# HLT-NAACL 2006

# Human Language Technology Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association of Computational Linguistics

# **Proceedings of the Main Conference**

Robert C. Moore, General Chair Jeff Bilmes, Jennifer Chu-Carroll and Mark Sanderson Program Committee Chairs

> June 4-9, 2006 New York, New York, USA

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#### Preface from the General Chair

This year marks the third time that the conference on Human Language Technology has combined with the North American chapter meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics. The roster of accepted papers reveals an eclectic mix of topics in natural-language processing, speech processing, and information retrieval. A gratifying number of the papers are difficult to classify because they span more than one of these three major areas of human language technology. For example, the boundary between natural-language processing and information retrieval is hard to draw in the papers that focus on the World Wide Web as a corpus; moreover, several of these include speech-related aspects as well.

The crazy thing about putting on a conference like this is that you start out with a group of people who have never done it before, and by the time they really figure out what they are doing, the conference is over and you replace them with another group of people who have never done it before! To do a good job as general chair, however, there is only one really important thing to learn: pick really good people to do all the other jobs, sit back, and let them do all the work. I have been very fortunate to have a great group of conference organizers to rely on: the NYU local arrangements committee, headed by Satoshi Sekine; the program chairs Jennifer Chu-Carroll, Jeff Bilmes, and Mark Sanderson; the demonstration chairs Alex Rudnicky, John Dowding, and Natasa Milic-Frayling; the publications chairs Sanjeev Khudanpur and Brian Roark; the publicity chairs Dan Gildea, Ciprian Chelba, and Eric Brown; the sponsorship and exhibits chairs Ed Hovy and Patrick Pantel; the tutorial chairs Chris Manning, Doug Oard, and Jim Glass; the workshop chairs Lucy Vanderwende, Roberto Pieraccini, and Liz Liddy; the Doctoral Consortium chairs Matt Huenerfauth and Bo Pang, and their faculty advisor, Mitch Marcus.

I would also like to thank ACL Business Manager Priscilla Rasmussen, who took on even more responsibility than she usually does to insure that the conference is a success; and the NAACL executive committee and HLT advisory board for encouragement and advice when we were just getting started and didn't know much about what needed to be done. Finally, I would like to thank the senior program committee members, all the paper reviewers, the student volunteers, and the conference sponsors, without whom the conference could not happen.

Robert C. Moore Microsoft Research General Chair

#### **Preface from the Program Co-Chairs**

It is with pleasure that we preface the publications of the 2006 Human Language Technology conference — North American chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics annual meeting (HLT-NAACL 2006). The conference has a number of formats by which refereed work can be presented: full papers, short papers (either as a talk or poster), and demonstrations. As befits this multi-disciplinary conference, papers were submitted across the three topics of computational linguistics, information retrieval and speech recognition. This year, 257 full papers were submitted and 62 accepted (25% acceptance rate), 127 short papers submitted and 52 accepted (41% rate). It is pleasing to report that these numbers mark a strong increase in submissions compared to the last HLT NAACL conference run in 2004.

The selection of the high quality submissions in these proceedings was the product of a two tiered reviewing system. The three PC chairs selected 28 senior program committee (PC) members, who are internationally recognized for their subject expertise. This group constituted the top tier of the PC. Each of the members selected a group of reviewers to review both the full and short submitted papers. The complete PC numbered around 250. Three reviewers and one senior PC person were assigned per paper. Reviewing was double blinded. The senior PC oversaw the reviewing process, helped resolve any disputes, and at the end produced, for each paper, an overview of the reviewers' comments along with a preliminary decision on whether the submission should be accepted or not. These decisions formed the basis of discussion at a program committee meeting. Separate PC meetings were held for full and short papers. For full, a one day meeting was held at IBM Research Watson, NY; for short papers, a telephone conference call was held between the three PC chairs.

