

Today's Topics:

1. PR: ELRA announces the Public Opening of the Universal Catalogue (info@elda.org)
2. ELRA - Language Resources Catalogue - Update (info@elda.org)
3. CFP: 3rd International Workshop on Information Technologies: status and opportunities for the Amazigh (info@elda.org)
4. Press Release: Dr. Stelios Piperidis to Serve as New ELRA President (info@elda.org)
5. Translating and the Computer 30 (nadamides@aslib.com)

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From: info@elda.org
To: destinataires inconnus;;
Date: Mon, 06 Oct 2008 16:18:16 +0200
Subject: [Mt-list] PR: ELRA announces the Public Opening of the Universal Catalogue [Apologies for multiple postings]
Press Release - Immediate - Paris, France, 1 October 2008

Public Opening of the Universal Catalogue

Paris, France, 1 October 2008: The European Language Resources Association today announces the public opening of the Universal Catalogue.

Accessible from <http://universal.elra.info/>, the Universal Catalogue is publicly open to the general language-technology and language-studying communities so as to facilitate both LR search and storage to all LR users. Both activities are done in a simplified and shareable manner.

The Universal Catalogue allows for a collaborative enriching, by means of collecting information from all interested people. Everyone is strongly encouraged to share information he/she knows about existing resources. The more exhaustive the Universal Catalogue is the more useful it will be for all of us.

Direct link to add resources: <http://universal.elra.info/public/ressources.php>

More information can be found on <http://www.elra.info/Universal-Catalogue.html>

All comments, questions, feedback can be addressed to Victoria Arranz through the Contact Us link on the left-hand side menu of the catalogue.

*** About ELRA ***

The European Language Resources Association (ELRA) is a non-profit making organisation founded in 1995, with the support of the European Commission and the European HLT key-players, whether industrial or academics. ELRA's mission is to provide a clearing house for language resources and promote Human Language Technologies (HLT).

To find out more about ELRA, please visit our web site: www.elra.info

Contact:
Helene Mazo
mazo@elda.org

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From: info@elda.org
To: destinataires inconnus;;
Date: Wed, 08 Oct 2008 15:20:36 +0200
Subject: [Mt-list] ELRA - Language Resources Catalogue - Update
Our apologies if you have received multiple copies of this announcement.

ELRA - Language Resources Catalogue - Update

ELRA is happy to announce that 2 new Speech Resources and 1 new Multimodal Resource are now available in its catalogue:

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ELRA-S0287 Cantonese Speecon Database *

The Cantonese Speecon database comprises the recordings of 550 adult Cantonese speakers and 50 child Cantonese speakers who uttered respectively over 290 items and 210 items (read and spontaneous). For more information, see: http://catalog.elra.info/product_info.php?products_id=1075

*ELRA-S0288 Thai Speecon Database *

The Thai Speecon database comprises the recordings of 552 adult Thai speakers and 50 child Thai speakers who uttered respectively over 290 items and 210 items (read and spontaneous). For more information, see: http://catalog.elra.info/product_info.php?products_id=1076

*ELRA-W0048 TUNA Corpus *

The TUNA Corpus of Referring Expressions is built with the contributions from 50 native or fluent speakers of English and it contains about 2000 descriptions (referring expressions). Participants described objects (targets) in visual domains by typing and submitting referring expressions that distinguished them from other objects that were shown simultaneously (distractors). Each description is annotated with semantic information.

