Apologies if you have received multiple copies of this announcement

ACL 2010 NEWSLETTER NO. 6
(September 7, 2010)

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:: 1. ACL 2010 in Uppsala, Sweden

The 48th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics was held in Uppsala, Sweden, July 11-16, 2010. The conference was organized by the Department of Linguistics and Philology at Uppsala University.

The conference was the second largest in ACL's history ever. 955 people attended the six-day event, including the main conference with up to six parallel sessions and over 600 presentations, and the student research workshop, six tutorials, thirteen workshops and the CoNLL conference.

The scope of the program was broadened substantially. The issue of the "printed" paper length (long and short) has been separated from the mode of presentation with three possibilities - long talks, short talks and posters. The resulting program was a great success and has been universally praised.

The ACL's Lifetime Achievement Award went to William A. (Bill) Woods, former President of ACL (1974), the "father" of Augmented Transition Networks in the 1970s and an acclaimed industrial researcher in the area of NLP and speech. Bill was present and gave a very nice talk in a dedicated time slot at the main conference.

There were three Best Paper awards. The Best long paper award went to Matthew Gerber and Joyce Chai for "Beyond NomBank: A Study of Implicit Arguments for Nominal Predicates"; the Best short paper award went to Michael Lamar, Yariv Maron, Mark Johnson and Elie Bienenstock for "SVD and Clustering for Unsupervised POS Tagging". The Best student paper Award, sponsored by IBM, was given to David Elson, Nicholas Dames and Kathleen McKeown for their paper titled "Extracting Social Networks from Literary Fiction".

The organizing committee would like to thank all authors, reviewers and participants for making the conference a successful event!

:: 2. Organizing Committee

General Chair: Jan Hajič
Program Chairs: Sandra Carberry and Stephen Clark
Local Arrangements Chair: Joakim Nivre  
Workshop Chairs: Pushpak Bhattacharyia and David Weir  
Tutorial Chairs: Lluís Màrquez and Haifeng Wang (王海峰)  
System Demonstrations Chair: Sandra Kübler  
Student Research Workshop Chairs: Seniz Demir, Jan Raab, Nils Reiter, and faculty advisors Marketa Lopatкова and Tomek Strzalkowski  
Publication Chairs: Jing-Shin Chang (張景新) and Philipp Koehn  
Mentoring Service: Björn Gambäck and Diana McCarthy  
Sponsorship Chairs: Stephen Pulman (Europe), Frédérique Segond (Europe), Srinivas Bangalore (Americas), Christy Doran (Americas), Hercules Dalianis (local), and Mats Wirén (local)  
Publicity Chairs: Koenraad de Smedt and Beáta Megyesi  
Exhibition Chair: Jörg Tiedemann  
Local Arrangement Committee: Joakim Nivre (chair), Beáta Megyesi (vice chair), Rolf Carlson, Mats Dahllöf, Marco Kuhlmann, Mattias Nilsson, Markus Saers, Anna Sågvall Hein, Per Starbäck, Jörg Tiedemann, Oscar Täckström and Reut Tsarfaty  
Local Organizing Secretariat: Ulla Conti, Academic Conferences

:: 3. Pictures

Pictures from the conference can be found at [http://acl2010.org](http://acl2010.org). The photos were taken by Rolf Carlson and Fredrik Olsson.

:: 4. ACL in Swedish Media

The local publicity chair reports that the conference has been successfully recognized by the Swedish press. Daily newspapers, the Swedish radio and the national Swedish television have all shown interest in the conference.

The national news sent an almost 3 minutes long report on language technology. Kevin Knight, Fernando Pereira and Franz Josef Och were interviewed by the news "Rapport", which was sent in June 17 in the Swedish National Television on channel 1 (SVT1): [http://svtplay.se/v/2079668/rapport/datorn_ska_hjalpa_oss_spraka](http://svtplay.se/v/2079668/rapport/datorn_ska_hjalpa_oss_spraka).

The Swedish Radio sent two interviews and published two articles during the conference week. Mikko Kurimo was interviewed about his work on a mobile device that performs personalisation speech-to-speech translation. The article with the interview is available at [http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=406&artikel=3859170](http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=406&artikel=3859170) and was broadcasted on July 19.

Benjamin Snyder talked about lost language decipherment, a work that he presented a paper on called "A Statistical Model for Lost Language Decipherment", co-authored with Regina Barzilay and Kevin Knight. You can find the article and the interview on [http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=406&artikel=3854774](http://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=406&artikel=3854774). The story was sent in July 15 at 06.32, 07.36 and 08.36 in the channel called P1.

The local newspaper Upsala Nya Tidning has published an article about the challenge paper "The Human Language Project: Building a Universal Corpus of the World’s Languages" by Steven Abney and Steven Bird. The article "Now the world’s languages are going to be surveyed" was based on an interview with Steven Bird, see [http://www.unt.se/uppsala/varldens-sprak-ska-kartlaggas-997587.aspx](http://www.unt.se/uppsala/varldens-sprak-ska-kartlaggas-997587.aspx).
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