ACL: At Your Service!

Marti Hearst
Presidential Address

ACL 2018, Melbourne

Hello! I'm Marti Hearst. Welcome to ACL 2018 in Melbourne!   This is an auspicious event!

My title is ACL: At Your Service. But an equally good title is ACL and YOUR service.

Please join me in thanking the conference general chair, program co-chairs and local organizers, and everyone else who contributed to making this event happen.

What is a president's talk anyway? It started out as a lightweight after dinner speech to a few hundred people after they had had a few glasses of wine.   Everyone tells me Kevin Knight's was really funny. Also Bonny Dorr is famous for doing a rap, and that was before machines wrote the raps for you.

Now it is basically a warm up act at 9am for the really interesting material that is coming when the conference starts.

Hinrich Schütze ran for VP-elect on a platform of eliminating the President's speech. Even given all his other qualifications, I voted for him for that reason alone! But he hasn't taken office yet, so I'm stuck.

Research Quality
(replicability, JND)

Slow Science

van Noord

Research Quality
(JND)

Deep Learning

Diversity in ACL

Reviewing (preprints /double blind)

Manning

Research Quality
(replicability, JND)

Diversity in ACL

Reviewing (preprints /
double blind)

Nivre

ACL's Escalating Numbers:
— Huge success for our field!
— Effects on reviewing, costs
— Tradition of service and
open access

So what have past ACL presidents talked about in this format?
Gertjan van Noord, Chris Manning, Joakim Nivre
JND: just noticeable different, Chris called it SOTA: State of the art

(Pushpak gave a research talk, so that doesn't fit this model.)

Then there is me, represented by a hearse from the famous hearse patterns technique for recognizing funerary arrangements. Since we haven't solved the JND problem I am not going to address that. We have made progress on Diversity and the preprint server issue, but since I realize some people are aware and some are not, I'll briefly summarize those points in the Business meeting on Tuesday at 5:20pm.

Today I focus on the consequences of our escalating growth in CL. I will first talk a bit about the good news, how our field has been succeeding and advancing, and then I will link it to the issues we are seeing in the ACL executive committee. In particular, I want to talk about the effects on reviewing, and how ACL as an organization tries to keep costs down, and what is challenging us with our recent growth spurt.

NLP AND AI Dominate The News!

Ok, here goes. Wow, our field has really been undergoing a lot of change recently, hasn't it? I mean, you can tell by the amount of news coverage alone, right?

Oops, wrong technology wave! How did that slide get in there?
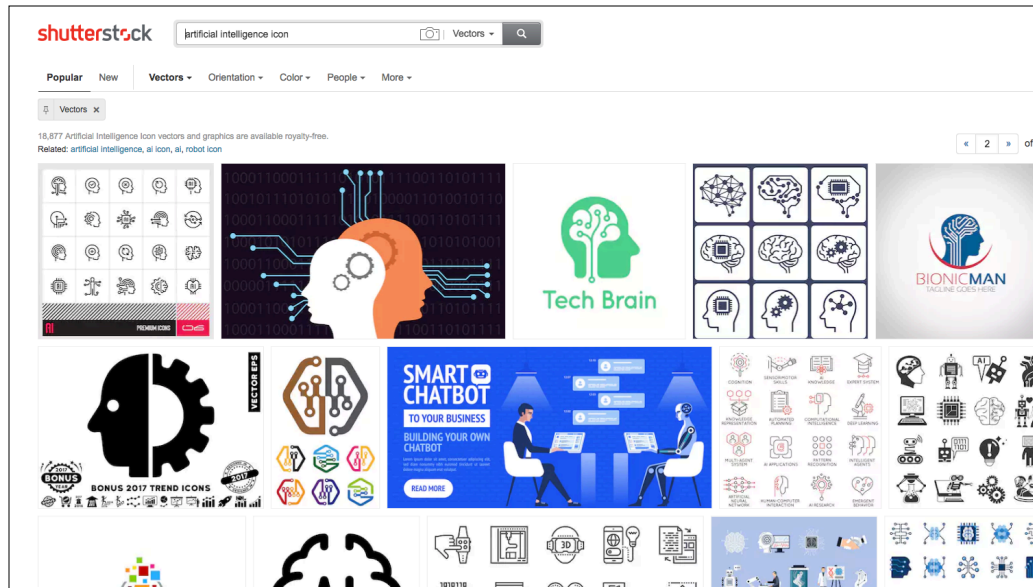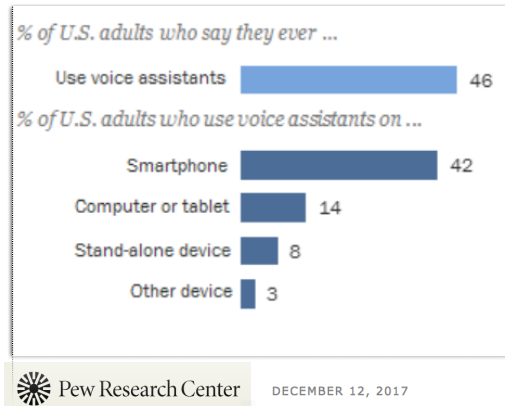
Ok, this is better.
You know that your field has saturated the public consciousness when there is stock images for it.

 Notice that it is assumed that lots of people need stock images for
the chatbots that they are building and selling.

People are now regularly talking to their devices and expecting them to talk back.

NEARLY HALF OF US ADULTS TALK TO THEIR DEVICES

% of U.S. adults who say they ever ...

Use voice assistants — 46

% of U.S. adults who use voice assistants on ...

Smartphone — 42
Computer or tablet — 14
Stand-alone device — 8
Other device — 3

Pew Research Center   DECEMBER 12, 2017

A Pew Research poll in late 2017 shows that nearly half of all Americans talk to their devices.
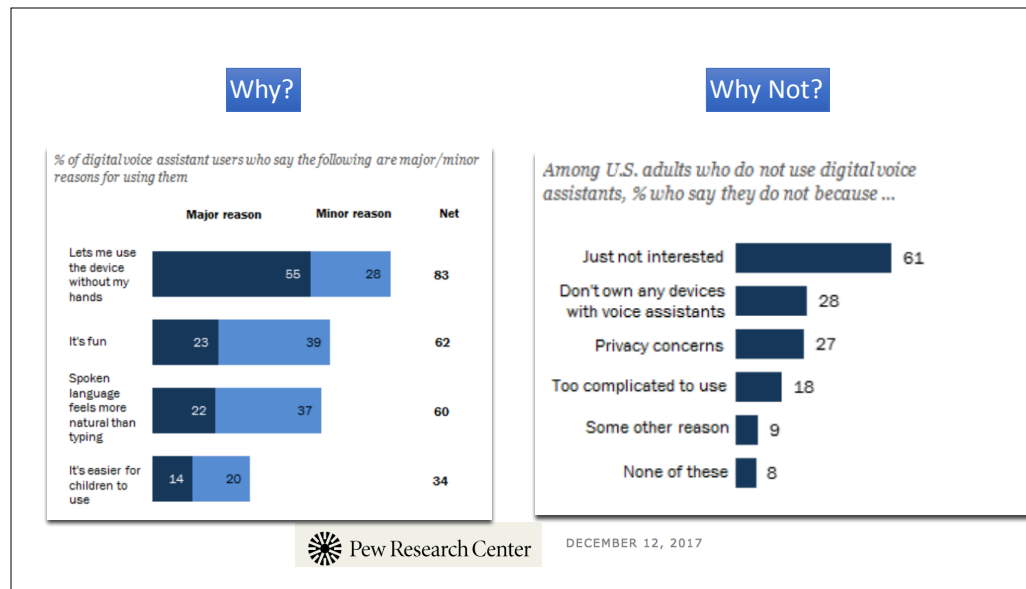
Note: people not saying voice recognition doesn't work any longer!
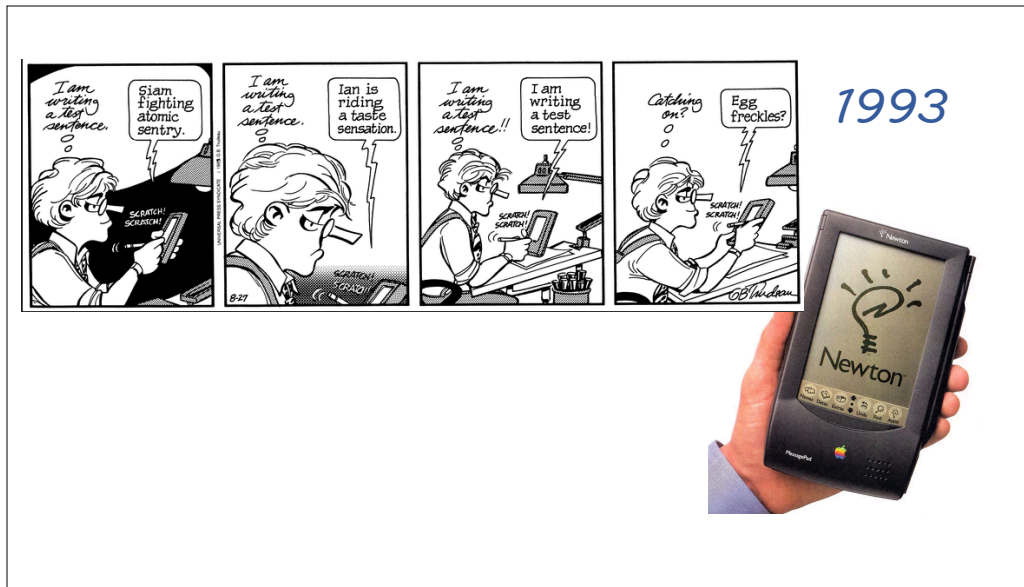
How many of you remember the Apple Newton MessagePad?

