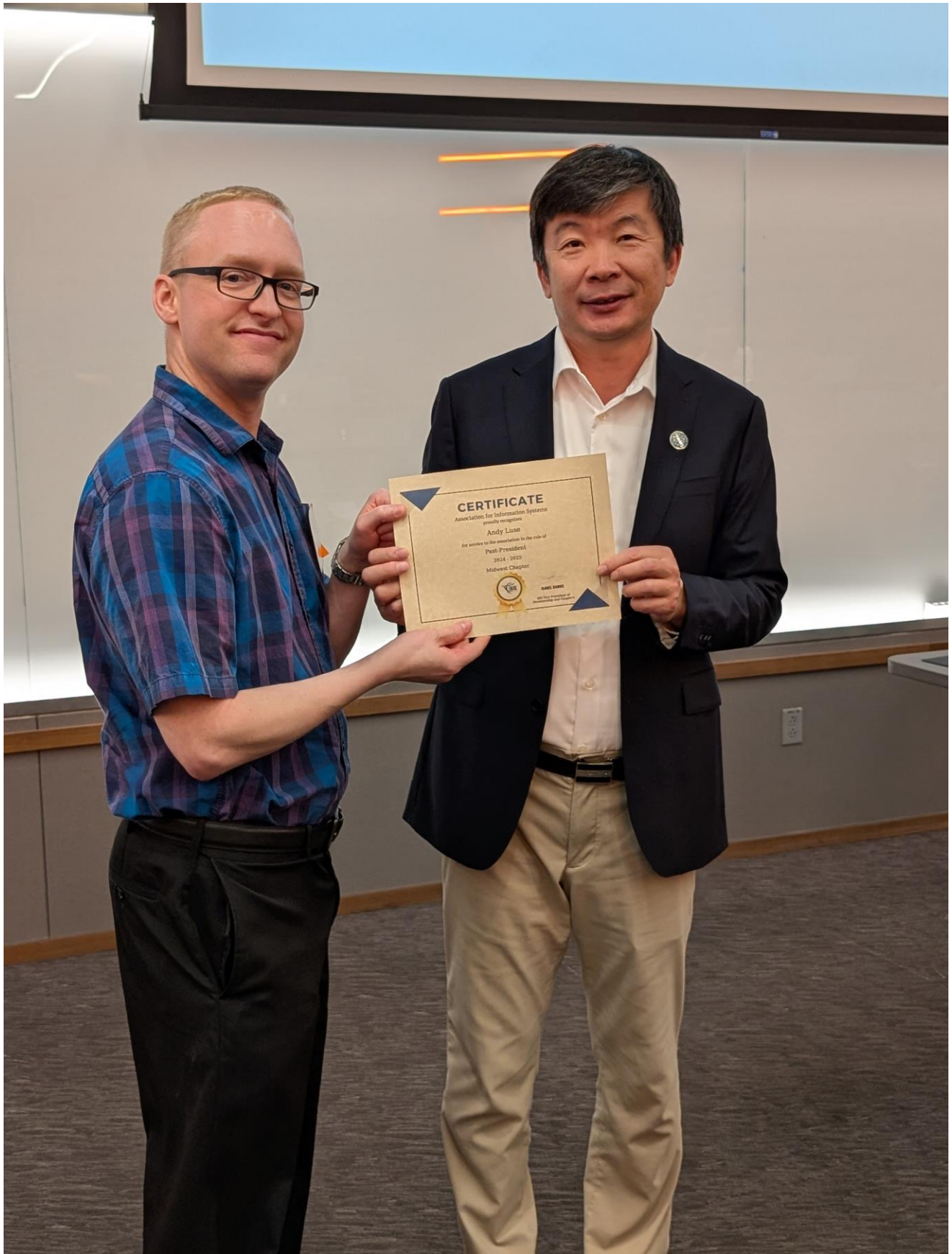


Photos from MWAIS Conference 2025













Call for Papers

JMWAIS (pronounced jēm way or say each letter "J" "M" "W" "A" "I" "S") is a double-blind, peer-reviewed, quality-focused, and open-access journal. JMWAIS publishes original articles related to Information Systems (IS), Information Technology (IT), and Management Information Systems (MIS). The editorial emphasis is on interdisciplinary research involving IS/IT and MIS from organizational and individual perspectives. JMWAIS strives to be unique, in both its interdisciplinary Information Systems focus and its commitment to authors of an expedited and constructive review process. Specifically, our editorial policy encourages authors from various business users and technical tools disciplines to submit interesting IS/T and MIS related manuscripts. Case studies with case teaching notes as well as practitioner-oriented manuscripts are also considered for publication in the journal. The Editorial Board emphasizes a balanced vision between rigor and relevance. Both academic scholarly-oriented and more practitioner-oriented submissions are welcomed. The latest issue of the Journal of the Midwest Association for Information Systems (JMWAIS) was published in July 2025. We invite you to submit a manuscript for review for the next issue to be published in January 2026.

Submission Guidelines

- Submissions may be between 7 and 20 pages long, single-spaced.
 - 1) For an empirical article, the target length is 5,000 - 7,000 words.
 - 2) For a review article, the target length is 4,000 - 5,000 words.
 - 3) For a viewpoint article, the target length is 3,000 - 4,000 words.
- Submissions should be in MS Word file format using 10-point Times New Roman font.
- Please follow APA citation style.
- Authors may include hyperlinks in their manuscripts.
- Submissions should include a 100 - 200 word abstract and 3-4 key words.
- Except on the title page, authors should not identify themselves or their affiliation in their manuscripts.
- Submission deadlines: September 15th for January issue and March 15th for July issue. Please visit www.jmwais.org for additional information.

