

## Preface

The tradition of bi-annual Nordic conferences in Computational Linguistics and related disciplines dates back to 1977, well before our professional organization—The Northern European Association for Language Technology (NEALT; <http://omilia.uio.no/nea1t/>)—was formally established. With a sense of tradition as well as pride, this volume comprises the proceedings of the 19<sup>th</sup> Nordic Conference on Computational Linguistics (NODALIDA 2013), held on the campus of the University of Oslo, Norway, between May 22 and May 24, 2013. On the first day of NODALIDA 2013, four topical workshops are held, each with its own set of organizers and programme committee; these workshops have compiled their own proceedings volumes, which are published in the same series and included on the media distributed at the conference.

NODALIDA addresses all aspects of speech recognition and synthesis, natural language processing, and computational linguistics—including work in closely related neighbouring disciplines (such as, for example, linguistics or psychology) that is sufficiently formalized or applied to bear relevance to speech and language technologies. Following the pattern of previous years, the Programme Committee invited paper submissions in four distinct tracks:

- *regular papers* on substantial, original, and unpublished research, including empirical evaluation results, where appropriate;
- *student papers* on completed or ongoing work, where at least the first author is a Master- or PhD-level student;
- *short papers* on smaller, focused contributions, work in progress, negative results, surveys, or opinion pieces; and
- *demonstration papers* summarizing a software system or language resource, to be accompanied by a live demonstration at the conference.

The conference received 60 submissions from all over Europe (and one each from Mexico and the US), of which 38 are collected in this volume and will be presented at the conference: 13 regular, 6 student, 12 short, and 7 demonstration papers. All submissions were reviewed by at least three experts in the field (two for demonstration papers), and the final selection was made by the Programme Committee. We are indebted to everyone who contributed to the reviewing and selection process. The conference programme is complemented by three invited keynotes by distinguished researchers from Denmark, Germany, and the US, as well as by a special session on High-Performance Computing for Natural Language Processing.

NODALIDA 2013 is made possible by the joint work of many dedicated individuals, in particular the Programme and Organizing Committees; we warmly acknowledge their enthusiasm and community spirit. From the Organizing Committee, Kristin Hagen deserves a special note of gratitude, as the untiring ‘heart and soul’ of the conference logistics. We are grateful to the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies and the Department of Informatics at the University of Oslo for generously making available infrastructure and staff time. The conference is financially supported by organizations listed on the back cover, who thus make an important contribution to keeping participation fees at quite reasonable levels (by Norwegian standards).

With just about two more weeks to go, we expect some 150 participants at the conference and much look forward to welcoming our colleagues and peers to Oslo.

*Stephan Oepen (Programme Chair), Janne Bondi Johannessen (Organizing Chair)*

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