Even more vividly, I recall how mercilessly Gary Trudeau skewered its handwriting recognition training.

It's hard to remember how much this stuff did not use to work. In fact, the reason people accept it today is probably that it does not require much training any longer.

Play chess (and win)

Recognize human speech

Generate human sounding speech

Have a conversation (and argue)

Secretly lip read!

How many of you in the audience teach NLP? Great! Did any of you do what I would to to motivate students? I would show scenes from Kubrick's 2001, A Space Odyssey in the first day of class. The exercise was to list which facilities computers currently could and could not do.

As recently as 2014 this was a really good exercise, in that computers could not plausibly do most of the language aspects of these scenes.   But I no longer use this exercise, as even the coup de gras of the lip reading scene is being tackled today.

 In just a few short years, progress has accelerated so rapidly, far beyond anything I've seen in my 30 years of experience.   This has been great for our field, but also has caused some growing pains, both for ACL and for the field.

Audio-visual speech recognition   McGurk effect   Automated Lip Reading   Cochlear implant   Auditory Brain Stem Implants   Speech Perception

725 results | Last Five Years | Lit Reviews | Has PDF | More Filters   Sort: Relevance ▼

LipNet: Sentence-level **Lipreading**

Yannis M. Assael, Brendan Shillingford, Shimon Whiteson, Nando de Freitas • ArXiv • 2016

Lipreading is the task of decoding text from the movement of a speaker's mouth. Traditional approaches separated the problem into two stages: designing or learning visual features, and prediction.... **(More)**

♥ 6   📄 View on ArXiv   📋 Similar Papers   More...

| Results by year

| 2013 2018

Lipreading using convolutional neural network

Kuniaki Noda, Yuki Yamaguchi, Kazuhiro Nakadai, Hiroshi G. Okuno, Tetsuya Ogata • INTERSPEECH • 2014

In recent automatic speech recognition studies, deep learning architecture applications for acoustic modeling have eclipsed conventional sound features such as Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients.... **(More)**

♥ 2   📊 21   📄 View PDF   📋 Similar Papers   More...

Lipreading

The process by which an observer comprehends speech by watching the movements of the speaker's lips without hearing the speaker's voice.

| Explore Topic |

Lipreading with long short-term memory

Michael Wand, Jan Koutník, Jürgen Schmidhuber • 2016 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics... • 2016

In fact, it's gone so far, that Hal is actually going to the international space station. This was in the news just a few days ago.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mj_VGVgJbK0
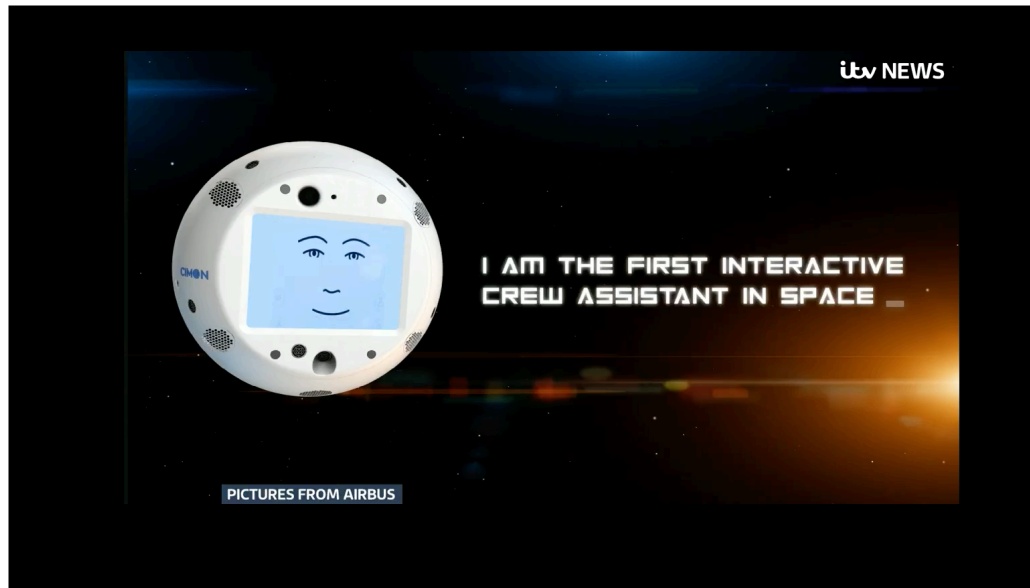
In just a few short years, progress has accelerated so rapidly, far beyond anything I've seen in my 30 years of experience.

CL-ers Getting Outside Recognition in 2017
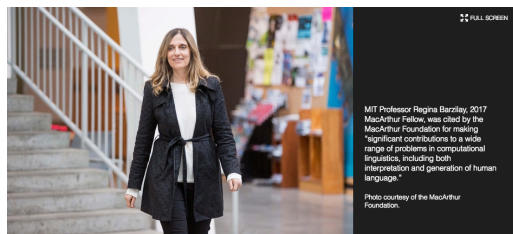
MIT Professor Regina Barzilay, 2017 MacArthur Fellow, was cited by the MacArthur Foundation for making "significant contributions to a wide range of problems in computational linguistics, including both interpretation and generation of human language."

Photo courtesy of the MacArthur Foundation.

Regina Barzilay wins MacArthur "genius grant"

Innovators Under 35

MIT Technology Review

Ian Goodfellow
Invented a way for neural networks to get better by working together.

THE GLOBE AND MAIL*

SUBSCRIBE   LOG IN

Julie Payette: Engineer, musician, astronaut and now, governor-general

Former astronaut Julie Payette takes part in a news conference announcing her appointment as Canada's next governor general, in the Senate foyer on Parliament Hill in Ottawa, Ontario,

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Some of our fellow ACL'ers have been making the news outside of our field in the last year alone. Regina Barzilay won the MacArthur genius grant, and Ian Goodfellow was named in the MIT Tech Review for the innovators under 35.

You might not recognize Julie Payette. Graeme Hirst brought her to my attention. She took NLP from her in the 80's even though she did not have the prereqs (and so of course Graeme told her should could not take the class). She persisted, and he ended up being on her masters thesis committee. She went on to become and astronaut, and last year was appointed Governor-General of Canada.

Along the same vein of recognizing people within our field from outside, Udo Kruschwitz has asked me to encourage the ACL community to recommend people for the Karen Spark-Jones award. It is intended for IR plus NLP or either alone. Mirella Lapata has won this in the past but lately they have not been getting nominations from the NLP community.

 I have been on the selection committee several times, as has Bonnie Webber, so NLP people do have a chance to be selected.

