



ACM Transactions on Computing Education

Special Issue on Conceptualizing and Using Theory in Computing Education Research

Guest Editors:

- **Lauri Malmi**, Aalto University, Finland, lauri.malmi@aalto.fi
- **Josh Tenenber**, University of Washington Tacoma, USA, jtenenbg@uw.edu

In recent years, there has been considerable interest and debate on the use of theory in computing education research (CER). Several literature surveys have been published in the proceedings of International Conference of Computing Education research (ICER), as well as in ITICSE working group reports, which address questions, such as: How widely do research papers in CER build on theoretical frameworks from other disciplines? Which theories are most widely used? What kind of theoretical development has emerged within the field itself? Which variables and measurements have been used in computing education? And several key publication venues (ACM *TOCE*, *Computer Science Education*, ICER and Koli Calling) clearly guide authors to apply relevant theories.

Topics

Papers are solicited for a special issue of TOCE focused on the conceptualization and use of theories in computing education research. Authors are encouraged to submit papers on the general theme of the issue, and may want to address one or more of the following:

- Reviewing the use of theory in computing education research
- Theories for explanatory research in computing education
- Theory-based predicting results in computing education
- Combining theories to enrich our understanding of learning computing
- Using or developing domain specific theories for computing education
- Adapting theories from social sciences for computing education
- Analyzing and discussing how theories can support computing education research
- Novel theoretical perspectives on/for computing education

Important Dates

- Abstract submissions deadline: Jan 15, 2021
- Decisions made on abstracts: Feb 15, 2021
- Manuscript submissions deadline: Jun 15, 2021
- First-round review decisions: Sep 15, 2021
- Deadline for revision submissions: Nov 15, 2021
- Notification of final decisions: Dec 15, 2021
- Tentative publication: Mar 2022

Submission Information

A preliminary two-page abstract of the proposed paper is due January 15, 2021. Feedback will be provided to authors by February 15 regarding relevance of the proposed paper with respect to the special issue. If invited, full paper submissions are due June 15, with publication expected in 2022. Submitting authors will be expected to review one to two other papers submitted to the special issue. In the cover letter, please indicate that the paper is for the Special Issue on Conceptualizing and Using Theory in Computing Education Research. More information on submission requirements to TOCE can be found on <https://dl.acm.org/journal/toce/author-guidelines>.

For questions and further information, please contact the guest editors.