

Preface: Program Committee Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Program Committee for the ACL-2000, we are pleased to present the papers accepted for presentation at the 38th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics, held in Hong Kong, October 3-6, 2000.

We received 267 submissions from 29 countries. 70 papers (including papers from the four community-proposed theme areas) were selected for presentation. Selection of papers was not an easy task. The area chairs, theme chairs and the reviewers can not be thanked enough for their conscientious effort and the careful job they performed. Reviewing was blind to all reviewers as well as the area and theme chairs. 235 reviewers drawn from 23 countries reported to the area chairs and theme chairs. All those who contributed are named on the following pages, but we would particularly like to express our thanks to the eight area chairs: Key-Sun Choi, Walter Daelemans, Dan Jurafsky, Yuji Matsumoto, Johanna D. Moore, Martha S. Palmer, Ellen Riloff and Giorgio Satta; and the theme chairs: Antal van den Bosch, Sanda M. Harabagiu, Hitoshi Isahara, Emiel Krahmer, Inderjeet Mani, Rajeev Sangal, Maria Wolters and Ming Zhou. The program committee comprising of the eight area chairs spent two intensive days in Newark, Delaware making the final decisions.

We are honored to have as invited speakers such internationally recognized researchers as Susan E. Brennan, Roger K. Moore and Jun'ichi Tsujii. We would like to extend our special thanks to them for having kindly agreed to present their unique perspectives to us.

We thank Aravind Joshi for organizing a panel discussing computational linguistics programs in South and South-East Asia and also thank the panelists Allan Borra, PHAN Huy Khanh, Bobby Nazief, Rajeev Sangal, Virach Sornlertlamvanich and Zarin Yusoff for their participation.

There are a number of people who contributed in various ways. We would like to thank the General Chair, Hitoshi Iida, and the Local Arrangements Chair, Dekai Wu, for their support. Special thanks to the local arrangements committee and, in particular, Samuel Harp and Jun Zhao for their help in the preparation of the proceedings, maintaining the conference website and for attending to our numerous requests. We would like to thank David Yarowsky for help with the preparation of the proceedings as well as for providing us with the program that significantly aided in the reviewers assignment process. In addition, David Yarowsky coordinated the production of the companion volume and the CD-ROM version of the proceedings, both of which are being produced by ACL for the first time. We appreciate the suggestions and guidance from the ACL executive committee members on various items. We constantly relied upon the experience and advice of Kathleen McCoy, ACL Secretary-Treasurer, and Priscilla Rasmussen, ACL Business Manager. We could not have managed without their help.

We would like to especially acknowledge the invaluable support provided by John Chen throughout the process: from handling the submissions to assembling the proceedings. We also wish to express our thanks to the following other graduate students at the University of Delaware: Greg Silber, who provided technical support and developed the electronic paper registration software package as well as the conference on-line registration package; and Jon DeCristofaro, Bowen Hui, and Manabu Torii who helped in the process of distributing the submissions to the area chairs and theme chairs.

Welcome to ACL-2000.

K. Vijay-Shanker and Chang-Ning Huang
Program Committee Co-Chairs
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