 No more than 10 years past doctorate work to be eligible.
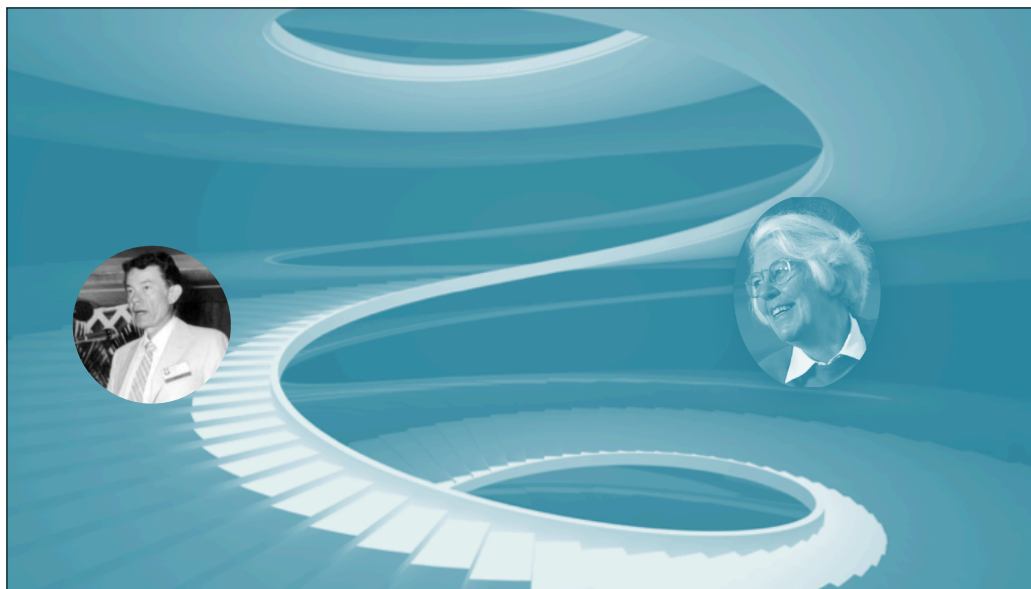
Since I was thinking about KSP, I was reminded of a paper she published in 1994 summarizing the state of the art in NLP. This appeared in a collection honoring Don Walker. For those of you who don't know this, Don Walker was instrumental in keeping ACL running in its early years as its secretary-treasurer, and more generally as a bridge builder. He is the very definition of service for ACL.
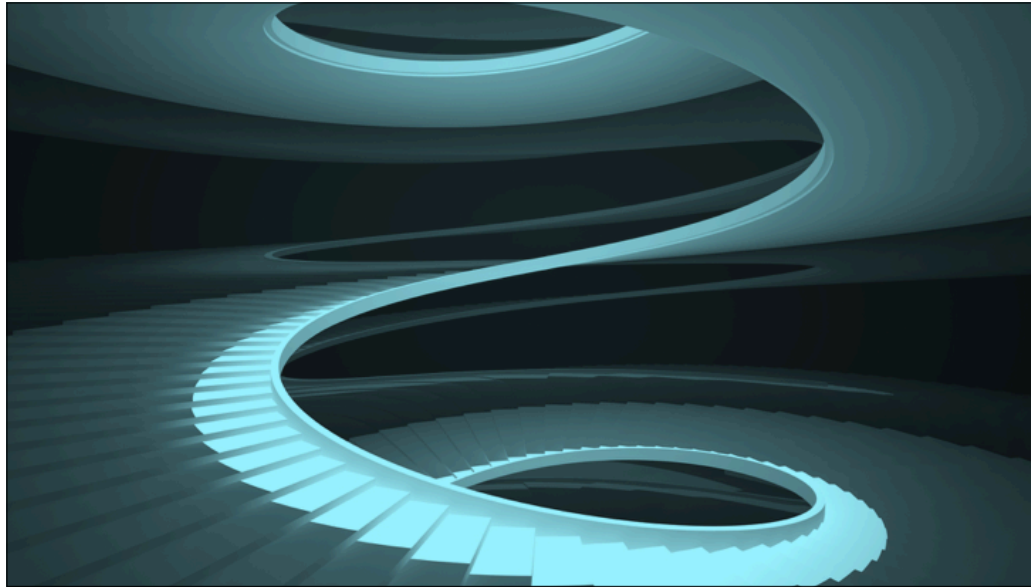
Karen Spark-Jones paper is a trenchant summary of the state of the art of NLP up to that year, 1994.
Examples of her insightful remarks that still apply today:

"Those, like Don, who had been around for a long time, can see old ideas reappearing in new guises ... [b]ut the new costumes are better made, of better materials, as well as more becoming: so research is not so much going round in circles as ascending a spiral."
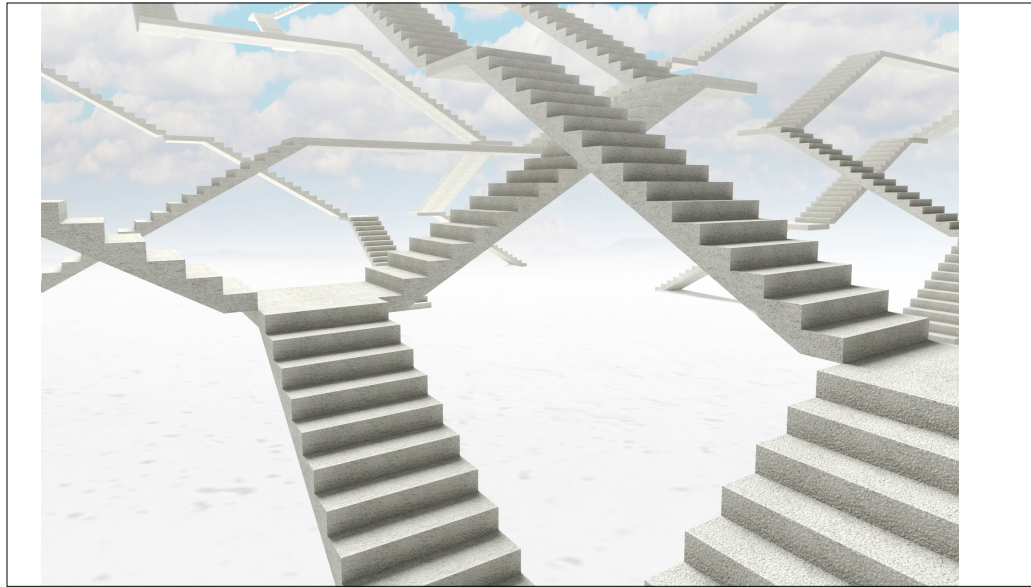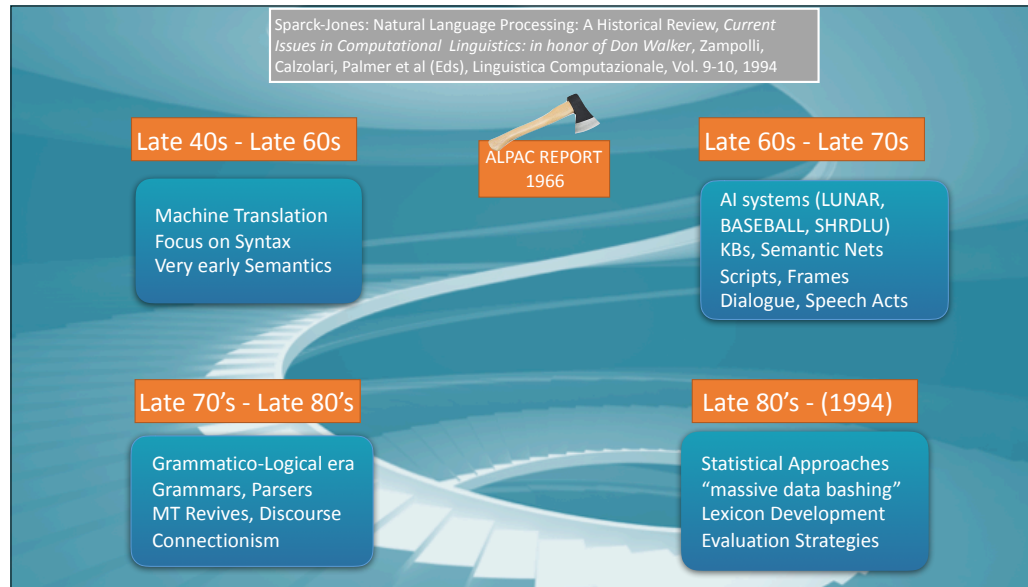
However, citation analysis suggests progress may look more like this than like a beautiful spiral.
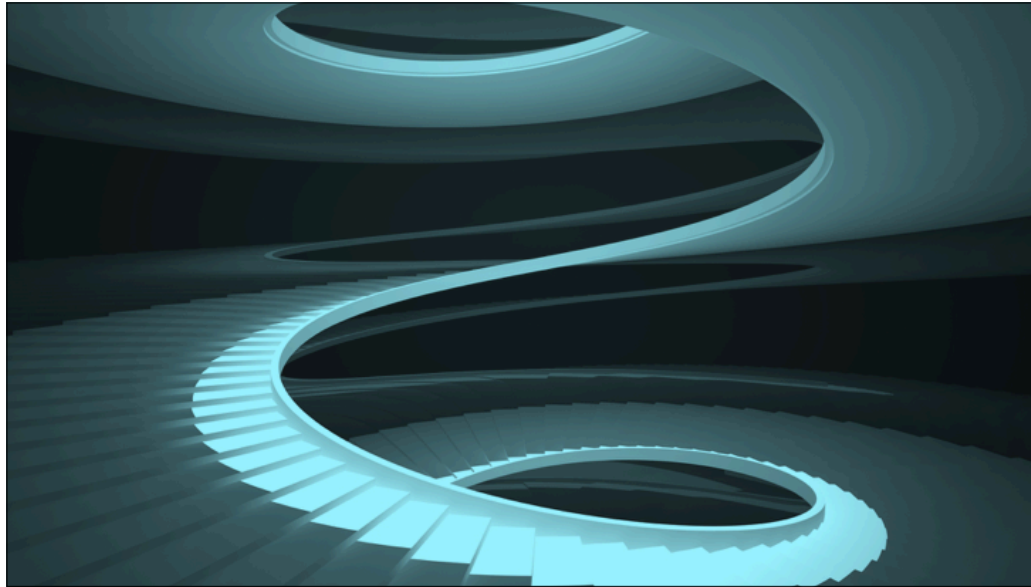
Other remarks that apply today include:

