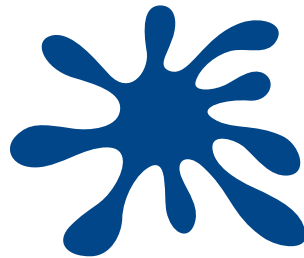


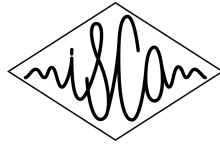
SLPAT 2016

**7th Workshop  
on  
Speech and Language Processing  
for Assistive Technologies  
(SLPAT)**



**Workshop Proceedings**

13 September, 2016  
San Francisco, USA



## Introduction

We are pleased to bring you the Proceedings of the 7th Workshop on Speech and Language Processing for Assistive Technologies (SLPAT), held in San Francisco, USA, on 13 September, 2016. We received 24 paper submissions, of which 17 were accepted; 8 papers were chosen for oral presentation and 9 for presentation as posters or demos. All 17 papers are included in this volume.

This workshop was intended to bring researchers from all areas of speech and language technology with a common interest in making everyday life more accessible for people with physical, cognitive, sensory, emotional or developmental disabilities. This workshop builds on six previous such workshops (co-located with conferences such as ACL, NAACL, EMNLP and Interspeech); it provides an opportunity for individuals from research communities, and the individuals with whom they are working, to share research findings, and to discuss present and future challenges and the potential for collaboration and progress.

While Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) is a particularly apt application area for speech and natural language processing technologies, we purposefully made the scope of the workshop broad enough to include assistive technologies (AT) as a whole, even those falling outside of AAC. Thus we have aimed at broad inclusivity, which is also manifest in the diversity of our Program Committee. We are also very delighted to have Prof. Helen Meng from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, as invited speaker.

The success of SLPAT 2016 was due to the authors who submitted such interesting and diverse work and which generated so intense discussions. Finally, we must thank all the people who made this event possible especially members of the Program Committee for completing their reviews promptly, and for providing useful feedback for deciding on the program and preparing the final versions of the papers.

*Heidi Christensen, François Portet, Thomas Quatieri, Frank Rudzicz, and Keith Vertanen*

Co-organizers of SLPAT 2016

## List of People

### Organizers:

Heidi Christensen, University of Sheffield, UK.  
François Portet, University of Grenoble Alpes, France.  
Thomas Quatieri, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.  
Frank Rudzicz, University of Toronto, Canada.  
Keith Vertanen, Michigan Technological University, USA.

### Program committee:

Jan Alexandersson, DFKI GmbH, Germany.  
Jean-Yves Antoine, Université François Rabelais de Tours, France.  
John Arnott, University of Dundee, UK.  
Stefan Bott, IMS - University of Stuttgart, Germany.  
Annelies Braffort, LIMSI-CNRS, France.  
Heriberto Cuayahuitl, University of Lincoln, UK.  
Stuart Cunningham, University of Sheffield, UK.  
Michael Elhadad, Ben Gurion University, Israel.  
Corinne Fredouille, CERI/LIA - University of Avignon, France.  
Kallirroi Georgila, University of Southern California, USA.  
Stefan Goetze, Fraunhofer Institute for Digital Media Technology, Germany.  
Björn Granström, KTH, Sweden.  
Mark Hasegawa-Johnson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, USA.  
Per-Olof Hedvall, Lund University, Sweden.  
Matt Huenerfauth, Rochester Institute of Technology, USA.  
Sofie Johansson, Institutionen för svenska språket, Sweden.  
Benjamin Lecouteux, University of Grenoble Alpes, France.  
William Li, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA.  
Peter Ljunglöf, University of Gothenburg, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden.  
Eduardo Lleida, University of Zaragoza, Spain.  
Ornella Mich, Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy.  
Climent Nadeu, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain.  
Vigouroux Nadine, IRIT, France.  
Torbjørn Nordgård, Lingit AS, Norway.  
Ehud Reiter, University of Aberdeen, UK.  
Brian Roark, Google, USA.  
Bitte Rydeman, Lund university, Sweden.  
Rubén San-Segundo, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain.  
Michel Vacher, CNRS, France.  
Ravichander Vippera, Nuance Communications, USA.  
Maria Klara Wolters, University of Edinburgh, UK.  
Hernisa Kacorri, Carnegie Mellon University, USA.  
Phil Green, University of Sheffield, UK.  
Mauro Nicolao, University of Sheffield, UK.  
Bhusan Chettri, University of Sheffield, UK.

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