

9th FAST Sprint Meeting: Event Guide

11-12.8.26 Rovaniemi

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 9th FAST meeting that takes place in Rovaniemi on August 11 and 12, 2026. This meeting marks the beginning of the 9th sprint for the researchers starting in August 2024 and the beginning of the 7th 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

# 8 Turku-Stockholm 11-12.5.2026	8	Full article / article collaboration plan	6	Full article / article collaboration plan
# 9 Rovaniemi 11-12.8.2026	9	Full article	7	Full article

Meeting Overview

The 9th FAST Meeting is intended for all doctoral researchers and supervisors.

Location: Lapland Hotels Sky Ounasvaara ([Juhannuskalliontie, 96400 Rovaniemi](#)).

Tuesday 11.8

08:00 – 09:00 Registration. Location: The Auditorium. From 08:30: morning refreshment in Kuksa & Kaamos meeting rooms.

09:00 – 10:00 Opening and Keynote. Location: The Auditorium. Chair: Minna Isomursu.

09:00 – 09:15 Opening Remarks and Agenda. Minna Isomursu, OULU.

09:15 – 10:00 Keynote: Software Engineering Careers in AI times. Ricardo Colomo-Palacios, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid.

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break. Location: meeting rooms Kuksa & Kaamos.

10:30 – 12:00 Technical Session 1. Location: The Auditorium. Chair: Rahul Mohanani.

10:30 – 10:45 Governing LLM-Based Adaptive Components in Safety-Critical Clinical Decision Support: A Constraint-Layer Extension of MAPE-K. Kavishwa Bhashitha Wendakoon Mudiyansele and Niraya Tripathi.

10:45 – 11:00 Dynamic Trustworthiness of AI for Autonomous Driving: A Design Problem Definition. Daupadie Laknamali Ranatunga, Vishaka Basnayake, Nada Elgendy, and Tero Päivärinta.

11:00 – 11:15 Understanding Developer Challenges and Underlying Causes in Quantum Computing Toolchains and Algorithms: Mining Stack Overflow Repository. Maryam Tavassoli Sabzevari and Tu Ngo Minh.

11:15 – 11:30 Reliability-Aware Retinal Encoder for Ordinal Diabetic Retinopathy Severity Modelling. Sameera Gamage.

11:30 – 11:45 Mock Conference Paper 1. Tomi Suomi.

11:45 – 12:00 Mock Conference Paper 2. Ari Kukkaro.

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch. Location: Sky Kitchen & View, floor 2.

13:30 – 15:00 Keynote Interaction Session and Community Meetings (in parallel).

13:30 – 14:30 Interactive Discussion (PhD Researchers Q&A with Ricardo Colomo-Palacios). Location: The Auditorium.

14:00 – 15:00 Steering Group Meeting. Location: Kuksa&Kaamos. Chair: Ivan Porres.

15:00 – 15:30 Afternoon Coffee Break. Location: meeting rooms Kuksa & Kaamos.

15:30 – 16:45 Joint FAST–SEET Session 2*. Location: The Auditorium. Chair: Sameera Gamage.

15:30 – 15:45 Epic-Organized vs. Requirement-Aligned Gherkin: An Empirical Evaluation of LLM-Based Acceptance Criteria Generation. Shahbaz Siddeeq, Mateen Abbasi, Jussi Rasku, Zheyang Zhang, François Christophe, Tommi Mikkonen, and Pekka Abrahamsson.

15:45 – 16:00 An Overview of Human Aspects in the Alignment of Requirements Engineering and Testing. Afsarah Jahin, Iftaah Salman, Rahul Mohanani, and Burak Turhan.

16:00 – 16:15 HyQ-Guard – AI-Driven Runtime Anomaly Monitoring and Mitigation for Hybrid Quantum Workflows. Ejaz Ahmed and Mikko Mäkitalo.

16:15 – 16:30 Operationalising the EU AI Act in Software Engineering: A Systematic Mapping Study with a Focus on Healthcare. Qaiser Khan, Raffay Saeed, and Rahul Mohanani.

16:30 – 16:45 Supporting Reflection on Sustainable Software Design Decisions in Software Engineering Education: An Evaluation of a Socratic Chatbot. Kseniia Suomalainen, Elena Cavallin, Viktoriia Olshanskaia, Maria Luce Lupetti, and Jari Porras.

16:45 – 17:00 Closing Remarks. Location: The Auditorium.

*Live from Rovaniemi and streamed to the SEET Conference (USA). Zoom link: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/96108414036>.

Social Programme on Tuesday 11.8

19:00 – 22:00 Dinner at Sky Kitchen & View, floor 2.

Wednesday 12.8

09:00 – 10:00 AI on Both Sides of the Screen: Changing How We Build Products and How We Work. Lari Suomalainen, Liana Technologies. Location: The Auditorium.

10:00 – 10:30 Coffee break. Location: meeting rooms Kuksa & Kaamos.

10:30 – 12:00 Technical Session 3. Location: The Auditorium. Chair: Samuli Määttä.

10:30 – 10:45 Mock Conference Paper 3. Juuso Rytilahti.

10:45 – 11:00 Mock Conference Paper 4. Ali Mehraj, Kari Systä, and David Hästbacka.

11:00 – 11:15 Mock Conference Paper 5. Mateen Abbasi, Petri Ihantola, Tommi Mikkonen, and Niko Mäkitalo.

11:15 – 11:30 Mock Conference Paper 6. Taija Kolehmainen, Juha-Pekka Tolvanen, Gabriella Laatikainen, and Rahul Mohanani.

11:30 – 11:45 Mock Conference Paper 7. Krishna Harsha Kovelakuntla Huthasana, Alireza Olama, and Andreas Lundell.

11:45 – 12:00 Mock Conference Paper 8. Oshani Weerakoon, Tuomas Mäkilä, Erkki Kaila, and Shola Oyedeji.

12:00 – 13:30 Lunch. Location: Sky Kitchen & View, floor 2.

13:30 – 14:45 Technical Session 4. Location: The Auditorium. Chair: Maryam Tavassoli Sabzevari.

13:30 – 13:45 Mock Conference Paper 9. Tamara Ahmed.

13:45 – 14:00 Mock Conference Paper 10. Maryum Hamdani, Mateen Ahmed Abbasi, Markku Tukiainen, and Marko Jäntti.

14:00 – 14:15 Mock Conference Paper 11 (Registered Report). Samuli Määttä.

14:15 – 14:30 Mock Conference Paper 12. Aleksi Vuorinen.

14:30 – 14:45 Mock Conference Paper 13. Muhammad Asif Khan.

14:45 – 15:15 Coffee and Collaboration Session. Location: meeting rooms Kuksa & Kaamos.

15:15 – 16:45 Closing Ceremony and Best Paper Award Distribution. Location: The Auditorium. Chair: Minna Isomursu.

Doctoral Researchers: Preparing for Presentations

The presentation time for each paper is 15 minutes including Q&A.

Practical Information

Arriving to Rovaniemi

- Trains. You can book tickets at the [VR website](#).
- Flights. [Finnair](#) offers direct flights between Helsinki and Rovaniemi.
- You can also travel to Rovaniemi by bus. You can find schedules and book tickets at the [Matkahuolto website](#).

In Rovaniemi

For information on transportation in Rovaniemi, please check [this website](#).

For accommodation, we recommend staying at [Lapland Hotels Sky Ounasvaara](#), which is the venue for this Sprint Meeting. Information about the accommodation discount was shared via email. For other accommodation options, please visit [this website](#).