

Conference on Complex Systems 2026

Code of Conduct

1. Our Commitment

The Conference on Complex Systems (CCS) is dedicated to providing an inclusive, welcoming, and harassment-free experience for every participant. We value respect, compassion, open inquiry, and diversity of background and perspective.

Complex systems research thrives on interdisciplinary collaboration and vibrant debate. Our goal is not to inhibit challenging scientific discussion, but to foster it by ensuring that all participants can share and explore ideas in a spirit of mutual respect and intellectual freedom, without fear of personal denigration, intimidation, or harassment.

2. Expected Behavior

All participants—including attendees, speakers, sponsors, volunteers, organizers, and staff—are expected to uphold professional standards of conduct across all conference venues, including technical sessions, satellites, social events, and online platforms.

- **Treat Everyone with Respect:** Be mindful of your speech, actions, and critique in both in-person and digital settings.
- **Embrace Diverse Views:** Communicate thoughtfully and engage constructively with opinions and backgrounds different from your own.
- **Respect Personal Boundaries:** Always honor participants' preferences regarding physical space, gender pronouns, and requests not to be photographed or recorded.
- **Support an Inclusive Environment:** Help foster a collaborative atmosphere where early-career researchers, underrepresented groups, and experienced scholars feel equally empowered to contribute.

3. Unacceptable Behavior & Harassment

Harassment, discrimination, and abusive behavior in any form are strictly prohibited at CCS.

Harassment includes, but is not limited to:

- **Discriminatory Comments & Language:** Degrading or exclusionary verbal, written, or visual comments related to race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, age, religion, national origin, or socio-economic background.
- **Unwelcome Sexual Behavior:** Unwelcome sexual attention, suggestive comments, inappropriate physical contact, or use of sexualized language and imagery in presentations or public spaces.
- **Intimidation & Stalking:** Deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, or persistent unwanted one-on-one communication after requests to cease.
- **Disruption:** Sustained disruption of talks, panel sessions, workshops, or online discussion boards.
- **Unauthorized Recording & Content Generation:** Harassing photography/video recording, generation of harassing contents using those recordings, or distribution of such contents for harassment.
- **Threats:** Direct or implied threats of violence or harm.

4. Reporting an Incident

It is the shared responsibility of our community to maintain a safe and supportive environment. If you experience harassment, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any safety concerns, please contact the CCS organizing team (ccs2026binghamton@gmail.com, <https://ccs26.cssociety.org/organizers.html>) immediately.

- **Confidentiality:** All reports will be handled with discretion and confidentiality to the extent reasonably possible, while prioritizing the reporter's privacy and safety.

- **Immediate Support:** Conference staff will be available to help participants contact venue security or local law enforcement, arrange escorts, or provide local emergency and support resources.

5. Enforcement & Consequences

Participants asked to stop any harassing or inappropriate behavior are expected to comply immediately.

If a participant engages in unacceptable behavior, the conference organizers reserve the right to take any action deemed appropriate to maintain a safe environment, including:

1. Issuing a formal verbal or written warning.
2. Requiring the individual to cease specific actions or leave specific sessions.
3. Immediate expulsion from the conference without a refund.
4. Barring attendance or presentation submissions at future conference editions.
5. Reporting serious violations to venue security or local law enforcement when necessary.