For more information, see: http://catalog.elra.info/product_info.php?products_id=1074

For more information on the catalogue, please contact Valérie Mapelli <mailto:mapelli@elda.org>

Visit our on-line catalogue: <http://catalog.elra.info>

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From: info@elda.org

To: destinataires inconnus;

Date: Wed, 08 Oct 2008 16:34:39 +0200

Subject: [Mt-list] CfP: 3rd International Workshop on Information Technologies: status and opportunities for the Amazigh
[Apologies for multiple postings]

3rd International Workshop on Information Technologies: status and opportunities for the Amazigh.
November 24 & 25, 2008

Institut Royal de La Culture Amazighe, Rabat, Morocco

<http://www.ircam.ma/fr/index.php?soc=manif&rd=44> <<http://www.ircam.ma/fr/index.php?soc=manif&rd=44>>

Submission deadline: October 10, 2008

This Workshop aims to be an occasion to gather researchers and specialists to present work in relation to natural languages in particular the amazighe language. Let us find there an occasion to identify, on the one hand problems to be surmounted so that a language and a particular culture is supported in the NTIC, and on the other hand possible and standard mechanisms to find solutions. Indeed, one of the main aims of this workshop is to discuss steps and means which would allow a harmonious integration of the natural language in computer tools, in particular the amazigh language. It also aims to increase interest of specialists and researchers to the field of human linguistic technologies (TLH) applied to the amazigh. To privilege a profitable exchange, we propose to debate the following axes which integrate theoretical, methodological aspects and practices of :

1. Cultural diversity and NTIC.
 2. Data-processing management of the multilingualism
 3. Feasibility of the data-processing localization
 4. Data-processing standards of treatment of the languages.
 5. The data-processing coding of languages
 6. Translation tools and techniques applied to the NTIC.
 7. Linguistic engineering.
 8. Collect and numerical stock management
 9. Electronic dictionaries
- Etc.

The workshop wants to be also an opportunity for experts, researchers and various actors to discuss relative questions with the blooming of the natural language and its integration in the NTIC. The workshop will be as well an occasion to pay a particular homage to the eminent professor LAHBIB ZENKOUAR for his important contribution to the amazigh culture.

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From: info@elda.org
To: destinataires inconnus;;
Date: Mon, 13 Oct 2008 14:57:25 +0200
Subject: [Mt-list] Press Release: Dr. Stelios Piperidis to Serve as New ELRA President
Press Release - Immediate - Paris, France, 6 October 2008

ELRA INTRODUCES NEW BOARD

Dr. Stelios Piperidis to Serve as New ELRA President

Paris, France, 6 October 2008- The European Language Resources Association (ELRA) announces today the results of the ELRA Board election. This election has taken place during the 1 October 2008 Board Meeting, held right after the ELRA Annual General Assembly. The newly elected President is Dr. Stelios Piperidis.

Dr Piperidis is a Director of Research at the Institute for Language and Speech Processing (ILSP) / Research Centre "Athena". He has been the Head of the Department of Language Technology Applications of ILSP since its inception in 1994. At the same time he is lecturing at the National Technical University of Athens on Logic, Semantics and Human Language Technology where he is also supervising postgraduate students' research projects. He was the Project Scientific Coordinator of the Translearn/LRE, MUSA/IST and REVEAL THIS/IST projects. In 2001, he was appointed national expert delegate, member of the Management Committee of the eContent programme of the European Union. He currently serves on several national and international editorial, assessment and advisory panels and boards. He is co-founder and Board member of Cognitron LLC and Knowledge-Language and Culture Entrepreneurial Cluster in Athens. His research interests include statistical and deductive methods in natural language processing and understanding, language resources and automatic linguistic knowledge elicitation, machine translation and philosophy of language. He has published more than 100 articles in international scientific books, journals and proceedings of many international conferences, while he has given several invited tutorial and keynote speeches.

Further to a change in the ELRA statutes, the ELRA Board is now composed of 9 members:

- * Robrecht Comeyne, Secretary
- * Martine Garnier-Rizet, Vice-President
- * Theo van den Heuvel, Board Member
- * Jimmy Kunzmann, Treasurer
- * Asuncion Moreno, Board Member
- * Stelios Piperidis, President
- * Gabor Pr3sz3ky, Board Member
- * Gregor Thurmair, Vice-President
- * Hans Uszkoreit, Board Member

Khalid Choukri remains the General Secretary of the Association.