The senior PC also nominated candidates for best paper and best student paper, the two selected for the prizes were chosen by the PC chairs working in conjunction with the senior PCs. The papers that won were "Probabilistic Context-Free Grammar Induction Based on Structural Zeros" by Mehryar Mohri and Brian Roark and "Prototype-Driven Learning for Sequence Models" by Aria Haghighi and Dan Klein. Congratulations to them both.

We are indebted to all those who submitted papers to the conference and to all the reviewers and senior PC members who volunteered their time to help us in the selection process for the conference. We are particularly indebted to all the senior PC members who attended the PC meeting in January and found funds to pay for themselves to attend the meeting. Thanks guys, that was particularly generous of you. We are also grateful to IBM Watson for providing facilities for the PC meeting, Bob Moore for all of his prompt advice and help and a final thanks to Rich Gerber who ran and helped modify the START reviewing system

The HLT-NAACL conference has a PC chair for each of its three disciplines. Although work tasks were shared between the three chairs equally, as computational linguistics received by far the greatest number of submissions, Jennifer Chu-Carroll ended up having to oversee more papers and recruit more senior PC members than the other two chairs, she also volunteered to host the PC meeting at IBM. Therefore, the two other chairs of HLT-NAACL 2006 (Mark Sanderson & Jeff Bilmes), wish to thank Jennifer for all of her additional work in pulling this conference together. Jennifer, it couldn't have been done without you.

Jennifer Chu-Carroll — IBM Research (Watson) Jeff Bilmes — University of Washington Mark Sanderson — University of Sheffield Program Co-Chairs

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# **Conference Program**

Sunday, June 4

# 9:00-5:30 **Doctoral Consortium Tutorials** 9:00-12:30 T1: What's in a Name: Current Methods, Applications, and Evaluation in **Multilingual Name Search and Matching** Sherri Condon and Keith Miller 9:00-12:30 T2: Beyond EM: Bayesian Techniques for Human Language Technology Researchers Hal Daume III 9:00-12:30 T3: Graph-based Algorithms for Natural Language Processing and Information Retrieval Rada Mihalcea and Dragomir Radev 2:00-5:30 T4: Automatic Spoken Document Processing for Retrieval and Browsing Ciprian Chelba and T. J. Hazen T5: Tutorial on Inductive Semi-supervised Learning Methods: with Applica-2:00-5:30 bility to Natural Language Processing Anoop Sarkar and Gholamreza Haffari 2:00-5:30 **T6: Automatic Semantic Role Labeling** Scott Wen-tau Yih and Kristina Toutanova 6:30-9:30 Reception at NYU

# **Main Conference Program**

Monday, June 5

9:00–9:10	Opening Session
9:10–10:10	Keynote Speaker I: Joshua Goodman  Email and Spam and Spim and Spat
10:10-10:40	Break
Machine Tra	nslation I
10:40–11:05	Capitalizing Machine Translation Wei Wang, Kevin Knight and Daniel Marcu
11:05–11:30	Do we need phrases? Challenging the conventional wisdom in Statistical Machine Translation Chris Quirk and Arul Menezes
11:30–11:55	Improved Statistical Machine Translation Using Paraphrases Chris Callison-Burch, Philipp Koehn and Miles Osborne
11:55–12:20	Segment Choice Models: Feature-Rich Models for Global Distortion in Statistical Machine Translation Roland Kuhn, Denis Yuen, Michel Simard, Patrick Paul, George Foster, Eric Joanis and Howard Johnson
Inference and	l Entailment
10:40–11:05	Effectively Using Syntax for Recognizing False Entailment Rion Snow, Lucy Vanderwende and Arul Menezes
11:05–11:30	Learning to recognize features of valid textual entailments  Bill MacCartney, Trond Grenager, Marie-Catherine de Marneffe, Daniel Cer and Christopher D. Manning
11:30–11:55	Acquisition of Verb Entailment from Text Viktor Pekar
11:55–12:20	Acquiring Inference Rules with Temporal Constraints by Using Japanese Coordinated Sentences and Noun-Verb Co-occurrences  Kentaro Torisawa

