

Translating and the Computer 41



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Preface

At a time when translation and technology are more closely than ever intertwined, the forty-first edition of Translating and the Computer (TC) could not be timelier. The TC conferences, organised by The International Association for the Advancement in Language Technology (AsLing), continue to serve as a unique forum for academics, developers, users, and vendors of computer aids for translators, of other translation technology tools, and this increasingly, for interpreters and others performing new roles in our industry. This distinctive event brings together freelance and in-house translators, interpreters, researchers and business people from translation companies, international organisations, universities and research centres, offering them an opportunity to exchange ideas, and to learn about and discuss the latest developments in translation technologies.

As translation memory, corpora and terminology tools evolved and were incorporated to various degrees into MT systems and suites over the last four decades translators have found their work, their workflows and even key aspects of their profession awash with change. The replacement of first-, second- and even third-generation tools by neural versions, increasingly augmented by artificial intelligence, has accelerated the rate of change and has resulted in more radical changes. The latest tools increasingly offer real benefits for interpreters. Serious professionals and astute business managers are best served by advanced and in-depth knowledge of the latest developments, tempered by well-founded observations based on solid research and advice from leaders in the professions and industry. TC conferences feature speakers from academia, industry and the professions that provide such insights.

AsLing is delighted to present this year's keynote speakers: Jean Senellart, CEO and Director for Research & Development at Systran, who discusses the neural revolution, whereas Jochen Hummel, co-founder and CEO of Coreon, founder of TRADOS and of Metaversum, focuses on unlocking machine translation. We are confident that these keynotes along with the presentations, posters, panels and workshops provide participants valuable insights and opportunities for inspiring discussions. We are also confident that the e-proceedings with the conference contributions, accepted after a competitive reviewing process, will be an important reference and stimulus for future work of all those active in AsLing fields of competence.

One session examines the resurging awareness of the importance of terminology. A presentation about sign language translation highlights the conference's commitment to tools for inclusion. Other presentations examine post-editing methods and tools in the world of neural MT, de-demonizing AI, applying AI to MT, training for and with regard to MT and post-editing as well as aspects of error evaluation and annotation.

We thank all who submitted proposals to the conference and those authors who produced full versions of their papers for the proceedings, as well as all whose slides are available on the AsLing website. A special thank-you goes to all the delegates wherever they have come from, who by taking part and interacting with presenters and fellow participants broaden this conference and give living acknowledgement of this special event.

We are grateful to the members of the Programme Committee who carefully reviewed the submissions: Juan José Arevalillo, Sheila Castilho, David Chambers, Caroline Champsaur, Gloria Corpas Pastor, Joanna Drugan, David Filip, Camelia Ignat, Raisa McNab, Vilemini Sisoni, Paola Valli, Nelson Verástegui and Michal Ziemski. A big thanks to Sandra Chambers, Joss Moorkens and Maria Recort Ruiz who as fellow members of the Organising committee played key roles to make this conference happen, and to our Social Media Officers Maria Recort Ruiz and Nelson Verástegui, and David Chambers and Joss Moorkens who also provided ongoing editorial support. The biggest thanks this year, though, goes indisputably to Jean-Marie Vande Walle who served as conference coordinator. Last but not least, we thank our sponsors and all those who lent their support, helping to make both the conference and these proceedings possible.

Conference Chairs

João Esteves-Ferreira, Juliet Margaret Macan, Ruslan Mitkov, Olaf-Michael Stefanov

London, November 2019

The Executive Committee of AsLing establishes several bodies each year, to organise and carry out the annual conference. Membership in these bodies overlap. The tables below show membership in these bodies for TC41.

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