After serving 3 terms, which is the maximum allowed by the ELRA statutes, Bente Maegaard (former ELRA President), Nicoletta Calzolari (Vice-President) and Pasi Tapanainen (Board Member) have left the Board. ELRA is grateful to the 3 of them for the work they did for the Association.

*** About ELRA ***

The European Language Resources Association (ELRA) is a non-profit making organisation founded in 1995, with the support of the European Commission and the European HLT key-players, whether industrial or academics. The mission of the Association is to promote language resources (henceforth LRs) and evaluation for the Human Language Technology (HLT) sector in all their forms and all their uses, in a European context. Consequently the goals are: to coordinate and carry out identification, production, validation, distribution, standardisation of LRs, as well as support for evaluation of systems, products, tools, etc. - related to language resources.

To find out more about ELRA, please visit our web site: www.elra.info

Contact:

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From: <nadamides@aslib.com>
To: <mt-list@eamt.org>
Date: Wed, 22 Oct 2008 16:14:20 +0100
Subject: [Mt-list] Translating and the Computer 30

27-28 November 2008, London

Supported by BCS Natural Language Translation Specialist Group, EAMT, IAMT, ITI, IoL, LISA and TILP. Sponsored by CNGL and LTC.

Come and join us at the Holiday Inn Camden Lock to celebrate the 30th conference with an exciting programme of papers and panels. The programme, and other details, can be found at www.aslib.com/conferences. There are two additions and one change to the previously advertised programme:

a) the keynote presentation on Thursday 27:

Synchronizing translations in a Wiki with TikiWiki CMS/Groupware

Marc Laporte, AvanTech.net, Canada

Classic translation workflow systems are based on several assumptions.

For example, they assume the presence of a master language and that the source document be "final" before translation is started. But what to do for a wiki, which has no master language and, by the wiki's nature, when a document is never "final"? The presentation will address 7 assumptions (including the two mentioned above) of the traditional translation workflows and how these are challenged in the Web & Wiki world. Finally, we will describe a working solution to these issues, implemented in TikiWiki, a full-featured, open source, multilingual Web Content Management System (CMS). This solution is currently used by the Firefox support site at support.mozilla.com. More information on Wiki-Translation.com

b) the keynote presentation on Friday 28:

Tools for Integration

Ulla Falk-Petersen, Director, European Court of Auditors, Luxembourg

Over the years, translator oriented IT tools have become instrumental to translation work. An important advantage of the use of IT tools stems from the possibilities in the way of integration and interoperability they offer. A case study is presented to illustrate how the European Court of Auditors has used IT tools to coordinate and harmonise translation work whilst providing quality assurance and efficiency. The use of IT tools as a facilitator of integration at several levels is stressed in the context of the 2004 and 2007 enlargements, which meant a twofold increase in the number of official languages and of translators in our organisation.

c) the last paper on Friday 28 has changed to:

A Quality Control Framework for Gold Standard Reference Translations: The Process and Toolkit Developed for GALE

Lauren Friedman, University of Pennsylvania, USA

While a multitude of MT evaluation metrics exist, most require one or more gold standard references. For the DARPA GALE program, source data is translated according to detailed guidelines² and high quality standards, but these raw translations then undergo a rigorous and carefully constructed quality control process to create the final references. This resource intensive process, which utilizes a specially designed toolkit, QCTool, was developed to meet GALE's need for multiple editing passes on translation data wherein each intermediary version of the translation is preserved. This paper describes this framework and suggests that it may be successfully applied to improve and streamline other large scale translation projects.

There are panels looking at the past 30 years and at the future, as well as ample opportunities to network with other colleagues in the field.

For more information, including how to book your place, please visit: www.aslib.com/conferences. If there are 3 of you coming from the same organization, the third delegate can attend for 200GBP plus VAT.

Regards

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