# Monday, June 5 (continued)

# **Named Entity Recognition**

10:40–11:05	Role of Local Context in Automatic Deidentification of Ungrammatical, Fragmented Text Tawanda Sibanda, Ozlem Uzuner and Ozlem Uzuner
11:05–11:30	Exploiting Domain Structure for Named Entity Recognition Jing Jiang and ChengXiang Zhai
11:30–11:55	Named Entity Transliteration and Discovery from Multilingual Comparable Corpora Alexandre Klementiev and Dan Roth
11:55–12:20	Reducing Weight Undertraining in Structured Discriminative Learning Charles Sutton, Michael Sindelar and Andrew McCallum
12:20–1:50	Lunch
Short Papers	: Machine Translation, Multi-Lingual Speech
1:50–2:05	Spectral Clustering for Example Based Machine Translation Rashmi Gangadharaiah, Ralf Brown and Jaime Carbonell
2:05–2:20	Bridging the Inflection Morphology Gap for Arabic Statistical Machine Translation Andreas Zollmann, Venugopal Ashish and Vogel Stephan
2:20–2:35	Arabic Preprocessing Schemes for Statistical Machine Translation Nizar Habash and Fatiha Sadat
2:35–2:50	Thai Grapheme-Based Speech Recognition Paisarn Charoenpornsawat, Sanjika Hewavitharana and Tanja Schultz
2:50–3:05	Story Segmentation of Broadcast News in English, Mandarin and Arabic Andrew Rosenberg and Julia Hirschberg
3:05–3:20	Word Pronunciation Disambiguation using the Web Eiichiro Sumita and Fumiaki Sugaya

# Monday, June 5 (continued)

<b>Short Papers</b>	: Discourse/Dialogue
1:50-2:05	Agreement/Disagreement Classification: Exploiting Unlabeled Data using Contrast Classifiers Sangyun Hahn, Richard Ladner and Mari Ostendorf
2:05–2:20	Using Phrasal Patterns to Identify Discourse Relations Manami Saito, Kazuhide Yamamoto and Satoshi Sekine
2:20–2:35	Evaluating Centering for Sentence Ordering in Two New Domains Nikiforos Karamanis
2:35–2:50	Computational Modelling of Structural Priming in Dialogue David Reitter, Frank Keller and Johanna D. Moore
2:50–3:05	Museli: A Multi-Source Evidence Integration Approach to Topic Segmentation of Spontaneous Dialogue Jaime Arguello and Carolyn Rose
3:05–3:20	Automatic Recognition of Personality in Conversation Franois Mairesse and Marilyn Walker
<b>Short Papers</b>	: Retrieval, Language Models
1:50-2:05	Using the Web to Disambiguate Acronyms Eiichiro Sumita and Fumiaki Sugaya
2:05–2:20	Lycos Retriever: An Information Fusion Engine Brian Ulicny
2:20–2:35	BioEx: A Novel User-Interface that Accesses Images from Abstract Sentences Hong Yu and Minsuk Lee
2:35–2:50	Selecting relevant text subsets from web-data for building topic specific language models Abhinav Sethy, Panayiotis Georgiou and Shrikanth Narayanan
2:50–3:05	Factored Neural Language Models Andrei Alexandrescu and Katrin Kirchhoff
3:05–3:20	Quantitative Methods for Classifying Writing Systems Gerald Penn and Travis Choma
3:20-3:50	Break

