

Session 1: Processing the Natural Language Content of Office Text. The office traditionally is the focal point in any business organization for the receipt of quantities of incoming documents and for the generation of comparable amounts of outgoing text. In the future these two roles are expected to continue, but under much more trying circumstances: the volume of incoming and outgoing text — hardcopy or electronic — will increase, but the availability of people to perform the necessary processing will decrease. Secretaries will be asked to do more tasks for more people, using more complex equipment, and may very likely find this occupation less rewarding, leaving the office principals to fend more and more for themselves. This session will highlight new ways in which computers can assist principals in the intelligent processing of text, ranging from document abstracting to sophisticated critiquing of new material.

The session will be chaired by Lance Miller. The participants will be:

Karen Jensen, *IBM Research*
 Nina McDonald, *Bell Labs*
 Brian Phillips *Texas Instruments*
 Don Walker, *SRI International*

Session 2: Controlling Office Systems via Natural Language. Office principals traditionally have had little difficulty in expressing what they wanted done to those who were to do it. Styles vary, but — terse or expansive, formal or informal — the method of communication was in some "natural" language. As the role of machines in the office increases, particularly that of computers, the problem of the communication language becomes more acute. The offhand request to "Please pull the files on the Smith Account," once simply stated and forgotten until the documents appeared on the desk, now must be laboriously and precisely fashioned in a quite *unnatural* and unfamiliar tongue. However, it appears to be increasingly possible to overlay the formal computer-ese with more natural means of communication. This session will discuss systems and techniques for providing natural language interfaces to office systems.

The session will be chaired by George Heidorn, *IBM Research*. The participants will be:

Alan Biermann, *Duke University*
 Jaime Carbonell, *Carnegie-Mellon University*
 Gary Hendrix, *Machine Intelligence Corp.*
 Fred Thompson, *Calif. Inst. of Technology*

For further information about the OAC contact:

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Call for Papers - 1982 ACL Meeting

The 20th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics will be held at the University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, from Wednesday, June 16, through Friday, June 18, 1982. Papers are being solicited on linguistically and computationally significant topics, including but not limited to the following:

- syntax, parsing, and language generation,
- computational semantics (including logic, reference, anaphora, and metaphor),
- discourse analysis and speech acts,
- representation of knowledge, deduction, and planning as related to language understanding or production,
- speech analysis and synthesis,
- machine translation, machine-aided translation, and automated dictionaries,
- mathematical and theoretical foundations of computational linguistics,
- linguistic theories and their computational applications, and
- software tools for computational linguistics.

An author wishing to present a paper should submit six copies of a 5 to 8 page summary, double-spaced, by February 1, 1982 to: Madeleine Bates, Bolt Beranek and Newman Inc., 50 Moulton Street, Cambridge, Mass. 02138, USA [phone: (617) 497-3634; ARPANET: bates@bbnd].

It is important that the summary identify the new ideas and clearly indicate to what extent the work is complete and to what extent it has been implemented. It should contain sufficient information to allow the program committee to determine the scope of the work and its relation to relevant literature.

All submissions will be read by the program committee, which is chaired by Madeleine Bates, *BBN*, and consists of Jonathan Allen, *MIT*, Robert Berwick, *MIT*, Barbara Grosz, *SRI International*, Chris Riesbeck, *Yale University*, and Stuart Shapiro, *SUNY Buffalo*.

Authors will be notified of the acceptance of their papers by March 8, 1982. Full-length versions of accepted papers submitted by April 19, 1982 will be included in the Proceedings of the Conference.

Local arrangements are being handled by Ray Perrault, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada M5S 1A7 [phone: (416) 284-3194; ARPANET: rperrault@bbna].

For other information regarding the annual meeting, contact: Don Walker, Artificial Intelligence Center, SRI International, Menlo Park, Calif. 94025, USA [phone: (415) 859-3071; ARPANET: walker@sri-ai].