

Message from the Conference Chair

It is a great pleasure to welcome you at the Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK) for the 16th Conference of the European Association for Machine Translation. This is the first time that the EAMT annual conference has been organized in Italy and I'm very thankful to the Board of EAMT for giving me the opportunity to host the 2012 edition in Trento.

Given the increasing popularity of the EAMT conference over the last few years, the board of EAMT decided to organize the 2012 conference in two and a half days instead of two. This choice was indeed rewarded by an unexpectedly high number of paper submissions this year, 30% more than in 2011. Hence, I really hope you will enjoy the technical program and will find yourself comfortable with the conference venue.

The conference will be held at the technological and scientific hub of FBK, on the hill of Povo, a suburb of Trento. Morning sessions and coffee breaks will be hosted in the conference room of the main building. Lunches will be instead served in the large hall of the North building, where also the afternoon poster sessions will take place. In the same building, there will be extra rooms available for informal meetings as well as a cafeteria.

I hope you will enjoy the two social events that we have organized: the welcome reception in the Sass underground archaeological area in Trento, and the conference banquet along the lake in Riva del Garda. I hope these two occasions will give you a taste of the architectural, cultural and natural beauty of Trentino and Italy.

Nothing of this conference could have been organized without good teamwork. Hence, I wish to thank the Program co-Chairs, Lucia Specia and Andy Way, for managing the unexpectedly high number of submissions and for arranging the conference program. Thank you also to the staff at FBK, which worked with impressive professional dedication to set-up this event. In particular, I wish to express my gratitude to Mauro Cettolo, Local Organization Chair, Silvia Malesardi, venue and the social events, Francesca Guerzoni, website, Moira Osti, marketing, Luigi Massimiliano Cordisco, correspondence, Barbara Gazzoli and Adalberto Bragagna, editing of proceedings, and to our student volunteers, Prashant Mathur, Jose Camargo de Souza, and Nick Ruiz.

The organization of a conference is the sum of many important parts. Among them there are also the sponsors, which generously supported EAMT 2012. In particular, I would like to acknowledge support of the Superintendence for Cultural and Archaeological Heritage of the Province of Trento, for hosting the welcome reception, and of Springer, for sponsoring the best paper award. Last but not least, I wish to publicly thank our silver sponsor, Microsoft Translator, and our bronze sponsor Virtus.

I wish you a very successful conference and pleasant stay in Trento!

Marcello Federico, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, IT

EAMT-2012 Conference Chair