"We may indeed be seduced by the march of computing technology into thinking we have made intellectual advances in understanding how to do NLP, though better technology has also simply eliminated some difficulties we sweated over in earlier years.

But more importantly, better technology means that when we return to long-standing problems they are not always so daunting as before."

Sparck-Jones: Natural Language Processing: A Historical Review, *Current Issues in Computational Linguistics: in honor of Don Walker*, Zampolli, Calzolari, Palmer et al (Eds), Linguistica Computazionale, Vol. 9-10, 1994

Late 40s - Late 60s

Machine Translation
Focus on Syntax
Very early Semantics

ALPAC REPORT
1966

Late 60s - Late 70s

AI systems (LUNAR, BASEBALL, SHRDLU)
KBs, Semantic Nets
Scripts, Frames
Dialogue, Speech Acts

Late 70's - Late 80's

Grammatico-Logical era
Grammars, Parsers
MT Revives, Discourse
Connectionism

Late 80's - (1994)

Statistical Approaches
"massive data bashing"
Lexicon Development
Evaluation Strategies

She summarizes the work up to that point into four categories.

A really interesting point is a see-sawing from syntax to semantics to grammar formalisms to statistical approaches.
I think it is quite exciting that semantics are back now; really it is the first time for CL in any real sense since the late 1970s.

When KSP did this work, it wasn't so hard to keep track of what was published when.

TEXT-BASED
INTELLIGENT
SYSTEMS

Current Research and Practice in
Information Extraction and Retrieval

Edited by
Paul S. Jacobs

A Psychology Press Book

AAAI Spring Symposium in 1990

KSP calls out only a few items in the last section, one of which was the AAAI spring symposium on TBIS; It was held in 1990, and so was too early to be in the AAAI digital library, but the revised proceedings were put in this book edited by Paul Jacobs. This was a watershed event for me personally as well as for the field. It was my very first research paper presentation, and I had the honor of having KSP ask me one of her trademark withering questions to the effect of "you know this has already been done, don't you?" Ah, those were the days.

It also brought together the leading lights in NLP and IR around the new question of analyzing text at scale for NLP applications. I really think this was a turning point for NLP moving towards statistical approaches.   The IBM team was just starting to publish their statistical MT around this time.

At this time, I felt just by reading these papers, I knew the entire state of the art in statistical NLP. But it isn't that way any long.
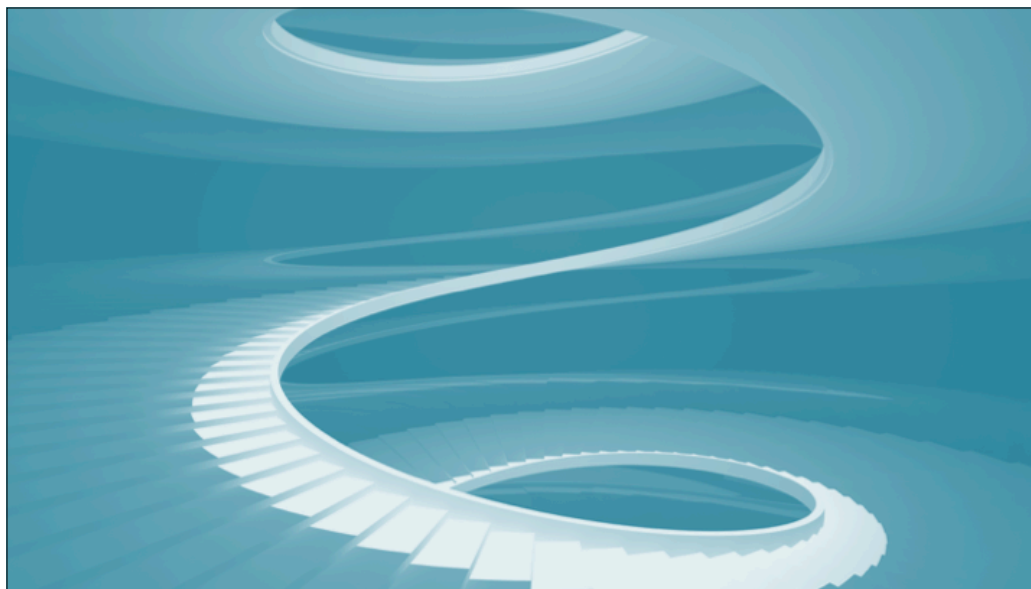
Fortunately, we at ACL have fully open access papers, so people can do research directly on the articles.

Trends in topics in the ACL Anthology from 1978 to 2006.
From Hall, Jurafsky, & Manning, EMNLP 2008.
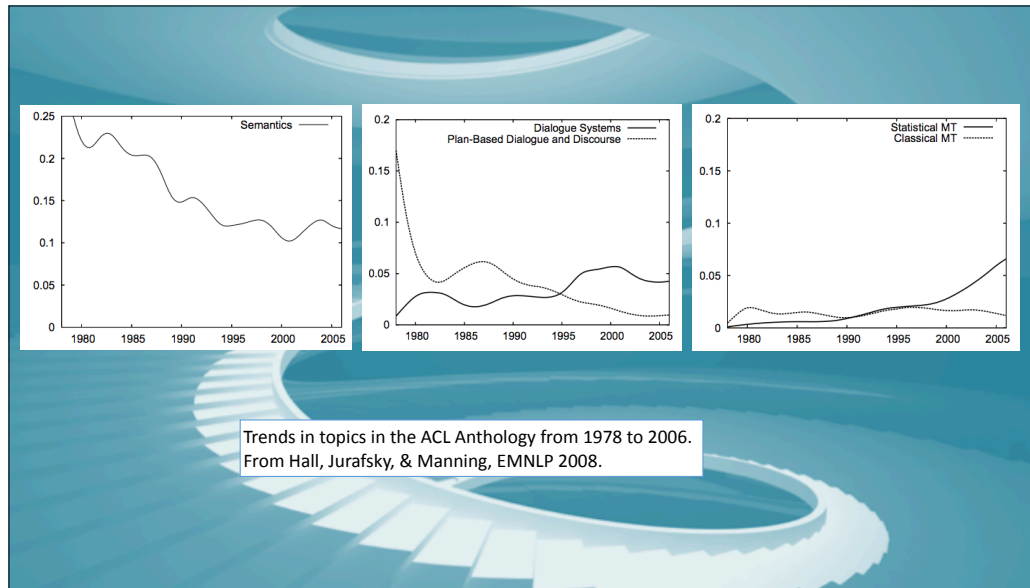
Today, thanks to open access papers, we don't have to rely on our memory alone; we can do empirical analysis to help us see topic change over time.

