

ACL 2020

**Narrative Understanding,
Storylines, and Events**

Proceedings of the First Joint Workshop

July 9, 2020

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Introduction

Welcome to the 1st Joint Workshop on Narrative Understanding, Storylines, and Events!

This workshop brings together an interdisciplinary group of researchers from NLP, ML, and other computational fields with authors and scholars from the humanities to discuss methods to improve automatic capabilities for narrative understanding, storylines, and event recognition and modeling.

We are happy to present 15 papers on this topic (along with 2 non-archival papers to be presented only at the workshop). These papers take on the complex challenges presented by diverse texts including spoken narratives, dialogue, literature, and journalism as they look to improve methods for event extraction, emotion and bias recognition, discourse evaluation, script induction, quality assessment, cross-document event coreference, and other tasks related to the workshop theme. We would like to thank everyone who submitted their work to this workshop and the program committee for their helpful feedback.

We would also like to thank our invited speakers for their participation in this workshop: Angela Fan, Mark Finlayson, Andrew Gordon, Alexander Hauptmann, Kathleen McKeown, Ellen Riloff, and Ted Underwood.

We are excited to showcase this work and for this opportunity to bring together researchers working on challenges in understanding narratives, storylines, and events. Thank you to the ACL Workshop Co-Chairs, Milica Gašić, Saif M. Mohammad, Dilek Hakkani-Tur, and Ves Stoyanov, and to all who made this workshop possible.

—Claire, Tommaso, Snigdha, Elizabeth, Ruihong, Mohit, Alejandro, Heng, Lara, Ben, Teruko, Nanyun, and Joel

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Yao Zhao
Yi Tay
Yimai Fang
Yllias Chali
Youzheng Wu
Yufan Guo
Zhaochun Ren
Zhunchen Luo
Ziqiang Cao

Invited Speakers:

Angela Fan, Facebook Research
Mark Finlayson, Florida International University
Andrew Gordon, University of Southern California
Alexander G. Hauptmann, Carnegie Mellon University
Kathleen McKeown, Columbia University
Ellen Riloff, University of Utah
Ted Underwood, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

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Workshop Program

Thursday, July 9, 2020

8:15–8:30 Opening Remarks

8:30–9:30 Q+A (Session 1)

10:00–11:00 Speaker Panel (Session 1)

12:00–13:30 Annotation Exercise

15:00–16:00 Speaker Panel (Session 2)

16:00–17:00 Q+A (Session 2)

17:00–17:15 Closing Remarks

Keynote Talks

Keynote 1
Angela Fan

Keynote 2
Mark Finlayson

Keynote 3
Andrew Gordon

Keynote 4
Alexander G. Hauptmann

Keynote 5
Kathleen McKeown

Thursday, July 9, 2020 (continued)

Keynote 6
Ellen Riloff

Keynote 7
Ted Underwood

Paper Talks (Archival)

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On-The-Fly Information Retrieval Augmentation for Language Models

Hai Wang and David McAllester

Detecting and understanding moral biases in news

Usman Shahid, Barbara Di Eugenio, Andrew Rojecki and Elena Zheleva

Paper Talks (Non-Archival)

Bringing Stories Alive: Generating Interactive Fiction Worlds

Prithviraj Ammanabrolu, Wesley Cheung, Dan Tu, William Broniec and Mark Riedl

CompRes: A Dataset for Narrative Structure in News

Effi Levi, Guy Mor, Shaul Shenhav and Tamir Sheafer

