

REPORT ON SIGDIAL ACTIVITIES: July 2005 to June 2006

David Traum, SIGdial President

SIGdial is the ACL and ISCA Special Interest Group on Discourse and Dialogue which was formed in November 1997. More information about SIGdial can be found on the webpages: <http://www.sigdial.org> including an actively updated calendar of upcoming events, resources, and previous reports. Members can join from the webpage, which includes participation in a low-volume, moderated mailing list (mainly conference and job announcements). SIGdial currently has 395 members from 33 countries (up 26 and down 5 from last year).

An election of officers and three advisory board members was held in Fall of 2005 for the years 2006 and 2007. SIGdial is currently led by officers David Traum (President), Wolfgang Minker (Vice President), and Kristiina Jokinen (Secretary), and Science Advisory Committee members Jan Alexandersson, Michael McTear, Tim Paek, Alexander Rudnicky, Candace Sidner, and Ronnie Smith. Additional positions are President Emeritus: Laila Dybkjaer, Information officer: Karen Ward, SIG SLUD/JSAL liaison: Syun Tutiya, ISCA Liaison: Rolf Carlson, Mailing List Maintainer: Laurent Romary, Student Liaisons: Holmer Hensen (Europe), Dan Bohus (America), and Kotaro Funakoshi (Asia), and Stephen Choularton (S Pacific).

SIGdial has held an annual workshop on discourse and dialogue since 2000. The last workshop was held in September 2005, in Lisbon Portugal, just before the Interspeech 2005 conference. The chairs were Laila Dybkjaer and Wolfgang Minker. The next workshop will be in July 2006, just co-located with ACL-COLING. The chairs are Jan Alexandersson and Alexander Knott. More information on SIGdial workshops can be found here: <http://www.sigdial.org/workshops/>

SIGdial also endorses a number of other dialogue-related workshops and events that are open to the general community. The SIGdial Endorsed events for the previous and upcoming year are:

July 7th 2005: Symposium on Dialogue Modelling and Generation (Amsterdam, The Netherlands)

Sept 1st 2005: The Young Researcher's Roundtable on Spoken Dialogue systems (Lisbon, Portugal)

July 7-9, 2006: Workshop on Constraints in Discourse (Maynooth, Ireland)

August 7-11th, 2006 ESSLLI 2006 Workshop on "Coherence in Generation and Dialogue" (Malaga, Spain)

September 11th-13th 2006: Brandial 2006: The 10th Workshop on the Semantics and Pragmatics of Dialogue (Potsdam, Germany)

September 16th, 2006: Young Researchers' Roundtable on Spoken Dialog Systems (Pittsburgh, PA)

September 17th, Interspeech2006 - ICSLP Satellite Workshop Dialogue on

Dialogues: Multidisciplinary Evaluation of Advanced Speech-based  
Interactive Systems (Pittsburgh, PA)