Editor-in-Chief: Barbara Klein, University of Michigan, Dearborn

Managing Editor: Rassule Hadidi, Metro State University

Best Paper Awards: The annual MWAIS conference program committee will select papers for best paper awards. Authors of these papers who choose to submit an expanded version of their papers to JMWAIS will receive an expedited review process and upon acceptance of their paper will receive monetary prize from MWAIS.

JMW AIS Special Issue: GAI in Higher Education – Call for Manuscripts

Publication Date: January 2027

Manuscript Due Date: April 1, 2026 (Please specify submission is for special issue)

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GAI) is impacting education at all levels. The implications of this transformative technology are significant for faculty, students, higher education institutions, and the job market. AI and big data are the top two among the top five list of “fastest-growing skills” according to the World Economic Forum, the Future of Jobs Report 2025 (p.

37): <https://www.weforum.org/publications/the-future-of-jobs-report-2025/>

For this special issue of JMW AIS, we invite manuscripts that address the general impact of GAI technology on teaching and learning, and how it can be ethically and positively utilized by students, faculty, and higher education institutions to improve teaching and learning. Specifically, but not limited to, we are interested in both conceptual and empirical manuscripts dealing with the following issues:

- How GAI technology will continue to transform teaching and learning
- Ways to ethically and positively use GAI to improve the overall teaching and learning processes and outcomes
- What are the short and long-term implications of the use of this technology for all stakeholders?
- What kinds of training and guidelines are required for faculty and students to ethically and effectively use this technology?
- What are the prompt engineering skills and abilities faculty and students need to have to be able to ethically and effectively use this technology?
- What knowledge and skills should students be taught about the GAI to help their career readiness?
- How should faculty rethink their pedagogy and use this technology effectively
- What are the limitations and areas faculty, students, and higher education institutions need to avoid incorporating this technology?
- What types of jobs are likely to change or disappear? What types of jobs are likely to be created due to the existence of this technology?
- What knowledge and skills will students need to navigate data privacy and data accuracy issues as they use this technology?
- How should curriculum and degree program requirements be evaluated and revised as needed to make the best use of this technology, knowledge, and skills students need to learn in support of career readiness?

Please see the submission instructions at the following site: <https://jmwais.org/submissions/>

Barbara Klein, Editor-in-Chief

Rassule Hadidi, Managing Editor

MWAIS Conference 2026



The 21st Annual Conference of the Midwest United States Association for Information Systems (MWAIS) will be hosted by the College of Business at Ohio University in Athens, OH.

Dates: May 20 -21, 2026

Website: <https://sites.ohio.edu/mwais/>

ICIS 2025



<https://icis2025.aisconferences.org/>

Call for Officers 2026/2027

We invite enthusiastic and committed members of the MWAIS community to step into leadership roles and help shape the future of our chapter. Serving as an officer is a rewarding opportunity to contribute to the growth of our community, expand professional networks, and support the success of our conferences and initiatives. Officers are expected to actively participate in chapter activities and commit to attending the MWAIS annual meetings. If you are passionate about advancing IS scholarship and building connections across our region and beyond, we encourage you to nominate yourself or a colleague for an officer position. Send nominations to any of the executive board members listed below.

Past MWAIS conferences

Past MWAIS conferences have been great successes, hosted by:

2025 – Spears School of Business, Oklahoma State University – Stillwater, OK
2024 – Foster College of Business, Bradley University – Peoria, IL
2023 – College of Management, Metro State University – St. Paul, MN
2022 – College of Information Science and Technology, University of Nebraska Omaha – Omaha, NE
2021 – Foster College of Business, Bradley University, Peoria, IL
2020 – College of Business, Drake University, Des Moines, IL
2019 – College of Business, University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh – Oshkosh, WI
2018 – College of Business Administration, University of Missouri St Louis – St. Louis, MO
2017 – College of Business and Management, University of Illinois, Springfield – Springfield, IL
2016 – School of Information Studies, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee – Milwaukee, WI
2015 – Kelce College of Business, Pittsburg State University – Pittsburg, Kansas
2014 - College of Business, Iowa State University – Ames, Iowa
2013 - School of Information Technology and College of Business, Illinois State University – Normal, Illinois.
2012 - Austin E. Cofrin School of Business, University of Wisconsin – Green Bay, Green Bay, Wisconsin.
2011 - College of Information Science and Technology, University of Nebraska at Omaha – Omaha, Nebraska.
2010 - School of Business, Minnesota State University Moorhead – Moorhead, Minnesota.

MWAIS Officers 2025/2026

- President: **Lingyao (Ivy) Yuan**, Iowa State University, lyuan@iastate.edu
- Treasurer: Halbana Tarmizi, Bemidji State University, halbana.tarmizi@bemidjistate.edu
- Secretary: Caleb Krieger, Creighton University, calebkrieger@creighton.edu
- President-Elect: Deanna House, University of Nebraska Omaha, deannahouse@unomaha.edu
- Membership, Newsletter, and Publicity Director: **Foluso Ayeni**, Metro State University, foluso.ayeni@metroststate.edu
- Immediate Past President: **Dahui Li**, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, dli@uccs.edu
- At-Large Director: **Deepak Khazanchi**, University of Nebraska Omaha, khazanchi@unomaha.edu

Websites

AIS website: <http://aisnet.org> AIS MWAIS website: <https://communities.aisnet.org/mwais/home/>

Journal of the MWAIS: <http://jmwais.org>