

INTRODUCTION

The 8th European Workshop on Natural Language Generation is part of a bi-annual series of workshops about natural language generation that runs since 1987 for more than a decade now. Workshops regularly take place in odd years, alternating with a series of international Workshops on the same topic. Previous European workshops have been held at Royaumont, Edinburgh, Judenstein, Pisa, Leiden, Duisburg, and Toulouse. Last year, the international workshop has been promoted into a conference.

In addition to these regular events, there are occasional and informal meetings on specific topics in the field. In general, participants appreciated these workshops very much due to the informal character and the ample opportunity to discuss dedicated topics. Since the former international workshop on NLG has been promoted into a conference, the NLG community has agreed at the last European workshop on adopting a different policy than before. The bi-annual international conferences with formal presentations should be complemented by informal meetings in between two such conferences. In addition, the NLG community has agreed at the last European workshop on holding the workshop, which previously has always been a stand-alone event, in connection with the ACL conference, in the hope of attracting more participants.

Based on these guidelines, the organizing committee intended the workshop to be focused around some dedicated topics:

- Search methods for NLG (in content planning and organization)
- Differences in information organization between source and presentation specifications (and methods to bridge between these)

with a lot of discussions on these topics and some presentations of submitted papers.

Due to the significant submission rate, it turned out that the balance between discussion time and paper presentations is significantly shifted in favor of the presentations. Hence, it will be one of the issues in this workshop to assess the pros and cons of this outcome and to discuss appropriate modes for future European Workshops on Natural Language Generation.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE:

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