

Announcements

Program of the ACL Sessions at NCC

ACL will sponsor a session on "Communicating with Databases in English" at the 1983 NCC, May 16, in Anaheim, California. This session presents currently available systems that allow users to query databases in English; describes commercial and military user experiences with these systems and resulting design changes; and focuses on research trends that forecast even more sophisticated systems in the future.

The session was organized by Martha Evens, *Illinois Institute of Technology*, and will be chaired by her. It will consist of:

Building Knowledgeable Contexts for User Interaction

Bozena H. Thompson, Frederick B. Thompson,
Tai-Ping Ho, *California Institute of Technology*

An English Language Processor which "Learns" about New Domains

Bruce Ballard, *Duke University*

Experience with INTELLECT

Larry R. Harris, *Artificial Intelligent Corporation*

TEAM: a transportable natural language interface system

Barbara J. Grosz, Paul A. Martin
SRI International

For further information, contact:

Professor Martha W. Evens
Computer Science Department
Illinois Institute of Technology
Chicago, Illinois 60616
(312) 567-5153

The Sixth International Conference on Computers and the Humanities

The "Sixth International Conference on Computers and the Humanities" will be held June 6-8, 1983, at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina. This conference is aimed at providing a broad and rich scholarly exchange of ideas on the uses of computing in all areas of the humanities. The formal sessions and related activities will benefit both experienced scholars and those new to the field.

Papers have been solicited from scholars representing all the academic disciplines embraced by the general term "humanities," as well as from computer specialists working on projects with humanities applications. Participation is on an international level, although the official language of the conference is English.

For further information, contact the conference directors:

Sarah K. Burton, Douglas D. Short
Department of English
Post Office Box 5380
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, North Carolina 27650

The 1983 International Conference on Data Bases in the Humanities and Social Sciences

The "1983 International Conference on Data Bases in the Humanities and Social Sciences" will be held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, June 10-12, 1983. In the previous conferences of this series, participants have included literary scholars, sociologists, linguists, historical editors, archivists, bibliographers, political scientists, criminologists, theater historians, archaeologists, semanticists, survey analysts, lexicographers, demographers, genealogists, historians, musicologists, art historians – a full spectrum of researchers from universities, institutes, and commercial operations who are exchanging ideas and techniques on the best means of utilizing computers in data base development. This conference will continue the effort to advance the use of these machine-readable materials in all disciplines devoted to the study of man, his works, and his society.

The organizing committee consists of Sture Allen, *University of Gothenburg, Sweden*, Charles Cullen, *Princeton University*, Ernesto Garcia Camarero, *Facultad de Informatica, Madrid*, Guy Gouarderes, *Institut Universitaire de Technologie, Toulouse*, Jostein Hauge, *University of Bergen, Norway*, Randall Jones, *Brigham Young University*, Serge Lusignan, *University of Montreal*, Harold Naugler, *Public Archives of Canada*, Anita Schiller, *University of California at San Diego*, John B. Smith, *The Pennsylvania State University*, and Antonio Zampolli, *University of Pisa*.

For further information contact:

Professor Robert F. Allen
Room 427, Alexander Library
Rutgers – The State University
New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903

Productivity in the Information Age

The 46th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Information Science (ASIS) will be held at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia, on October 2-6, 1983. The meeting will be a working session on "Productivity in the Information Age." Participants will review research on productivity, and the measurement and enhancement of productivity in settings as varied as information centers, factories, offices, laboratories, and homes.

The meeting should be of value to information managers, information and communications research-

ers, systems analysts, long-term planners, publishers, librarians, hardware and software manufacturers and vendors, and everyone concerned with productivity today and in the future. The technical program will feature invited presentations, contributed papers, Special Interest Group (SIG) sessions, and informative briefings. In addition there will be exhibits, demonstrations, and tours of government and industrial information facilities in the Washington area.

ASIS-83 Conference Chairman is Edmond J. Sawyer of the U.S. General Accounting Office. For further information on ASIS-83, contact:

ASIS
1010 Sixteenth Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 659-3644

CHI '83 Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems: Call for Papers

The ACM Special Interest Group on Computer and Human Interaction (SIGCHI) and the Human Factors Society are co-sponsoring the Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems in Boston, December 12-15, 1983. Fourteen other societies, including the Association for Computational Linguistics, are cooperating in this joint venture.

