

7th FAST Sprint Meeting: Event Guide

3-4.2.26 Joensuu, location: Joensuu Science Park [Länsikatu 15, 80110 Joensuu](#).

Goal and Target Audience

The goal of the FAST meetings is to present our latest research in Software Engineering and plan the next research sprint. Doctoral researchers and members of the industry are invited to participate in the meetings to exchange ideas and shape the future of Software Engineering research in Finland.

The meetings are open to anybody interested in doctoral research in Software Engineering. We encourage all doctoral researchers and supervisors participating in the Doctoral Pilot in Software Engineering to register and attend the meeting.

This document describes the 7th FAST meeting that takes place in Joensuu on February 3 and 4, 2026. This meeting marks the beginning of the 7th sprint for the researchers starting in August 2024 and the beginning of the 5th sprint for the doctoral researchers starting in January 2025. Doctoral researchers can present their plans, drafts and articles during the meeting for discussion, feedback and collaboration.

	August 2024		January 2025	
Meeting	Sprint	Outcome	Sprint	Outcome
#1 Otaniemi	1	Research Poster		
# 2 Lahti	2	Thesis Research Plan		
# 3 Oulu	3	Plan first research article	1	Research Poster
# 4 Helsinki 12-13.5.2025	4	Draft / full article / plan next article	2	Thesis Research Plan
# 5 Jyväskylä 12-13.8.2025	5	Draft / full article / plan next article 1st year retrospective	3	Plan first research article 6m retrospective
# 6 Tampere 4-5.11.2025	6	Draft / full article / plan next article	4	Draft / full article / plan next article

# 7 Joensuu 3-4.2.2026	7	Draft / full article / plan next article	5	Draft / full article / plan next article
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Meeting Overview

The 7th FAST Meeting is intended for all doctoral researchers and supervisors. *Note: The program takes place across multiple buildings and floors. Please check the location listed for each session.*

Tuesday 3.2

09:00 – 10:00 Registration and coffee, location: Entrance hall (Building 1). Coffee is ready from 8:45.

10:00 – 12:00 Plenary session, location: Louhela auditorium (Building 1, floor 1). Chair: Markku Tukiainen.

10:00 – 10:30 Opening of FAST. Markku Hauta-Kasari, UEF.

10:30 – 11:05 Keynote: Lessons Learned on Applying Generative AI in Qualitative Analysis for Empirical Software Engineering. Matteo Esposito, OULU.

11:10 – 11:35 Presentation: Research opportunities in sustainability. Toni Taipalus, TAU.

11:35 – 12:00 Presentation: Building Networks in Academia. Muhammad Saqr, UEF.

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch, location: restaurant Sulo Puisto in Science Park.

13:00 – 16:00 Discussions of Drafts of Research Papers*. Parallel breakout sessions (Building 4B, floor 1).

Parallel group sessions are held in the following rooms (by session number): 1) Apollo 2) Jupiter 3) Mercurius 4) Minerva 5) Victoria 1 6) Victoria 2

16:15 – 17:00 Community Meetings. Note: meeting rooms are located in different buildings.

16:15 – 17:00 SG meeting, location: Vellamo (Building 1, floor 2). Chair: Ivan Porres.

16:15 – 17:00 Supervisor community meeting, location: Orange Hall (Building 3A, floor 4). Chairs: Ella Peltonen.

16:15 – 17:00 PhD community meeting, location: Temple of Challenge (Building 3A, floor 4). Chairs: Tamara Ahmed, Md Mahade Hasan.

** There is homework before this session!*

Social programme on Tuesday evening

Around 18.00–22.00 Dinner, location: Original Sokos Hotel Kimmel. *Note: at the moment, we do not have shuttles between Science Park and Original Sokos Hotel Kimmel arranged.*

Wednesday 4.2

8.45 Coffee

09:00 – 09:45 Keynote and Presentation, location: Louhela auditorium (Building 1, floor 1).
Chair: Markku Tukiainen.

09:00 – 09:45 Keynote: Building Academic Career Success: From PhD to Postdoc and Beyond. Najmul Islam, LUT.

09:50 – 10:30 Presentation: What Does JUFO Classification Mean and How It Should Be Used? Pauli Miettinen, UEF.

10:45 – 12:00 Workshop + SW4E Ecosystem Meeting.

10:45 – 12:00 Workshop: Business Model Canvas. Juhamatti Huusko, UEF. Location: Temple of Challenge (Building 3A, floor 4).

10:45 – 12:00 SW4E Ecosystem Meeting, location: Louhela auditorium (Building 1, floor 1).

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch, location: restaurant Sulo Puisto in Science Park.

13:00 – 14:25 A Session: Art of getting Funding. Ella Peltonen and Rahul Mohanani, OULU. Location: Temple of Challenge (Building 3A, floor 4). Afternoon coffee at 14:10.

14:25 – 14:30 Closing words, location: Temple of Challenge. Chair: Marko Jäntti.

Preparing for Discussion Sessions: Submit your contribution

Phd researchers

You are invited to submit a **draft of your research article** for presentation and discussion. This can be a short article or a work in progress that you are preparing and you want to receive feedback or discuss possible collaborations. **Deadline to submit your draft: 18.01.2026.** We share the link to the submission folder by email. You can use a paper draft IEEE double column (5-6 pages) or Springer LNCS (11-12 pages) as a template.