We can also build search engines to see ... how often people use the ACL Anthology in their papers!

We can also build search engines to see ... how often people use the ACL Anthology in their papers!

provides search in both its bibliographic metadata and semantically analyzed full textual content. By combining these two... (More)

Save **Cite** **View PDF** **Watch Paper**

Overview Cited By References

Cited By Sort by: Influence

Showing 1-10 of 20 extracted citations ⓘ

Annotation of Computer Science Papers for Semantic Relation Extrac-tion [Highly Influenced] 3 Excerpts
Yuka Tateisi, Yo Shidahara, Yusuke Miyao, Akiko Aizawa • LREC • 2014

50th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics [Highly Influenced]
Proceedings of the Conference Volume 2: Short Papers
Valentin I. Spitkovsky • 2012

The WeSearch Corpus, Treebank, and Treecache - A Comprehensive [Highly Influenced]
Sample of User-Generated Content
Jonathon Read, Dan Flickinger, Rebecca Dridan, Stephan Oepen, Lilja
Øvrelid • LREC • 2012

Tokenization: Returning to a Long Solved Problem - A Survey, Contrastive [Highly Influenced]
Experiment, Recommendations, and Toolkit -
Rebecca Dridan, Stephan Oepen • ACL • 2012

The ACL Anthology : Current State and Future Directions
Daniel Gildea, Christoph Teichmann • 2018

MultiScien: a Bi-Lingual Natural Language Processing System for Mining and Enrichment of
Scientific Collections

Similar Papers

Extracting glossary sentences from scholarly articles:
A comparative evaluation of...

WikiWoods: Syntacto-Semantic Annotation for

"Search refinement using relations is implemented in the ACL Anthology Searchbench *(Schäfer et al., 2011)*, where an HPSG parser is used to analyse the sentences in computational linguistic research papers to automatically display the extracted topic of a paper, and to search with phrases that have predicate-argument structures to refine the search."

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We can also build search engines to see ... how often people use the ACL Anthology in their papers!

Sparck-Jones: Natural Language Processing: A Historical Review, *Current Issues in Computational Linguistics: in honor of Don Walker*, Zampolli, Calzolari, Palmer et al (Eds), Linguistica Computazionale, Vol. 9-10, 1994
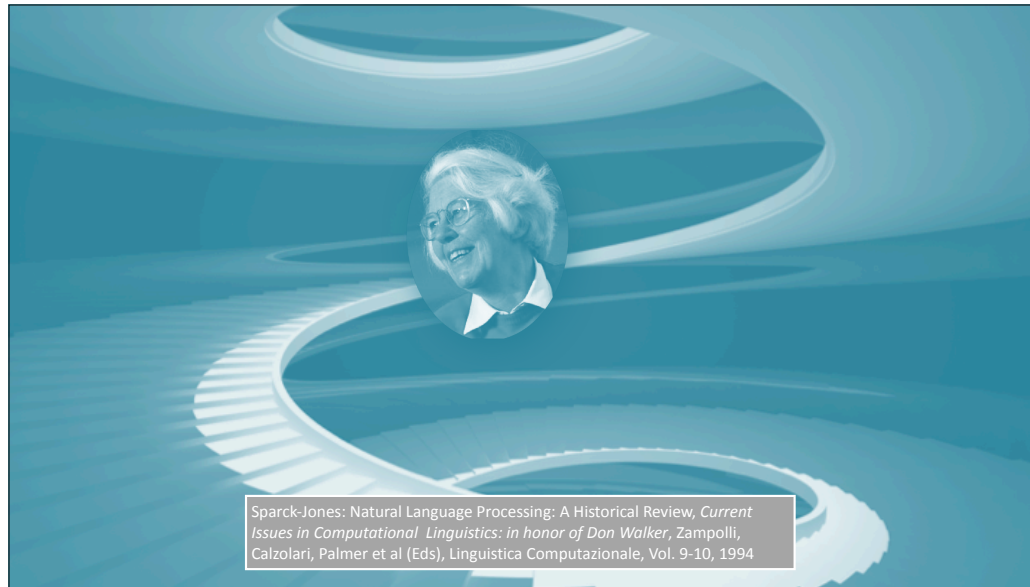
So, to summarize this point, today the spiral is winding much faster than before,
All of these things going on individually could have each have enormous impact, and it would be much harder to write this summary than it was for KSP.

NLP AND AI Dominate The News!

Ok, here goes. Wow, our field has really been undergoing a lot of change recently, hasn't it? I mean, you can tell by the amount of news coverage alone, right?
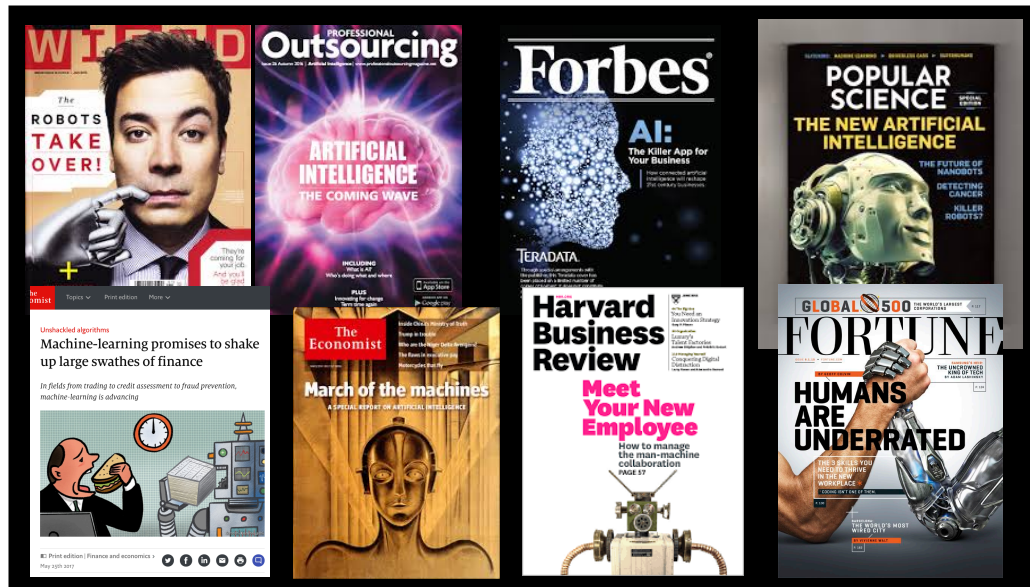
These are all last year's covers; they have been bumped off in favor of the blockchain. But they do reflect concerns about the downsides of AI technology. And of course there has been a lot of other very concerning topics in the news that touch on technology in general and AI and NLP in particular.

These issues include bias in machine learning, concerns about monitoring and privacy, concerns about job displacement, and more recently with veracity of information and the increasing ability of AI techniques to fool people, and the increasingly convincing artificially created content.

 These issues include bias in machine learning, concerns about monitoring and privacy, concerns about job displacement, and more recently with veracity of information and the increasing ability of AI techniques to fool people, as we saw around the Google Duplex announcement and the increasingly convincing artificially created video content.

We see that members of the community are forming workshops and panels to investigate these issues.

ACL's Escalating Numbers:
— Huge success for our field!
— Effects on reviewing, costs
— Tradition of service and
open access

I will first talk a bit about the good news, how our field has been succeeding and growing, and then I will link it to the issues we are seeing in the ACL executive committee. In particular, I want to talk about the effects on reviewing, and how ACL as an organization tries to keep costs down, and what is challenging us with our recent growth spurt.

I will also then briefly review the progress we as a community have made on Diversity and preprint servers, since I realize not everyone is caught up on that.