# Monday, June 5 (continued)

# **Word Alignment**

3:50–4:15	A Maximum Entropy Approach to Combining Word Alignments Necip Fazil Ayan and Bonnie J. Dorr
4:15–4:40	Alignment by Agreement Percy Liang, Ben Taskar and Dan Klein
4:40-5:05	Word Alignment via Quadratic Assignment Simon Lacoste-Julien, Ben Taskar, Dan Klein and Michael I. Jordan
Semantics I	
3:50–4:15	An Empirical Study of the Behavior of Active Learning for Word Sense Disambiguation Jinying Chen, Andrew Schein, Lyle Ungar and Martha Palmer
4:15-4:40	Unknown word sense detection as outlier detection Katrin Erk
4:40-5:05	Understanding Temporal Expressions in Emails Benjamin Han, Donna Gates and Lori Levin
Parsing I	
3:50–4:15	Partial Training for a Lexicalized-Grammar Parser Stephen Clark and James Curran
4:15–4:40	Effective Self-Training for Parsing David McClosky, Eugene Charniak and Mark Johnson
4:40–5:05	Multilingual Dependency Parsing using Bayes Point Machines Simon Corston-Oliver, Anthony Aue, Kevin Duh and Eric Ringger

# Tuesday, June 6

Parsing II	
9:00–9:25	Multilevel Coarse-to-Fine PCFG Parsing Eugene Charniak, Mark Johnson, Micha Elsner, Joseph Austerweil, David Ellis, Isaac Haxton, Catherine Hill, R. Shrivaths, Jeremy Moore, Michael Pozar and Theresa Vu
9:25–9:50	A Fully-Lexicalized Probabilistic Model for Japanese Syntactic and Case Structure Analysis  Daisuke Kawahara and Sadao Kurohashi
9:50–10:15	Fully Parsing the Penn Treebank Ryan Gabbard, Seth Kulick and Mitchell Marcus
Discourse	
9:00–9:25	Exploiting Semantic Role Labeling, WordNet and Wikipedia for Coreference Resolution Simone Paolo Ponzetto and Michael Strube
9:25–9:50	Identifying and Analyzing Judgment Opinions Soo-Min Kim and Eduard Hovy
9:50–10:15	Learning to Detect Conversation Focus of Threaded Discussions Donghui Feng, Erin Shaw, Jihie Kim and Eduard Hovy
Spoken and A	Acoustic Aspects of Language
9:00–9:25	Towards Automatic Scoring of Non-Native Spontaneous Speech Klaus Zechner and Isaac Bejar
9:25–9:50	Unsupervised and Semi-supervised Learning of Tone and Pitch Accent Gina-Anne Levow
9:50–10:15	Learning Pronunciation Dictionaries: Language Complexity and Word Selection Strategies  John Kominek and Alan W Black
10:15-10:45	Break

# **Tuesday, June 6 (continued)**

# **Machine Translation II**

10:45–11:10	Relabeling Syntax Trees to Improve Syntax-Based Machine Translation Quality Bryant Huang and Kevin Knight
11:10–11:35	Grammatical Machine Translation Stefan Riezler and John T. Maxwell III
11:35–12:00	Synchronous Binarization for Machine Translation Hao Zhang, Liang Huang, Daniel Gildea and Kevin Knight
Dialogue	
10:45–11:10	Modelling User Satisfaction and Student Learning in a Spoken Dialogue Tutoring System with Generic, Tutoring, and User Affect Parameters Kate Forbes-Riley and Diane Litman
11:10–11:35	Comparing the Utility of State Features in Spoken Dialogue Using Reinforcement Learning Joel Tetreault and Diane Litman
11:35–12:00	Backoff Model Training using Partially Observed Data: Application to Dialog Act Tagging Gang Ji and Jeff Bilmes
Relation Extr	action
10:45–11:10	Exploring Syntactic Features for Relation Extraction using a Convolution Tree Kernel Min Zhang, Jie Zhang and Jian Su
11:10–11:35	Integrating Probabilistic Extraction Models and Data Mining to Discover Relations and Patterns in Text Aron Culotta, Andrew McCallum and Jonathan Betz
11:35–12:00	Preemptive Information Extraction using Unrestricted Relation Discovery Yusuke Shinyama and Satoshi Sekine
12:00-1:30	Lunch

