

Summary

This white paper is submitted to ISIF in response to the Call for Conference Proposals – FUSION 2015, and conveys the intention of the ISIF members listed below to organize the 18th International Conference on Information Fusion in Washington, D.C., USA. The target dates are July 6 to 9, 2015.

We are excited about the opportunity of bringing FUSION 2015 to the nation's capital, confident of its potential to support an excellent conference, and assured of our team's ability to turn this potential into a viable and enjoyable experience.

Organizing Committee

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International Liaisons

To be defined on the final proposal

Candidate Conference Facilities

The initial selection process was based on the criteria defined by ISIF and resulted in a list of five potential venues. Further negotiations and direct inspection of the properties narrowed down this list to three candidate venues. All provide excellent facilities, first-rate service levels, the additional amenities expected in major hotels, and easy access to various attractions.

Each of the remaining candidates is a top-tier hotel that was carefully inspected by our team and met our extensive list of requirements based on experience from previous FUSION conferences. The table below conveys a preliminary overview of the main aspects of each venue. The current order of preference is from left to right (i.e., the Grand Hyatt is the most preferred), but we are still negotiating the details with the sales management of each candidate venue. Our goal is to narrow down this list to two venues, defining one as the primary venue and the other as the alternate.

	Grand Hyatt	Marriott Renaissance	Marriott Wardman
Address	1000 H Street NW, Washington, D.C., USA 20001	999 Ninth Street NW, Washington, D.C., USA 20001	2660 Woodley Rd NW, Washington, D.C., USA 20008
Committed Period	July 5-10, 2015	July 28-31, 2015	July 5-10, 2015
Total Rooms	888	807	1,175
Committed Rooms	200	200	200
Single Room Price	\$215	\$189	\$179
Double Room Price	\$215	\$209	\$199
Strengths	Central downtown location, internal access to D.C. Metro station	Central downtown location, Metro stations within two blocks	Downtown location, close to National Zoo Metro station
Caveats	Highest price of the three candidate venues, although still within our target budget	Not available on our target date, although still within ISIF's suggested timeframe	Less central location

Potential Activities of the Host City

Washington, D.C., is a cosmopolitan, vibrant city with so many attractions that few residents of “greater D.C.” can claim to have fully explored 90% of its downtown area. For instance, within walking distance of our two preferred venues, there are major attractions such as the National Archives, the National Gallery, and others that can potentially hold either the icebreaker or the gala banquet. Also, the National Mall’s majestic architectural icons and world-famous museums can be reached either by Metro or via extended walks. The area is known for its effervescent nightlife, plethora of restaurants, and strong support of tourism activities, such as Potomac River cruises and others that we can leverage to provide a phenomenal experience to our attendees. Finally, those arriving earlier will have the chance to see the 4th of July festivities, clearly a bonus for any tourist.

From a business perspective, which will be covered in detail in our final proposal, greater D.C. is home to a large number of major contractors and government agencies, providing an attractive list of potential sponsors and attendees for the conference.