

Second Conference
of the
European Chapter
of the
Association for
Computational Linguistics

Proceedings of the Conference

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PREFACE

It was a great pleasure to be able to act as hosts for the Second Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics. Most of the credit for the success of the conference must go to those who submitted papers. There were almost twice as many as we were able to accept, thus allowing us to arrange a programme which, in its variety and quality, reflected the wide-ranging interests of European scholars in the field, although drawing upon the international computational linguistic community for its composition. The success of this meeting, and of its predecessor in Pisa, confirms that the establishment of a European Chapter to act in concert with its American-based older brother was indeed worthwhile. The growing membership and the large attendance at the Conference show that the Chapter is serving one of its purposes in stimulating research in the area.

Thanks are due to all those who contributed to the success of the meeting: to the members of the programme committee, whose job was by no means trivial, since each member took individual responsibility for a specific area of the programme; to the referees; and to all those who helped with the organisation. Special thanks should go to Mike Rosner and to Martine Vermeire, for all the energy and enthusiasm they put in to seeing that the practical arrangements went smoothly; to Kirsten Falkedal for her invaluable help in arranging the programme; and to Don Walker and Eva Hajicova for holding our hands when we needed them to. Finally, let me repeat that the most important support comes from the members of the association, whose enthusiasm has ensured that the European Chapter has grown from conception to a living and flourishing organisation in so short a time. May it continue to flourish.

Maghi King
Chair, Conference Committee

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