Conference Submission Rates Are ... Interesting

ACL + NAACL Long Submissions

Conference Submission Rates Are ... Interesting

ACL + NAACL Long Submissions

EMNLP submitted long papers
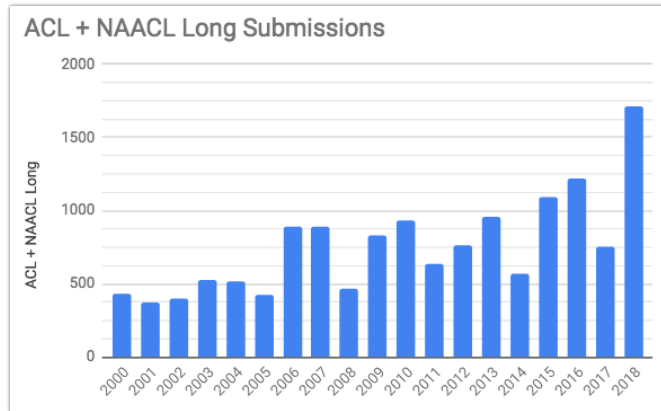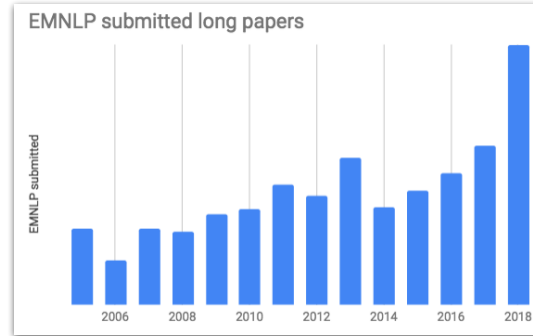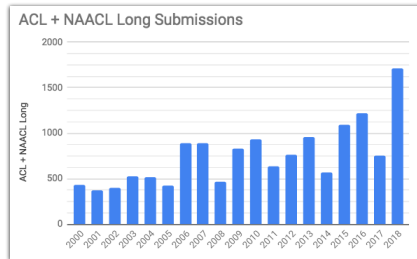
Business Meeting Topic: Tuesday 5:20pm
Reviewer Recruiting In a Time of Escalating Submissions

We have so many people to thank for their hard work through the decades.   And I am heartened to see that we are able to get hundreds of people to sign up to be area chairs, and thousands of people to agree to review papers. I saw the list of "excellent reviewers" for this ACL, and that it is larger that the entire program committees we used to form for conferences.

Because our field is growing so rapidly over the last couple of years, this has put extra demands on those of us who have to ask you, the community to volunteer your time, and most especially extra demand on those who run the conferences and journals.

All that said, we need more strategies for better handling the reviewing burden.   Therefore, we are going to devote the latter 45 minutes of the business meeting to a discussion of ideas for tackling the increased reviewing burden. We will have a panel of recent program committee chairs to handle the questions and ideas from the audience.

We are making technological advances with the software, both for matching and for conflict resolution. What we'd like this conversation to focus on is getting more participation in reviewing and/or reducing the number of papers that need to be reviewed.

Larger Submissions Means Larger Venues

These cost more
per person than universities,
or even hotels,
although we negotiate hard
for good rates.

As you can see, the ACL membership is very healthy; growth is increasing at a steady clip, especially in the last three years. We don't have numbers yet for 2018. Those last three years though explain why we need to keep moving into larger venues, like this big conference center.   These do add some costs though; we can't be at universities any longer, and rarely even hotels. Fortunately, Graeme, Priscilla and David drive a very hard bargain and get the lowest cost possible from these places.

ACL and Choices on Revenues

Mainly Volunteer Run;
Very Small Business Office

Memberships ->

Open Access Publications

Sponsorships

Memberships fund the core costs of ACL including both of our journals, the anthology, IT infrastruture, and so on.

ACL Membership is also very Healthy
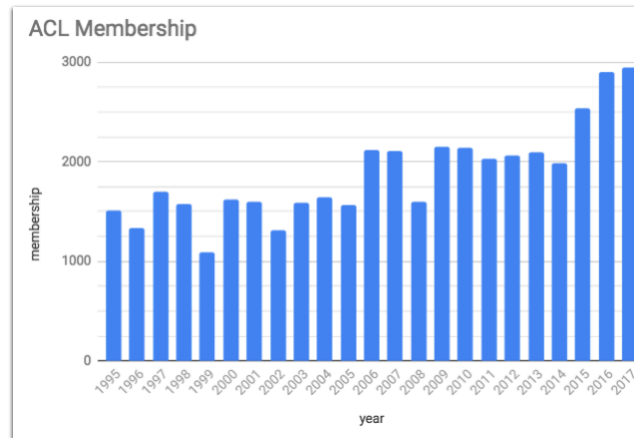
ACL Membership

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Exec to Member Ratio, 2014
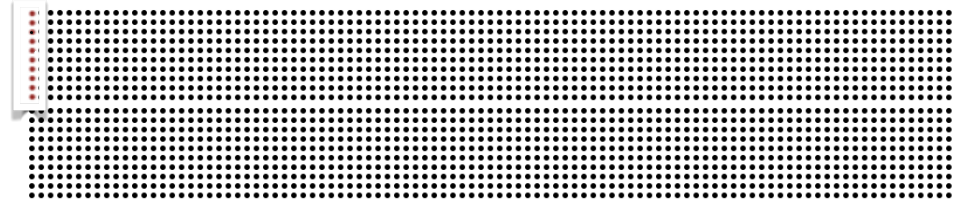
Officers: Pres, VP, VP-Elect, Sec, Treas

Others: Past Pres, Journal Editor, 3 At-large, Chairs of Chapters

The membership and business of the ACL has been growing rapidly, but our overall organization and procedures have not changed to accommodate this. Our constitution still states only 12 official members of the executive committee for a community of 3000 members. And the main officers' main jobs are to set up the ACL conferences!

Compare the ratio for 2014 to 2017.

Exec to Member Ratio, 2017
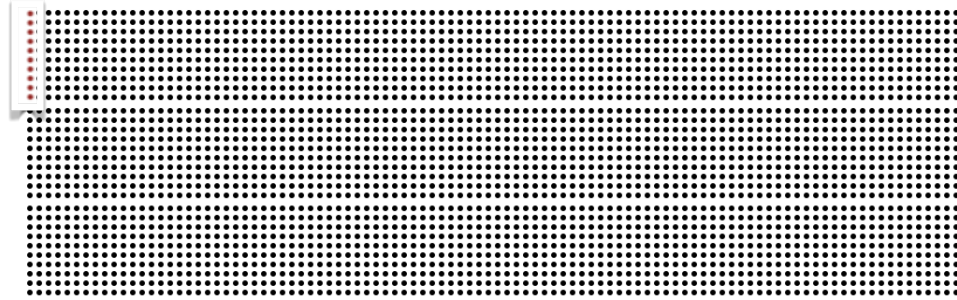
So I think we need to do a bit of scaling up of the organization to deal with our increased membership. Not a lot, just something lightweight.

What Does the ACL Exec Do?

Handles ACL finances and membership

Selects and negotiations venues for the main conferences

Helps organize the various components:

    4 main conferences
    21 SIGS, ~50 workshops
    2 Journals, ACL Anthology

Handles centralized IT
Handles policy matters that arise
Handles problems for individuals that can't be resolved elsewhere
Ideally: does strategic planning for the association

How To Scale? First, A Pop Quiz

ACL was founded in _____

1962

EACL was established in _____

1982

NAACL was established in _____

2000

How to scale? One way: Add a node to the hierarchy every 18 years

Announcing AACL!

Asia-Pacific Chapter of the ACL launches today!

Serves 59 countries/territories in the region

Goals: organize conferences, facilitate membership, inform ACL Exec about regional activities.

AACL

ANNOUNCING AACL!

Asia-Pacific Chapter of the ACL launches today!

Officers:
   Chair: Haifang Wang, Baidu, China
   Chair-elect: Keh-Yih Su, IIS, Taiwan
   Secretary: Yang Liu, Tsinghua U, China
   Treasurer: Seung-won Hwang, Yongsei U, South Korea
   At-large: Yusuke Miyaho, NII, Japan
   At-large: Jian Su, IIR, Singapore
   At-large: Mark Dras, Macquarie U, Australia
More info: aaclweb·org

AACL

AACL membership is for individuals, while AFNLP membership is for professional associations or research institutions/universities

Announcing AACL!

