

ACL 2019

**Storytelling**

**Proceedings of the Second Workshop**

August 1, 2019  
Florence, Italy

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ISBN 978-1-950737-44-4

## Introduction

Welcome to the second \*ACL workshop on Storytelling!

Human storytelling has existed for as far back as we can trace, and is thought to be fundamental to being human. Stories help share ideas, histories, and common ground. This workshop examines what storytelling is, its structure and components, and how it is expressed, with respect to state of the art in language and computation.

Part of grounding artificial intelligence work in human experience can involve the generation, understanding, and sharing of stories. This workshop highlights the diverse work being done in storytelling and AI across different fields. Papers at this workshop are multi-disciplinary, including work on neural and linguistic approaches to understanding and generating stories in narrative texts, social media, and visual narratives.

The second workshop of Storytelling received 22 submissions. We accepted 14 submissions into the proceedings, 6 of which were presented as oral presentations, and 8 as posters. We accepted 3 of the submitted papers as non-archival works to be presented during the poster session. We are pleased to host an invited talk from Melissa Roemmele.

We hope you enjoy the workshop!

The Storytelling Workshop Organizers



**Organizers:**

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Ting-Hao (Kenneth) Huang, Pennsylvania State University  
Stephanie M. Lukin, U.S. Army Research Laboratory  
Margaret Mitchell, Google

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Mariët Theune\*, University of Twente

An immense thank you to all our reviewers, especially these last-minute reviewers (\*). We could not have put together our program without everyone's help!

**Invited Speaker:**

Melissa Roemmele, SDL



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# Conference Program

**Thursday, August 1, 2019**

08:45–09:00 *Opening Remarks*

## **Morning Session 1**

09:00–10:00 *Invited Talk*  
Melissa Roemmele

10:00–10:30 *Composing a Picture Book by Automatic Story Understanding and Visualization*  
Xiaoyu Qi, Ruihua Song, Chunting Wang, Jin Zhou and Tetsuya Sakai

10:30–11:00 *Morning Break*

## **Morning Session 2**

11:00–11:30 *"My Way of Telling a Story": Persona based Grounded Story Generation*  
Khyathi Chandu, Shrimai Prabhume, Ruslan Salakhutdinov and Alan W Black

11:30–12:00 *Using Functional Schemas to Understand Social Media Narratives*  
Xinru Yan, Aakanksha Naik, Yohan Jo and Carolyn Rose

12:00–12:30 *A Hybrid Model for Globally Coherent Story Generation*  
Fangzhou Zhai, Vera Demberg, Pavel Shkadzko, Wei Shi and Asad Sayeed

12:30–14:00 *Lunch*

## **Afternoon Session**

14:00–14:30 *Guided Neural Language Generation for Automated Storytelling*  
Prithviraj Ammanabrolu, Ethan Tien, Wesley Cheung, Zhaochen Luo, William Ma, Lara Martin and Mark Riedl

14:30–15:00 *An Analysis of Emotion Communication Channels in Fan-Fiction: Towards Emotional Storytelling*  
Evgeny Kim and Roman Klinger

15:00–15:30 *Poster Lightning Talks*

15:30–16:00 *Afternoon Break*

**Thursday, August 1, 2019 (continued)**

**16:00–17:30** *Poster Session*

*Adversarial Generation and Encoding of Nested Texts*

Alon Rozental

*Narrative Generation in the Wild: Methods from NaNoGenMo*

Judith van Stegeren and Mariët Theune

*Lexical concreteness in narrative*

Michael Flor and Swapna Somasundaran

*A Simple Approach to Classify Fictional and Non-Fictional Genres*

Mohammed Rameez Qureshi, Sidharth Ranjan, Rajakrishnan Rajkumar and Kushal Shah

*DREAMT - Embodied Motivational Conversational Storytelling*

David Powers

*Detecting Everyday Scenarios in Narrative Texts*

Lilian Diana Awuor Wanzare, Michael Roth and Manfred Pinkal

*Personality Traits Recognition in Literary Texts*

Daniele Pizzolli and Carlo Strapparava

*Winter is here: Summarizing Twitter Streams related to Pre-Scheduled Events*

Anietie Andy, Derry Tanti Wijaya and Chris Callison-Burch

*WriterForcing: Generating more interesting story endings*

Prakhar Gupta, Vinayshekhar Bannihatti Kumar, Mukul Bhutani and Alan Black

*Prediction of a Movie's Success From Plot Summaries Using Deep Learning Models*

You Jin Kim, Yun Gyung Cheong and Jung Hoon Lee

*Character-Centric Storytelling*

Aditya Surikuchi and Jorma Laaksonen

**17:30–17:45** *Closing Remarks*