# Tuesday, June 6 (continued)

# **Best Paper And Plenary Demo Presentations**

1:30–2:00	Probabilistic Context-Free Grammar Induction Based on Structural Zeros Mehryar Mohri and Brian Roark
2:00–2:30	Prototype-Driven Learning for Sequence Models Aria Haghighi and Dan Klein
2:30-3:00	Plenary demos:
	InfoMagnets: Making Sense of Corpus Data Jamie Arguello and Carolyn Rose
	Question Answering with Web, Mobile and Speech Interfaces Edward Whittaker, Joanna Mrozinski, and Sadaoki Furui
	From Pipedreams to Products and Promise!  Janet Baker and Patri Pugliese
3:00-3:15	Break
3:15–5:15	Posters and Demos
7:00	Banquet
Wednesday, J	une 7
Wednesday, J 9:00–10:00	Keynote Speaker II: Diane Litman  Spoken Dialogue for Intelligent Tutoring Systems: Opportunities and Challenges
	Keynote Speaker II: Diane Litman
9:00–10:00 10:00–10:30	<b>Keynote Speaker II: Diane Litman</b> Spoken Dialogue for Intelligent Tutoring Systems: Opportunities and Challenges
9:00–10:00 10:00–10:30	<b>Keynote Speaker II: Diane Litman</b> Spoken Dialogue for Intelligent Tutoring Systems: Opportunities and Challenges Break
9:00–10:00 10:00–10:30 <b>Morphology/</b> 0	Keynote Speaker II: Diane Litman Spoken Dialogue for Intelligent Tutoring Systems: Opportunities and Challenges Break Grammar Induction Learning Morphological Disambiguation Rules for Turkish
9:00–10:00 10:00–10:30 <b>Morphology/</b> 0 10:30–10:55	Keynote Speaker II: Diane Litman Spoken Dialogue for Intelligent Tutoring Systems: Opportunities and Challenges Break Grammar Induction  Learning Morphological Disambiguation Rules for Turkish Deniz Yuret and Ferhan Ture  Cross-Entropy and Estimation of Probabilistic Context-Free Grammars

# Wednesday, June 7 (continued)

# **Generation/Summarization/Question Answering**

10:30–10:55	Aggregation via Set Partitioning for Natural Language Generation Regina Barzilay and Mirella Lapata	
10:55–11:20	Incorporating Speaker and Discourse Features into Speech Summarization Gabriel Murray, Steve Renals, Jean Carletta and Johanna Moore	
11:20–11:45	Nuggeteer: Automatic Nugget-Based Evaluation using Descriptions and Judgements Gregory Marton and Alexey Radul	
11:45–12:10	Will Pyramids Built of Nuggets Topple Over?  Jimmy Lin and Dina Demner-Fushman	
Information Retrieval		
10:30–10:55	Creating a Test Collection for Citation-based IR Experiments Anna Ritchie, Simone Teufel and Stephen Robertson	
10:55–11:20	A Machine Learning based Approach to Evaluating Retrieval Systems Huyen-Trang Vu and Patrick Gallinari	
11:20–11:45	Language Model Information Retrieval with Document Expansion Tao Tao, Xuanhui Wang, Qiaozhu Mei and ChengXiang Zhai	
11:45–12:10	Towards Spoken-Document Retrieval for the Internet: Lattice Indexing For Large-Scale Web-Search Architectures Zheng-Yu Zhou, Peng Yu, Ciprian Chelba and Frank Seide	
12:10-1:40	Lunch	
1:40-2:30	NAACL Business Meeting	