Templates and instructions for IEEE double-column format are available at: <https://www.ieee.org/conferences/publishing/templates>, and for Springer LNCS at: <https://www.springer.com/gp/computer-science/lncs/conference-proceedings-guidelines>. If you do not yet have material for some sections, you may draft a preliminary plan for those parts.

Preparing for Discussion Sessions: Read your group's contributions and prepare your presentation

The discussion sessions will be organised as a number of parallel sessions where doctoral researchers will present and discuss their submissions. The meeting organisers will form the groups and sessions soon after the submission deadline. **For this meeting, we expect to send the schedule of sessions by 20.01.2026.** Each **doctoral research and supervisor** will be assigned to a discussion group.

Phd researchers

All doctoral researchers prepare a presentation of their own paper. We recommend that each doctoral researcher uploads a .pdf version of the presentation beforehand. We share the link to the upload folder by e-mail. You should also read and get familiar with the submissions in your group so you can prepare questions and provide feedback (see detailed instructions in section During the Discussion Sessions). Please reserve some work time during weeks 4-5 for this.

Supervisors

You should read and get familiar with the submissions in your group so you can provide detailed feedback and prepare questions. Please reserve some work time during weeks 4-5 for this.

During the Discussion Sessions

We allocate 20 minutes for each research presentation and feedback. First there will be a presentation by the doctoral researcher (10 minutes). After that, the discussion phase is kicked off by the pre-assigned group chair who is one of the doctoral supervisors (10 minutes). During the discussion, both doctoral researchers and supervisors ask questions and provide feedback.

Roles

- **Session chair** - controls only the program and schedule. Also controls that the discussion is businesslike, helping, friendly and leads to actionable conclusions. Makes sure that everyone has a chance to speak. Fills-in questions if there is time.
- **Doctoral researcher** - uploads the document to present to the shared site. Prepares a short presentation for the document. Reads the submissions of all other doctoral researchers in the group. Prepares 1-2 questions of all submissions in the session. Participates the discussion with all doctoral researchers and gives feedback.

- **Doctoral supervisor** - is assigned to a work group. Reads beforehand all the submissions in the group. Is prepared to discuss and give helpful and actionable feedback to all doctoral researchers. Prepares 1-2 questions of all submissions. Participates in the discussion and gives feedback.

Practical Information

Arriving to Joensuu on 02.02.2026

(Due to train and airplane timetables we recommend to arrive to Joensuu the day before the meeting starts)

Train

- From Helsinki (Starts at 13:14, 15:14, 15:59, 16:14, 16:20)
- From Jyväskylä (Starts at 13:43, 19:42)

Airplane

- From Helsinki (Starts at 10:25, 17:05)

In Joensuu

The meeting's location is in Joensuu Science Park [Länsikatu 15, 80110 Joensuu](#).



Creator: Hesham Ahmed, CC BY

Below is a map of the Joensuu Science Park building, of which we meet in section number 1 (accessible through the main entrance).



The program takes place in the following locations:

3.2.2026

Building 1 (9 am – 5 pm)

- Louhela auditorium, 1st floor
- Vellamo, 2nd floor

Building 3A, 4th floor, 12 am – 5 pm

- Temple of Challenge
- Orange Hall

Building 4B, 1. floor, 12 am – 5 pm

- Apollo
- Jupiter
- Mercurius
- Minerva
- Victoria 1
- Victoria 2

4.2.2026, 8 am – 5 pm

Building 1, 1st floor

- Louhela auditorium, 1st floor

Building 3A, 4th floor

- Temple of Challenge

Bus

There are various transportation means to reach Joensuu Science Park. Starting from Original Sokos Hotel Kimmel (Itäranta 1) or the train station (Itäranta 12), you can take **bus 103** as it is the option with least additional walking. However, there are also options like bus 4, 9, 102 but it requires an additional 15~ min of walking. There are various bus stops in the area, so please check the exact route locations from the bus trip planner: <https://joensuu.digitransit.fi/>. The ticket can be bought on the bus or through this link <https://www.matkahuolto.fi/passengers/routes-and-tickets-mobile-app>.

Taxi

There are various taxi services, including the following:

- [Taksiyökköset](#)
- [Taxi Eastern Finland](#)
- [Cabo Taxi](#)
- [Taxi Service J. Liuski](#)
- [Menevä Taxi](#)

Accommodation

- Original Sokos Hotel Kimmel (Where the dinner is, close access to bus 103)
- Original Sokos Hotel Vaakuna, Joensuu (1.4 km away from Science Park)
- Scandic Joensuu (1.2 km away from Science Park)
- Greenstar Hotels Oy (1.2 km away from Science Park)

Leaving Joensuu on 04.02.2026

Train

- To Helsinki (Starts at 15:10, 15:40, 18:10)
- To Tampere (Starts at 15:10, 15:40, 18:10)
- To Kuopio (Starts at 15:10, 15:40)
- To Jyväskylä (Starts at 15:40)
- To Turku city center (Starts at 15:10, 15:40)
- To Lahti (Starts at 15:10, 15:40, 18:10)

Airplane

- To Helsinki (Starts at 18:35)