ACL 2007

The LAW
Proceedings of The Linguistic Annotation Workshop

June 28-29, 2007
Prague, Czech Republic

The Association for Computational Linguistics

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Preface

Welcome to The Linguistic Annotation Workshop (The LAW).

Linguistically annotated corpora play a major role in parsing, information extraction, question answering, machine translation and many other areas of computational linguistics, and provide an empirical testbed for theoretical linguistics research. This has led to a proliferation of annotation systems, frameworks, formats, and schemes. Recognition of the need to harmonize annotation practices and frameworks has become increasingly critical, as witnessed by numerous workshops dealing with different aspects of linguistic annotation over the past few years.

The LAW addresses all aspects of linguistic annotation in a single forum by merging two existing workshop series: NLPXML (Natural Language Processing and XML) and FLAC (Frontiers in Linguistically Annotated Corpora). The goals of the workshop include:

1. The exchange and propagation of research results with respect to the annotation, manipulation and exploitation of corpora, taking into account different applications and theoretical investigations in the field of language technology and research;
2. Working towards harmonization and interoperability from the perspective of the increasingly large number of tools and frameworks that support the creation, instantiation, manipulation, querying, and exploitation of annotated resources;
3. Working towards a consensus on all issues crucial to the advancement of the field of corpus annotation.

These proceedings include 11 long papers, 5 short papers, 4 demo descriptions and 8 posters selected by the program committee from 51 submissions for presentation at the workshop. In addition to these presentations, the workshop includes demonstrations of annotation tools, reports by working groups, and an open discussion session.

We would like to thank the members of the program committee for their timely reviews. We also thank the Workshops Chair and other organizers of ACL-2007 for their support. Finally, we congratulate Adriane Boyd, the winner of the Innovative Student Annotation Award for the paper *Discontinuity Revisited: An Improved Conversion to Context-Free Representations*.

Branimir Boguraev
Nancy Ide
Adam Meyers
Shigeko Nariyama
Manfred Stede
Janyce Wiebe
Graham Wilcock

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Shigeko Nariyama, University of Melbourne
Manfred Stede, University of Potsdam
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Theresa Wilson, University of Edinburgh
Nainwen Xue, University of Colorado

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Katrin Tomanek, Joachim Wermter and Udo Hahn

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Gosse Bouma and Geert Kloosterman

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Demonstrations and Posters (continued)