



Australasian Language Technology Association

<http://www.alta.asn.au>

Most human knowledge, and most human communication, is represented and expressed using language, both in written and spoken forms. Language technologies permit computers to process human language, providing more natural human-machine interfaces, and more sophisticated access to stored information. Language technologies will play a central role in the multilingual information society of the future.

ALTA's Mission

The purpose of the Australasian Language Technology Association is to promote language technology research and development in Australia and New Zealand. ALTA organises regular events for the exchange of research results and for academic and industrial training, and co-ordinates activities with other professional societies.

ALTA Events

ALTA is involved in organising local events including:

- The annual **Australasian Language Technology Workshop (ALTW)**
- The **ACL/HCSNet Advanced Program in Natural Language Processing**

ALTA Executive Committee

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| President: | Cécile Paris |
| Secretary/Treasurer: | Diego Mollá |
| Members: | Steven Bird, James Curran, Dominique Estival, Andrew Lampert |
| Student Representative: | Patrick Ye |

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Australasian Language Technology Workshop

November 30-December 1, 2006 Sydney, Australia

<http://www.alta.asn.au/events/altw2006/>

A two-day workshop on Natural Language Technology is being organised by the Australasian Language Technology Association (ALTA). This event will be the fourth annual installment of the workshop in its most recent incarnation, and the continuation of an annual workshop series that has existed under various guises since the early 90s.

ALTW is being held as part of the HCSNet SummerFest, a multi-disciplinary event encompassing a number of workshops, invited courses and presentations around the theme of Human Communication Science. The courses, offered at both introductory and more advanced levels, will include topic areas aimed specifically at Language Technology students and researchers.

The goals of the workshop are:

- to bring together the growing Language Technology (LT) community in Australia and New Zealand and encourage interactions;
- to encourage interactions and collaboration within this community and with the wider international LT community;
- to foster interaction between academic and industrial researchers;
- to encourage dissemination of research results;
- to provide a forum for the discussion of new and ongoing research and projects;
- to provide an opportunity for the broader artificial intelligence community to become aware of local LT research; and, finally,
- to increase visibility of LT research in Australia, New Zealand and overseas.

As with the 2005 Workshop, there will be poster presentations in addition to the regular talks, in order to encourage more interactive discussion of research-in-progress.

Important Dates

ALTA Workshop: Nov 30 – Dec 1, 2006

HCSNet Summerfest: Nov 27 – Dec 1, 2006

Contacts

Workshop Co-Chairs:

Lawrence Cavedon and Ingrid Zukerman

Local Organiser: Rolf Schwitter

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