# **WebNLG 2016**

# Proceedings of the 2nd International Workshop on Natural Language Generation and the Semantic Web

6 September 2016 Edinburgh, Scotland

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## Introduction

It is with great pleasure that we present the current volume of papers accepted for presentation at the 2nd International Workshop on Natural Language Generation and the Semantic Web to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland on September 6th, 2016.

The WebNLG 2016 workshop is a follow up to a first WebNLG workshop which was held in Nancy on June 12th, 2015. Funded by the French ANR WebNLG Project, these two workshops aim to provide a forum for presenting and discussing research on Natural Language Generation from Semantic Web data.

WebNLG 2016 invited submissions on all topics related to Natural Language Generation and the Semantic Web. We received 14 submissions from all over the world. Of these 5 long papers and 8 short papers were accepted for presentation. The long papers will be presented orally, and the short papers as posters.

In addition, WebNLG 2016 hosts an Invited talk by Roberto Navigli from Sapienza University (Rome, Italy) on the past, present and future of Babelnet.

We are indebted to the authors and to the members of our program committee for their work which contributed to make for a very enjoyable workshop. We are also delighted that Roberto Navigli agreed to give an invited talk at WebNLG 2016. Last but not least, many thanks go to the local organisation team, Emilie Colin, Bikash Gyawali, Mariem Mahfoudh and Laura Perez-Beltrachini for handling the website and the preparation of the meeting.

Claire Gardent and Aldo Gangemi Program co-Chairs for WebNLG 2016

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# **Invited Speaker**

### Roberto Navigli, Sapienza Università di Roma, Roma, Italy

BabelNet: past, present and future

In this talk I will overview work done in my group at the Linguistic Computing Laboratory in the Computer Science Department of the Sapienza University of Rome which addresses key problems in multilingual lexical semantics. I will start from a brief introduction to BabelNet, the largest multilingual semantic network and encyclopedic dictionary covering 14 million concepts and entities, and 271 languages, also at the core of the so-called Linguistic Linked Open Data cloud. I will move on to Word Sense Disambiguation and Entity Linking in arbitrary languages with "zero training" (Babelfy) and then present recent latent and explicit vector representations of meaning which obtain state-of-the-art results in several NLP tasks. Finally, I will present my plan for making BabelNet a sustainable, continuously-improved resource. This is joint work with several people from my NLP group at Sapienza.

Roberto Navigli is an Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science of the Sapienza University of Rome. He was awarded the Marco Somalvico 2013 AI\*IA Prize for the best young researcher in AI. He was the first Italian recipient of an ERC Starting Grant in computer science (2011-2016), and a co-PI of a Google Focused Research Award on Natural Language Understanding. In 2015 he received the META prize for groundbreaking work in overcoming language barriers with BabelNet. His research lies in the field of multilingual Natural Language Processing. Currently he is an Associate Editor of the Artificial Intelligence Journal.

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# **Conference Program**

## Tuesday, September 6, 2016

9:00-10:00 **Invited Talk** 

BabelNet: Past, Present and Future

Roberto Navigli

10:00-10:45 **Posters** 

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## **Oral presentations**

10:45-11:05 Generating Paraphrases from DBPedia using Deep Learning

Amin Sleimi and Claire Gardent

11:05-11:25 Aligning Texts and Knowledge Bases with Semantic Sentence Simplification

> Yassine Mrabet, Pavlos Vougiouklis, Halil Kilicoglu, Claire Gardent, Dina Demner-Fushman, Jonathon Hare and Elena Simperl

# **Oral presentations (continued)**

11:25–11:45	On the Robustness of Standalone Referring Expression Generation Algorithms Using RDF Data Pablo Ariel Duboue, Martin Ariel Domínguez and Paula Estrella
11:45–12:05	A Repository of Frame Instance Lexicalizations for Generation Basile Valerio
12:05–12:25	Automatic Tweet Generation From Traffic Incident Data Khoa Tran and Fred Popowitch