# Wednesday, June 7 (continued)

Short Papers: Morphology/Syntax		
2:30–2:45	Subword-based Tagging by Conditional Random Fields for Chinese Word Segmentation Ruiqiang Zhang, Kikui Genichiro and sumita eiichiro	
2:45–3:00	Accurate Parsing of the Proposition Bank Gabriele Musillo and Paola Merlo	
3:00–3:15	Early Deletion of Fillers In Processing Conversational Speech Matthew Lease and Mark Johnson	
3:15–3:30	Parser Combination by Reparsing Kenji Sagae and Alon Lavie	
Short Papers: Semantics		
2:30–2:45	Unsupervised Induction of Modern Standard Arabic Verb Classes Neal Snider and Mona Diab	
2:45–3:00	Word Domain Disambiguation via Word Sense Disambiguation Antonio Sanfilippo, Stephen Tratz and Michelle Gregory	
3:00–3:15	Evaluation of Utility of LSA for Word Sense Discrimination Esther Levin, Mehrbod Sharifi and Jerry Ball	
3:15–3:30	Semi-supervised Relation Extraction with Label Propagation Jinxiu Chen, Donghong Ji, Chew Lim Tan and Zhengyu Niu	
Short Papers: Speech and Video Processing		
2:30–2:45	Initial Study on Automatic Identification of Speaker Role in Broadcast News Speech Yang Liu	
2:45–3:00	Extracting Salient Keywords from Instructional Videos Using Joint Text, Audio and Visual Cues Youngja Park and Ying Li	
3:00–3:15	Class Model Adaptation for Speech Summarisation Pierre Chatain, Edward Whittaker, Joanna Mrozinski and Sadaoki Furui	
3:15–3:30	Summarizing Speech Without Text Using Hidden Markov Models Sameer Maskey and Julia Hirschberg	
3:30-4:00	Break	

# Wednesday, June 7 (continued)

<b>Semantics II</b>		
4:00-4:25	A fast finite-state relaxation method for enforcing global constraints on sequence decoding Roy Tromble and Jason Eisner	
4:25–4:50	Semantic role labeling of nominalized predicates in Chinese Nianwen Xue	
4:50–5:15	Learning for Semantic Parsing with Statistical Machine Translation Yuk Wah Wong and Raymond Mooney	
Evaluation		
4:00–4:25	ParaEval: Using Paraphrases to Evaluate Summaries Automatically Liang Zhou, Chin-Yew Lin, Dragos Stefan Munteanu and Eduard Hovy	
4:25–4:50	Paraphrasing for Automatic Evaluation David Kauchak and Regina Barzilay	
4:50–5:15	An Information-Theoretic Approach to Automatic Evaluation of Summaries Chin-Yew Lin, Guihong Cao, Jianfeng Gao and Jian-Yun Nie	
Processing in/for Language Models		
4:00–4:25	Cross Linguistic Name Matching in English and Arabic Andrew Freeman, Sherri Condon and Christopher Ackerman	
4:25–4:50	Language Model-Based Document Clustering Using Random Walks Gunes Erkan	
4:50–5:15	Unlimited vocabulary speech recognition for agglutinative languages  Mikko Kurimo, Antti Puurula, Ebru Arisoy, Vesa Siivola, Teemu Hirsimki, Janne Pylkknen, Tanel Alume and Murat Saraclar	

# Workshops

Thursday, June 8		
9:00–5:30	WS01: The Tenth Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL-X), Day 1	
9:00–5:30	WS02: Document Understanding Conference (DUC), Day 1	
9:00–5:30	WS03: Interactive Question Answering, Day 1	
9:00–5:30	WS04: Statistical Machine Translation, Day 1	
9:00–5:30	WS05: Special Interest Group on Computational Phonology (SIGPHON)	
9:00–5:30	WS06: BioNLP'06: Linking Natural Language Processing and Biology: Towards deeper biological literature analysis	
9:00–5:30	WS08: Analyzing Conversations in Text and Speech (ACTS)	
9:00–5:30	WS09: Third International Workshop on Scalable Natural Language Understanding (ScaNaLU 2006)	
Friday, June 9		
9:00–5:30	WS01: The Tenth Conference on Computational Natural Language Learning (CoNLL-X), $Day\ 2$	
9:00–5:30	WS02: Document Understanding Conference (DUC), Day 2	
9:00–5:30	WS03: Interactive Question Answering, Day 2	
9:00-5:30	WS04: Statistical Machine Translation, Day 2	
9:00–5:30	WS10: Computationally Hard Problems and Joint Inference in Speech and Language Processing	
9:00–5:30	WS11: First International Workshop on Medical Speech Translation	
9:00–5:30	WS12: Textgraphs: Graph-based Algorithms for Natural Language Processing	

