

Minutes of ILCC/HCRC Staff Meeting

Thursday 16th June 2011 at 12.30 pm

In Attendance: Steve Renals (Chair), Simon King, Ron Petrick, Ewan Klein, Chris Geib, Michael Fourman, John Lee, Bea Alex, Barry Haddow, Claire Grover, Colin Matheson, Jonathan Kilgour, Victor Lavrenko, Miles Osborne, Sharon Goldwater, Kate Byrne, Bonnie Webber, Maria Wolters, Jon Oberlander, Fergus McInnes, Henry Thomson, Philip Koehn, F Max-Lino, Nicola Drago Ferrante

Apologies: Alex Lascarides, Johanna Moore

1. Research Presentations

1.1. Help4Mood

This is a three year EU funded project to investigate interactive home systems to help in the treatment of people with severe depression. Working with Cereproc, who are developing voices for the project, they will be monitoring 12 patients at a time between Romania, UK and Spain. The research will be conducted with the help of Maria Wolters (Scientific Coordinator), Colin Matheson (Project Coordinator), Dr Brian McKinstry and Dr Chris Burton (GPs), Claudia Pagliari (CPHS) and Cereproc, who are doing the voices for the animated talking heads.

1.2. Cadence

This is a two year project funded by the Leverhulme Trust from January 11 to December 12. The purpose of the research is to develop a spoken voice interface with a calendar application to help people who are in the early stages of dementia. The research is being tried out on healthy people and people with dementia. The team consist of Marie Wolters, Jonathan Kilgour, Myroslava Dzikovska, Johanna Moore, Sarah McPherson (Dep. Psychology, Edinburgh), and Jesse Hoey (University of Waterloo, Canada).

2. Director's Report

Caroline Hastings has returned from maternity leave and will be working Monday-Wednesday until 18th July, when this will change to Monday – Thursday. Caroline is looking after the following grants: MATCH, Euromatrix, BBN_Darpa, Lincoln Fellowship, LetsMT, MultiMemoHomes, Telesynth, ULTRAX, NST, SynProc, SCALE, Euromatrix+, SSPNet, LISTA, Help4Mood, JAMES, MosesCore, CASAMACAT, Accept, MateCat, EUBridge, InEvent, Simple4All, and all of the CSTR grants.

Henry Thomson was congratulated on his recent promotion to Chair

It was reported that grant income is going well. This helps with organising conferences and co chairs them.

The Institute budget is still under negotiation with the school and the results will not be known until the end of the university financial year.

Steve Renals will be on sabbatical next year. However, he will remain as Director of the ILCC during this time.

There is a small amount of money left in the Institute budget which needs to be spent before the end of the financial year. There is money available to pay for student registration for the EMNLP conference. However, all requests for access to this money must be passed by Steve.

3. Finance Report

There have been three applications made since the last meeting and a further eight are currently in the negotiation stage.

It was also reported that there may be a possibility to access funds previously frozen by college. The school are still to approve.

4. Governance meeting

Sharon Goldwater and Chris Geib attended the Governance meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways in which people can be more informed about what is going on. The existing structure was looked at and it was agreed that Institutes need to become more reflective so people feel more involved. Discussions about how to do this are ongoing.

5 Any Other Business

Visitors:

Nicky Ringland, University of Sydney

Debadatta Pati, Department of EEE, IIT Guwahati

Nivedita Chennupati, Department of EEE, IIT Guwahati

Anneja Gunnam, Department of EEE, IIT Guwahati

Afsaneh Asaei, IDIAP Research Institute, Martigny, Switzerland

6. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place after the summer, at a date to be confirmed.

Submissions since May 2011

Name	Title of Proposal	PI & CO-I	Submitted
1 BOLT	Broad Operational Language Translation	Koehn	May-11
2 RSE	Personify	Aylett, Oberlander	May-11
3 ESRC	Text Mining careers	Alex	Jun-11