The theme of the conference is system usability. Individual papers, sessions, and tutorials are invited on all topics relating to the performance and satisfaction of the user of computer systems. In addition, empirical studies of the effect of interactive systems on organization behavior are welcomed. Investigations of the impact on the user of various input and output modes are also requested. Reports on human factors studies of intelligent systems and on cognitive models of users are appropriate for presentation. Similarly, work on human factors issues in programming and documentation is requested. Suggestions and recommendations for panels and professional development seminars are urgently solicited. For the paper sessions, four copies of full papers must be submitted by May 1, 1982, to the program chairman:

Richard W. Pew
Bolt Beranek and Newman
10 Moulton Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02238
(617) 497-3557

For additional information about the conference, contact the general chairman:

Raoul N. Smith
GTE Laboratories
40 Sylvan Road
Waltham, Massachusetts 02254
(617) 466-4044 or (617) 890-8460

EMCSR 84

Organized by the Austrian Society for Cybernetic Studies, the "Seventh European Meeting on Cybernetics and Systems Research" will be held April 24-27, 1984, at the University of Vienna. There will be plenary lectures and symposia on: general systems methodology; system and decision theory; cybernetics in biology and medicine, in cognition and learning, and in organization and management; economic and social systems; ecological systems; health care systems; fuzzy sets; communication and computers; and artificial intelligence. Werner Horn, Yves Kodratoff, and Wolfgang Wahlster will chair the AI symposium.

Three copies of full papers (up to 7 pages, single-spaced, maximum of 2600 words) in English must be received by September 1, 1983. The intended symposium should be indicated.

Submissions and/or enquiries should be sent to the chairman:

Professor Robert Trapp
Department of Medical Cybernetics
University of Vienna
Freyung 2/6
A-1010 Vienna, AUSTRIA

Survey of Graduate Curricula in CL

Martha Evens and Lauri Karttunen have been contacting graduate departments in linguistics, computer science, and the cognitive and information sciences to identify graduate programs and courses in computational linguistics. Coverage for the United States and Canada is reasonable, although probably not complete. However, there is relatively little information from Europe and Asia, and none at all from Australia and Africa. The following items are required: the name of the institution, its address, and an appropriate telephone number for contact; the graduate degrees awarded and the departments awarding them; the faculty members involved in CL, their departmental affiliations and research areas; CL courses with names and numbers; any special programs; current or recent research projects of interest; and computational facilities. To insure adequate coverage world-wide, we need your help in identifying institutions and in securing the needed information. Please respond directly to

Professor Martha W. Evens
Computer Science Department
Illinois Institute of Technology
Chicago, Illinois 60616
(312) 567-5153
arpanet: evens@sri-ai

Other Conferences

A *Conference on Artificial Intelligence* will be held April 26-27, 1983, at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. This conference will be hosted by the Center for Robotics and Advanced Automation at Oakland University, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity and the U.S. Army Tank-Automotive Command, and will include both contributed and invited papers. For information about a session on natural language, contact:

Joan Bachenko
Code 7590
Naval Research Laboratory
Washington, D.C. 20003

The *Mid-Year Meeting of the American Society for Information Science* will be held May 22-25, 1983, in Lexington, Kentucky. The theme of the meeting is "The Online Age - Assessment/Directions." The meeting is hosted by the ASIS Southern Ohio Chapter and the College of Library and Information Science of the University of Kentucky. For further information contact the general chairman:

Trudi Bellardo
College of Library and Information Science
University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky 40506

The *1983 National Conference on Artificial Intelligence* sponsored by the American Association for Artificial Intelligence (AAAI), will be held August 22-26, 1983, at the Washington Hilton Hotel in Washington, D.C. For additional information contact:

Louis F. Robinson
American Assoc. for A.I.
445 Burgess Drive
Menlo Park, California 94025
(415) 328-3123

The *Tenth International Conference on Computational Linguistics (COLING 84)* will be held July 2-6, 1984 at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California, hosted by the ACL. Plans are being made to hold one or more workshops before the meeting. For further information at this time, contact:

Donald E. Walker
ACL Secretary-Treasurer
SRI International EJ278
Menlo Park, California 94025

Epstein Memorial Fund Established

In memory of Dr. Martin N. Epstein, former director of the Medical Computer Science Research Group at the National Library of Medicine's Lister Hill National Center for Biomedical Communication, his friends have established the SCAMC/Epstein Memorial Fund. The fund will be used for an award to be given to students of medical computing. Proposed ideas for the award range from an annual SCAMC student paper competition to a scholarship, depending upon the amount contributed. SCAMC is the annual Symposium on Computer Applications in Medical Care.

Marty's long and distinguished career as a computer scientist in the Public Health Service Commissioned Corps at the National Institutes of Health began in 1964. Over the years, he served as a staff member of three NIH components: first, at the Division of Research Services; later, at the Division of Computer Research and Technology; and last, at the National Library of Medicine. His extensive knowledge of both medicine and computer science, and his ability to communicate effectively with people in both disciplines, made him a particularly valuable contributor to the field of computers and medicine.

Marty was a long-time member of the Association for Computational Linguistics. While on leave from NIH at the University of California, San Francisco, he developed MEDINQUIRY, a system that provided physicians with natural language access to information from patient medical records. He was continuing work on that project, as well as on a number of related efforts, at NLM at the time of his death. The goal of all his research was furthering biomedical communication. His accomplishments throughout his career constitute significant steps toward that objective.

Donations to the fund are tax-deductible. Contributions may be sent to:

SCAMC/Epstein Memorial Fund
c/o Mrs. Martin Epstein
3525 Davenport Street, NW, Apt. 407
Washington, DC 20008