Let's thank the working group who shepherded this:

Pushpak Bhattacharyya, India
Tim Baldwin, Australia
Haizhou Li, Singapore (AFNLP president)
Le Sun, China
Yuji Matsumoto, Japan
Sung-Hyon Myaeng, Korea
Kam-Fai Wong, HK,   (AFNLP past president)
Hsin-Hsi Chen, Taiwan
Shiqi Zhao, ACL
Ming Zhou, ACL

AACL

ACL Exec: How to Better Serve Members

Exec to Member Ratio, 2017
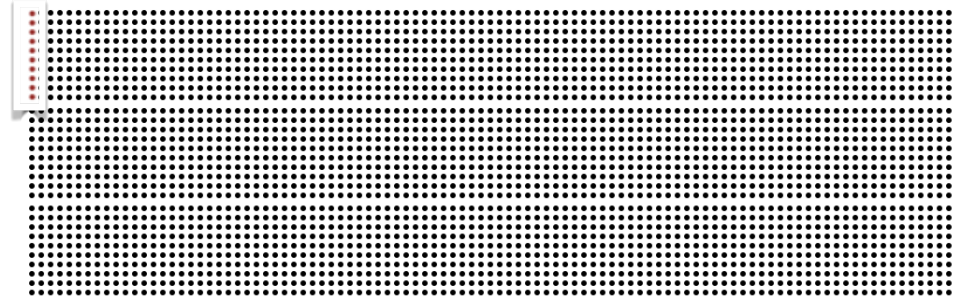
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ACL Exec: How to Better Serve Members
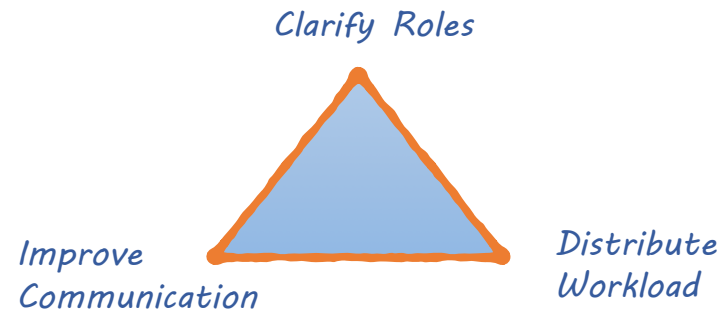
Clarify Roles

Improve
Communication

Distribute
Workload

To counter this potential problem, the Exec has embarked on a lightweight restructuring that includes three interlocking pieces.

ACL Exec: How to Better Serve Members
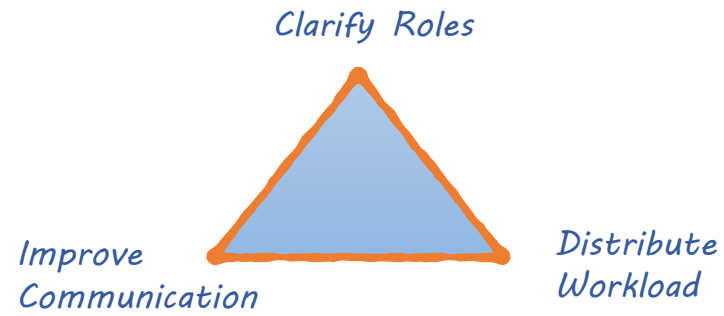
Clarify Roles

Improve
Communication

Distribute
Workload

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ACL Exec: Structural Improvements

Clarify Roles

Improve Communication

Distribute Workload
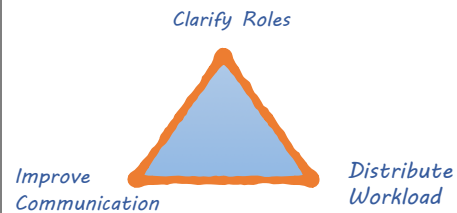
Communication / Clarify Roles:

Dedicated email addresses for officers

Officer roles clearly stated on website

Revamped website

Communications Chair role

Quarterly Exec meetings

Communications chair will have to keep information on website up to date

Dedicated email addresses paired with explanations of roles will make it clearer who to send a request or suggestion to.

A revamped website will also make it easier for the Exec to show which ideas have been suggested and are being considered.

Quarterly exec meetings will allow faster response times for issues that members bring up
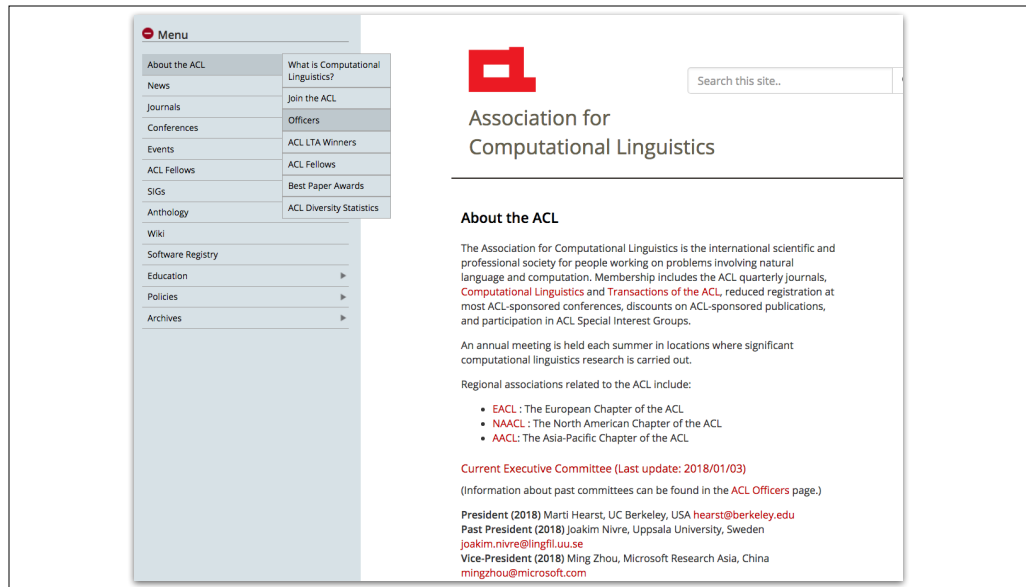
One reason our communication is poor is that our website does not lend itself well to timely updates about things less important than resolutions. I'm envious of the conference blogs and NAACL's website.
Our current website does not even show who to contact about what issue, so people end up contacting everyone or having social media campaigns.

 And even after we post important reports on the wiki, even I have to go back to my email to find them. This is a web design problem from the 2000's!

ACL Exec: Structural Improvements

Clarify Roles

Improve
Communication

Distribute
Workload

Distribute Workload

Create Standing Committees

Additional Exec members with targeted
responsibilities

Offer IT solutions to all parts of ACL
(workshops, SIGS, conferences)

 Standing committees will distribute the burden among more members, so that individual officer roles are less burdensome and so the exec does not have to be consulted on every matter. These committees will address member concerns and priorities.

They will also help retain institutional memory.   One pressing need is for a committee to handle information around conferences, to reduce redundancy.

We have already had success with a Workshops committee that selects workshops across all of the conferences, but knowledge sharing across years can be burdensome.   The same goes for conference organization; we may want some roles to stay the same year over year and possibly across conferences to reduce start up costs, and these committees can help with that.

Do you like to organize and lead teams?

Are you excited about converting legacy software to modern digital platforms?

Do you enjoy working within a budget?

Are you passionate about the mission of ACL?

We're Accepting Nominations for the Information Director!

We have an opening for the Information Director. Unlike in prior years, we are doing an open search across regions. We are seeking someone who can organize a team. We want to move away from the home-grown software behind our portal and membership services to procuring professional solutions and/or digital support, but always being mindful of costs. We want to find solutions that can be used across our sigs and chapters for their various needs, should they choose them.

The information chair will sit on several committees; not just the software committee, but also the publications committee and the communications committee to ensure that all aspects of ACL have the IT resources they need.

Therefore, we need someone who is good at procuring technology, leading a team, and listening to users and their needs, or building a team that can do those things. You should have a good amount of time to dedicate to this position — this is not a job for a student. Are you that person? Then contact these people!

ACL Information Director

Your name here!

2019 - 2021

Email nominations to

secretary@aclweb.org

ACL Nominating Committee

ACL Membership Vote

We have an opening for the Information Director. Unlike in prior years, we are doing an open search across regions. We are seeking someone who can organize a team. We want to move away from the home-grown software behind our portal and membership services to procuring professional solutions and/or digital support, but always being mindful of costs. We want to find solutions that can be used across our sigs and chapters for their various needs, should they choose them.

