

# The 2026 Classification Society Annual Meeting Program

Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, June 16 – 18, 2026

## Specific locations:

- The welcome reception (June 16) will be from 5 pm - 8 pm on the patio at Gahan House.
- Presentations will be held in Kenneth C. Rowe Management building, room 1009.
- The poster session will be in Outlton-Stanish Centre Event Room.
- The Classification Society General Meeting will be held in Kenneth C. Rowe Management building, room 1009.
- The Classification Society Board Meeting will be held in Kenneth C. Rowe Management building, room 3001.
- The Journal of Classification editorial board meeting will be held in Chase building, room 319.
- The Banquet (June 18) will be held at Saraguay House.

*The Classification Society would like to thank Springer and Dalhousie University for support of the meeting.*

## Tuesday, June 16

5:00 - 8:00pm **Welcome Reception/ Registration** (Gahan House)

## Wednesday, June 17

8:15am **Opening Remarks**  
Chuck MacDonald  
Dean of Science, Dalhousie University

8:30am **President's Invited Address** Chair: Sanjeena Dang  
*Model based clustering in reduced functional subspaces*  
Roberto Rocci

9:30am Coffee Break  
**Journal of Classification editorial board meeting** in Kenneth C. Rowe Management building, room 3001

10:00am **Invited Session 1** Chair: Brian Franczak  
*A mixture approach to discriminative clustering with applications to flow cytometry and other data*  
Mackenzie Neal  
*Robust clustering with cellwise outliers*  
Giorgia Zaccaria  
*The Hidden Markov Ising Model*  
Adam Kashlak

11:30am Lunch Break  
**Classification Society Board Meeting** (Chase building, room 319)

1:00pm **Contributed Session 1** Chair: Jeff Andrews  
*Mixtures of spatial factor analyzers for tensor-variate data*  
Hanzhang Lu  
*Parsimonious Ultrametric Mixture Models for Matrix-Variate Data*  
Alexa Sochaniwsky  
*Differentiating endotypes and linking them with their functional representation beyond spirometry*  
David Yabar  
*A Multivariate Pseudo-Voigt Mixture Model for Outlier Detection*  
Babak Fathollahi Dehkordi  
*A logistic normal multinomial bi-clustering framework for high-dimensional compositional data*  
Caitlin Kral  
*A novel approach to clustering shape data using iteratively weighted vectors with k-means*  
Jason Turk

2:30pm Coffee Break

3:00pm	<p><b>Invited Session 2</b>  <i>Selected Themes from Articles Published in the Journal of Classification in 2026</i>  Paul McNicholas  <i>Mixed-Type Distance Shrinkage and Selection for Clustering via Kernel Metric Learning</i>  John Thompson  <i>Torus Probabilistic Principal Component Analysis</i>  Mehdi Maadooliat</p>	Chair: Paul McNicholas
4:30pm	<b>Poster Session</b>	
<b>Thursday, June 18</b>		
8:30am	<p><b>Invited Lecture</b>  <i>Characterizing Subgroups of Count Data with Different Degrees of Dispersion via Finite Mixtures of Mean-Parameterized Conway-Maxwell-Poisson (CMP) Regressions</i>  Derek Young</p>	Chair: Sanjeena Dang
9:30am	Coffee Break	
10:00am	<p><b>Contributed Session 2</b>  <i>Latent Class Poisson-Lognormal Mixed Models for Heterogeneous Multivariate Longitudinal Count Data</i>  Pengqi Liu  <i>Parsimonious Mixtures of Skewed Bilinear Factor Analyzers</i>  Michael Gallagher  <i>K-Subspaces with Adaptive Intrinsic Dimension and UMAP Integration</i>  Siyi Wang</p>	Chair: Stephen France
11:00am	<p><b>Contributed Session 3</b>  <i>Multiclassification for high-dimensional error-prone gene expression data</i>  Li-Pang Chen  <i>A Landmark Set Learning Algorithm for Scalable Spectral Clustering</i>  Guangliang Chen  <i>Slowed k-means: Escaping Local Minima by Rethinking Center Updates</i>  Daniel Aloise</p>	Chair: Michael Gallagher
12:00pm	Lunch Break	
1:30pm	<p><b>Invited Session 3</b>  <i>Ranked-choice voting and mixture modeling: An application to the 2025 New York City Democratic primary</i>  Michael Pearce  <i>A finite mixture model approach to dynamic clustering</i>  Jeff Andrews</p>	Chair: Orla Murphy
2:15pm	<p><b>2026 Distinguished Dissertation Award Address</b>  <i>Novel unsupervised techniques for mixed-type data</i>  Efthymios Costa</p>	Chair: Daniel Aloise
3:00pm	Coffee Break	
3:30pm	<p><b>Invited Session 4</b>  <i>Structural time series for clustering mutations in wastewater to detect new disease variants</i>  Devan Becker  <i>A discomfort-informed adaptive Gibbs sampler for Bayesian finite mixture models</i>  Paul Kirk  <i>ClusterLOB: Enhancing Trading Strategies by Clustering Orders in Limit Order Books</i>  Alexander Shestopaloff</p>	Chair: Michael Pearce
5:00pm	<b>Classification Society General Meeting</b>	
5:30pm	Bus pick-up from Dalhousie University (6283 Alumni Crescent)	
6:00pm	Banquet (Saraguay House)	
9:00pm	Bus Pickup from Saraguay House.	