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**Blatant for the organizers' academic reputation** A couple of grad students at MIT, with an interest in randomly generated essays and technical papers, managed to get one of their bogus CS papers to be accepted for presentation at a conference, WMSCI 2005. Not one reviewer had taken a look at the contents of the fake paper. This proves that the conference is completely fake, is just there for the money, and is a downright insult for the people who have submitted their dedicated work for this conference, as their work is now considered extremely low quality. If you are one of these, I suggest you withdraw your submission from the conference, and submit it elsewhere.

Such fake conferences are really bad for other, serious conferences, the peer reviewing process, and the scientific community as a whole. Fake conferences should be identified, made public and be finished with.

**Correspondence with the conference organizers**

I have contacted the organizers of the conference on this issue:

*I think it is really blatant for your conference that a randomly generated paper has been accepted for presentation, without having at least one reviewer to look at the contents of the paper! Academically, you should be ashamed and I'm wondering what your opinion is for what has happened recently with the peer reviewing process of your conference. Note that I will not be the sole person around not to trust any of the other papers accepted for publication, and I can't be more sorry for the people who have submitted their honest and dedicated work to your conference.*

*Yours truly,*

*Anthony Liekens, Technische Universiteit Eindhoven, the Netherlands*

And they have replied to it:

*Thank you for contacting me, so you can have an explanation from our side. I am sending you attached a letter I just sent to one of our reviewers who informed me about the same issue. From the letter you can see why I am not ashamed of myself but having a huge sadness.*

*Sincerely,*

*Nagib Callaos*

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This email had [this .doc file](#) as attachment. It amazes me how much nonsense and gibberish is in this mail message. [This page](#) provides an analysis of the BS in this letter.

I have forwarded this correspondence to the authors of the randomly generated paper.

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### What the organizers have to say

It should be pointed out from the above mail and attachment that the organizers acknowledge the fact that

- there are no quality standards for their conference, since no reviewing process is in place
- they put the responsibility of the contents of their proceedings with the submitters of the article
- papers are accepted for publication and presentation if there were no peers available to review the submissions

The only goal of the organizer is thus to trick people into believing that this is a genuine conference, although it is only there to make money, not science. In the proceedings of the conference, it is not pointed out which articles have been peer-reviewed and which not. Each of the papers in the proceedings should thus be studied critically by the reader in order to assess its quality.

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### Who is Nagib Callaos?

Nagib Charly Callaos Farra is the organizer of the fake conferences listed below. He worked at the [Universidad Simon Bolivar](#) in Venezuela, and is now on the "Nomina de Jubilados" (found [here](#)), which denotes "list of retirees". [Archived university programs](#) show that he has been professor, but no longer holds this position. He seems to be retired from his university into the lucrative business of fake conferences. He claims to be a professor, although he isn't listed as a professor at his university. Also, I have not found any credentials of this person but his Master's thesis "[Metodologia Sistematica de Sistemas, Conceptos y Aplicaciones](#)". My suspicion is thus that he is not academically credited and is not trustworthy as a professor.

All of the fake conferences below have been organized by this person, from his office in Venezuela (you can, for example, look up the contact information which gives you Venezuelan +58 phone numbers). Many

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more people seem to be involved in this fraud, although Nagib seems to be the key figure in this system.

Nagib uses a whole range of servers and email addresses for his correspondence and the organization of his fake conferences.

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## List of fake conferences

The following conferences have been identified as fake conferences, which have only been organized for the revenue, not for the scientific quality of the presented work. The contents of the conference proceedings should not be trusted as the papers have not (all) been peer reviewed.

Organized by Nagib Callaos' gang:

- [CCCT 2005](#)
- [CISCI 2005](#)
- [CITSA 2005](#)
- [EIC 2005](#)
- [EISTA 2005](#)
- [FOSSTEC 2005](#)
- [MEI 2005](#)
- [PISTA 2005](#)
- [RMCI 2005](#)
- [SIECI 2005](#)
- [SOIC 2005](#)
- [WMSCI 2005](#)

Organized by others:

- [IPSI series of conferences](#): I am regularly spammed by the organizers of these fake conferences. They seem to organize their fake seminars on a very regular basis, with complete nonsense programs. Be aware of these criminals! This fake conference is also known to accept randomly generated papers without refereeing. (submitted by Mathias Uslar, Vincenzo Della Mea, Teemu Hukkanen)
- [ESSE](#) conferences are also known to accept randomly generated papers without refereeing project. (submitted by Raul Soff)

Also interesting: Fake journals, organized similarly to fake conferences:

- [GESTS](#) (submitted by Martin Ziegler)

If you have identified fake conferences and would like these to be added to this list, please send them to [anthony@lieken.net](mailto:anthony@lieken.net). More information on black listed conferences can be found [here](#).

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## What is next?

The authors of the randomly generated paper are going to WMSCI 2005, and I hope they have the ability to not only give their randomly generated talk, but also explain to their public how the audience's work is appreciated and treated by the organizers of the conference. The fact that a randomly generated paper was accepted, is harmful for the audience's work and curriculum.

If you have submitted a paper to any of these conferences, please consider withdrawing your work from the conference and resubmit the paper elsewhere. Your work doesn't have any scientific value at these conferences anyway! If you have used these conferences as an opportunity to visit Orlando, since it was easy to get accepted for presentation, and not for the science of the conference, then I think you should reconsider your goals in life.

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## References

- [SClgen](#)
- [Prof. Sokal's parody papers](#)

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