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https://pixabay.com/en/internet-cyber-block-chain-3484139/

ACL Anthology

Comprehensive for *ACL publications (>44,600 papers)

Entirely Open Access (great for research!)

Conforming to Standards (DOIs)

Speaking of service and ACL, I would like to spend a few moments talking about the ACL Anthology. First, we are quite fortunate to have all of our papers open access. Even CL and TACL journal papers are open access, even though we are now paying MIT Press to edit and compile the issues for us.

Being open access means our research is distributed around the world as soon as it is published, and also, anyone can do citation analysis and text mining on the documents.

We've also recently started conforming to some standards.

https://pixabay.com/en/books-bookshelf-library-education-3480058/

ACL Anthology Director

Min-Yen Kan

2008-2018

Speaking of service, we owe an enormous debt of thanks to the outgoing director, Min-Yen Kan, who tirelessly led the efforts on maintaining the Anthology. He even managed to do this while being program co-chair of ACL/NAACL 2017! He has decided to step down this year after 10 years of tireless service.

Min has had many volunteers helping him through the years. Most recently, Christoph Teichmann and Martin Villalba of Saarland University helped migrate the web server to its current temporary location in order to enable indexing by Google Scholar.

https://pixabay.com/en/books-bookshelf-library-education-3480058/

ACL ANTHOLOGY DIRECTOR

Your name here!

2019 - 2021

Email to Drago Radev,

dragomir.radev@yale.edu

ACL Anthology Advisory Board

Bonnie Dorr   Stuart Shieber
Min-Yen Kan   Mark Steedman
Drago Radev (chair)   Simone Teufel

We now have an opening for a new director! The details are posted at the url shown.   We realize there are some technical challenges to the current set up and we are seeking a director who is passionate about online digital libraries and citation analysis and has appropriate expertise.

I have recruited a blue-ribbon, all-star ad hoc committee called the ACL Anthology Advisory Board, which will be interviewing candidates and making the selection.   Details about the position are shown on the link, and you can talk with the committee members as well.

https://pixabay.com/en/books-bookshelf-library-education-3480058/

Service and ACL

Returning again to the theme of service, whether it is reviewing your share of papers, or volunteering to be on a conference committee … Some times it just is not the right time in your life to do service. But some people think that it is not ever smart to do it careerwise, and I wanted to address that view for a few minutes.

RISC

RAID

NOW

Parallel Computing

Revolutionary Textbook

ACM President

NAS

AAAS

David Patterson

How many of you know who David Patterson is? He had a huge influence on me, as my teacher and as a senior faculty member. He is very famous as the co-inventor of RISC and RAID and NOW (precursor to cloud computing).   His textbook was revolutionary for showing how to bring data to the design of computer architecture

He was also President of ACM for several years, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences and Fellow for the American Association for the Advancement of science.

How to Give a Bad Talk (1983)

How to have a Bad Career (1994)

How to Build a Bad Research Center (2014)

David Patterson

He also likes to share advice with people, in person and in writing. As I said, I've benefitted from these enormously and on a nearly weekly basis, but you can to! He published frequent essays in CACM when he was president. Here are titles of some of his greatest hits.

Ok, they weren't all sarcastic; and I'd like to focus on one in particular from 2006

Good Service: A Surprising Secret to Academic Success (CRN 18(5), 2006)

Uses data to see if service is correlated to (other forms of) career success (NAE, Turing).

Uses Distinguished Service Awards from CRA, ACM.

Between 2000-2006, 75% of academic winners of these DSAs were also in the NAE (1% of academics)

David Patterson

Upon the occasion of receiving an award, where others might pontificate or speculate, true to form, Dave brings in the data. He begins with the assumption that of course service is something that academics do not want to do. Altruism and serving the community are not good reasons; service takes time away from one's career compared to other activities.

He then uses a table of data to show what the surprise is: a correspondence between people who do a lot of service and win service awards and people who win other especially prestigious awards, such as election to the National Academy of Engineering (1% of faculty in US and Canada) and the Turing Award. He concludes that faculty may serve themselves well by service, because they will be better placed to win the more prestigious academic awards or better offers of academic positions by virtue of being better known to and able to impress the other important participants on awards committees.

(I admit he did not look at the counterfactual … those in the NAE who do not do service.)

Good Service: A Surprising Secret to Academic Success *(CRN 18(5), 2006)*

" Positive opinions formed because of an individual's good service record lead to job opportunities as well as awards...

The reason for performing significant good service is not just altruism; it is enlightened self-interest as well, for it can give you a competitive advantage in garnering recognition of a successful academic career"

David Patterson

He points out this leads to job opportunities too, so it applies as well to people in industry.

 It could be that some people are just good at everything, or naturally popular. But Dave speculates that doing service leads to recognition by others in the same position and across organizations, which leads to more future recognition.

So that was 2006.   Then in 2017…

Turing Award 2017!!

he won the Turing Award along with John Hennessy.

but wait, you might be thinking. He used service awards from CRA and ACM for his analysis.

And both the LSA and AAAI have service awards, but ACL doesn't have anything like that.

Announcing ...

https://pixabay.com/en/volunteers-hands-voluntary-wrap-601662/

The ACL Distinguished Service Award!

Starting in 2019

Graeme Hirst

ACL Treasurer 2008-2018

One person I want to thank especially is Graeme Hirst, our outgoing Treasurer.
More seriously, very few people have worked harder and more steadily for the good of ACL as Graeme.   And the treasurer job is by far the hardest volunteer job in the organization. (The hardest job is Priscilla's job of course.)
Behind the scenes, the Treasurer does innumerable small things to keep things going.

Graeme is very very careful not to overspend.   He and Priscilla wring every last dollar, yuan, euro, what have you, out of the conference venues to keep our costs down.   And he is very savvy in all kinds of ways about keeping us financially sound and preparing for future unknowns.   Let's all thank Graeme for his 5 years of unwavering service as ACL Treasurer.

He also has done service as chair of NAACL and memorably as books editor for CL.   Thank you, Graeme!

Treasurer Timeline

		1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025	2030
ACL-Exec Secretary-Treasurer	D.	Donald E. Walker								
	K.		Kathleen McKeown							
	K.		Kathleen McCoy							
ACL-Exec Treasurer	K.			Kathleen McCoy						
	G.				Graeme Hirst					
	D.				David Yarowsky					
EACL Treasurer	.	Michael Rosner								
	C.						Claudia Borg			
NAACL Treasurer	B.		Barbara Di Eugenio							
	D.		Dragomir Radev							
	C.			Christopher Manning						
	J..				Joel Tetreault					

Year

Secretary Timeline

		1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
ACL-Exec Secretary	S..			Sandra Carberry					
	D.				Dragomir Radev				
	S..						Shiqi Zhao		
ACL-Exec Secretary-Treasurer	D.	Donald E. Walker							
	K.		Kathleen McKeown						
	K.		Kathleen McCoy						
EACL Secretary	B.	Beat Buchmann							
	S..		Susan Armstrong						
	J..			John Carroll					
	A.			Anette Frank					
	J..				Joakim Nivre				
	C.				Caroline Sporleder				
	L..					Lucia Specia			
NAACL Secretary	C.			Claire Cardie					
	L..			Lillian Lee					
	S..			Suzanne Stevenson					
	A.			Anoop Sarkar					
	.				Michael White				
	C.			Colin Cherry					

Year

Editors Timeline

		1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020	2025
Anthology Editor	S..				Steven Bird				
	.						Min-Yen Kan		
CL Editor	J..	James Allen							
	P..		Paul Jacobs						
	J..		Julia Hirschberg						
	S..					Steven Bird			
	R.			Robert Dale					
	P..					Paola Merlo			
TACL Editor-in-Chief	D.					Dekang Lin			
	.					Michael Collins			
	K.					Kristina Toutanova			
	L..					Lillian Lee			
	.					Mark Johnson			
	B.					Brian Roark			

Year

ACL's Escalating Numbers:
— Huge success for our field!
— Effects on reviewing, costs
— Tradition of service and
open access

Do put your name in for Information chair and Anthology chair

ACL: At Your Service ... And YOUR Service

Marti Hearst
Presidential Address

ACL 2018, Melbourne

Thank you, all of you, for your volunteer time as well as including your great research in ACL!