# **Keynote Speaker:**

# Joshua Goodman Microsoft Research

#### Speaking on:

# **Email and Spam and Spim and Spat**

#### Abstract

Email is the number one activity that people do on the internet: 74% of internet users check their email on an average day. Email use in offices has more than doubled since 2000, and is now over 8 hours a week. There are many great NLP problems for email, like automatic clustering and foldering, search, prioritization, automatically finding keywords within messages, finding addresses, and summarization. Spam is the number one problem for email. I?ll talk about how spam filters work, and the current open problems, as well as other kinds of abuse like chat spam (Spat), IM spam (Spim), blog comment spam (Blat), etc. all of which make great NLP problems.

Email and abuse problems like spam can be some of the most exciting for research: they inspire us to work on new problems we would otherwise not have found. We are exploring areas like adversarial learning, learning with unbalanced costs, and learning with partial user feedback. Shipping solutions to these problems is both surprisingly hard and surprisingly fun. For NLP Researchers, the hardest constraint is that products ship in about 20 languages. By carefully choosing tools like word clustering that are easy to build in many languages, instead of similar tools like taggers that may not exist everywhere, we increase the chance of shipping. When we have actually built complete systems and given them to users, we have found several new and interesting problems in the most exciting way, by shipping solutions that don?t work the first time around.

#### Bio

Joshua Goodman is a Principal Researcher in the Machine Learning and Applied Statistic group at Microsoft Research, where he runs a team focused on Learning for Messaging and Adversarial Problems. Spam filters he helped develop stop over a billion spam messages per day. He has also worked on language modeling and machine learning, and has a Ph.D. in Computer Science from Harvard University for his work on Statistical Parsing. He helped start and is now President of the Conference on Email and Anti-Spam.

# **Keynote Speaker:**

# **Diane Litman** University of Pittsburgh

#### Speaking on:

# Spoken Dialogue for Intelligent Tutoring Systems: Opportunities and Challenges

#### **Abstract**

In recent years, the development of intelligent tutoring dialogue systems has become more prevalent, in an attempt to close the performance gap between human and computer tutors. With advances in speech technology, several systems have begun to incorporate spoken language capabilities, hypothesizing that adding speech technology will promote student learning by enhancing communication richness. Tutoring applications differ in many ways, however, from the types of applications for which spoken dialogue systems are typically developed. This talk will illustrate some of the opportunities and challenges in this area, focusing on issues such as affective reasoning, discourse analysis, error handling, and performance evaluation.

#### Bio

Diane Litman is Professor of Computer Science, as well as Research Scientist with the Learning Research and Development Center, at the University of Pittsburgh. Previously, Dr. Litman was a member of the Artificial Intelligence Principles Research Department, AT&T Labs - Research (formerly Bell Laboratories); she was also an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at Columbia University. Dr. Litman received her Ph.D. degree in Computer Science from the University of Rochester. Her current research focuses on enhancing the effectiveness of tutorial dialogue systems through the use of spoken language processing, affective computing, and machine learning. She has collaborated on the development of spoken dialogue systems in multiple application areas, including intelligent tutoring (ITSPOKE), chat (CobotDS) and database/web access (NJFun and TOOT). Dr. Litman has been Chair of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics, a member of the Executive Committee of the Association for Computational Linguistics, and a member of the editorial boards of Computational Linguistics and User Modeling and User-Adapted Interaction.