ELIZABETH A. CLARK

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EDUCATION

University of Washington   Seattle, WA

Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering, PhD Program   2015 – 2021 (exp.)

Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science & Engineering, Master of Science   2018

Working on problems in natural language generation and evaluation in collaborative settings with the UW Natural Language Processing group, advised by Noah Smith

Middlebury College   Middlebury, VT

Bachelor of Arts   2015

Graduated Magna Cum Laude (GPA 3.77) with high honors from the Computer Science Department (major GPA 3.86) and with minors in Mathematics and Linguistics

Also studied at Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Fall 2013) and UCLA (Summer 2014)

Senior Thesis: "Comparing Linguistic and Acoustic Approaches for Sentiment Recognition in Speech"

AWARDS

Outstanding Paper at NAACL 2018   2018

Winner of the inaugural Amazon Alexa Prize (member of Team Sounding Board)   2017

NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP) Fellowship   2016 –

SELECTED PRESS

The Verge - "Inside Amazon's $3.5 million competition to make Alexa chat like a human" (James Vincent, June 13, 2018) [link]

GeekWire - "Secrets of the $500K Amazon Alexa Prize winner: Inside the Univ. of Washington's 'socialbot'" (Taylor Soper, April 26, 2018) [link]

WIRED - "Inside the Alexa Prize" (James Vlahos, February 27, 2018) [link]

WORK EXPERIENCE

University of Washington   Seattle, WA
Research Assistant with Noah Smith   2015 –
- Working on problems natural language generation
- Focused on designing models and interactions for collaborating with NLP systems and evaluating generated text

Microsoft Research   Redmond, WA
Deep Learning Group Intern with Asli Celikyilmaz   Summer 2018
- Developed an evaluation metric for long-form text
- Evaluated the metric based on its performance at evaluating long texts and as a reward for learning to generate

Naval Postgraduate School   Monterey, CA
Computer Science Graduate Intern   Summer 2015
- Chosen to participate in the Naval Research Enterprise Internship Program (NREIP)
- Built a specialized parser to extract important data from a natural language database of radar descriptions

Naval Postgraduate School   Monterey, CA
Computer Science Undergraduate Intern   Summer 2013
- Worked in the Natural Language Processing Lab as part of NREIP
- Built a Naïve Bayes classifier to predict the number of followers, friends, favorites, lists, and tweets per day a Twitter user has when given a sample of tweets from the user

TEACHING & MENTORING

CSE 447 (Undergrad NLP) Teaching Assistant   Winter 2019

CSE 481N (NLP Capstone) Teaching Assistant   Spring 2019

First Year Graduate Student Mentor   2016 – 2017

Mentor for Undergraduate Women in Computer Science   2015 – 2016

INVITED TALKS

NLP Highlights Podcast   2018
"61 - Neural Text Generation in Stories, with Elizabeth Clark and Yangfeng Ji"

Storytelling Workshop (NAACL)   2018
"Creative Writing with a Machine in the Loop: Case Studies on Stories and Slogans"

TTIC Workshop on Collaborative and Knowledge-backed Language Generation   2018
"Collaborative Story Generation: Modeling and design considerations for machine-in-the-loop creative writing systems."

Amazon Alexa Prize Summit (with Sounding Board team)   2018
"Sounding Board—What We Learned"

UW College of Engineering Alumni & Affiliates (with Sounding Board team)   2018
"Conversational AI Showcase: Sounding Board"

SERVICE

Workshop Organizer
- Workshop on Narrative Understanding, Storylines, and Events (NUSE) (ACL)   2020
- Workshop on Narrative Understanding (WNU) (NAACL)   2019

Journal Reviewer
- TACL   2019

Conference Reviewer
- ACL   2019-2020
- AAAI   2018
- CoNLL   2019
- EMNLP   2019
- ICML   2019
- INLG   2019
- NAACL   2019
- NeurIPS   2018-2019

Workshop and Special Interests Reviewer
- AI Magazine Special Issue on Conversational AI (AAAI)   2019
- Methods for Optimizing and Evaluating Neural Language Generation (NAACL)   2019
- Storytelling Workshop (NAACL, ACL)   2018 – 2019
- Human-Centered Machine Learning Workshop (CHI)   2019
- Late-Breaking Work (CHI)   2019

Outreach
- UW Women's Research Day (Talk/Poster)   2018 – 2019
- K-12 Student Outreach Event: "Let's chat, Sounding Board!"   2018

PUBLICATIONS

"Counterfactual Story Reasoning and Generation." Lianhui Qin, Antoine Bosselut, Ari Holtzman, Chandra Bhagavatula, Elizabeth Clark, and Yejin Choi. In *Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing*, 2019.

"Sentence Mover's Similarity: Automatic Evaluation for Multi-Sentence Texts." Elizabeth Clark, Asli Çelikyilmaz, and Noah A. Smith. In *Proceedings of the Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, 2019.

"Neural Text Generation in Stories using Entity Representations as Context." Elizabeth Clark, Yangfeng Ji, and Noah A. Smith. In *Proceedings of the Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, 2018. **Outstanding Paper**.

"Sounding Board: A User-Centric and Content-Driven Social Chatbot." Hao Fang, Hao Cheng, Maarten Sap, Elizabeth Clark, Ari Holtzman, Yejin Choi, Noah A. Smith, and Mari Ostendorf. In *Proceedings of the Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics*, 2018. Demo paper.

"Creative Writing with a Machine in the Loop: Case Studies on Slogans and Stories." Elizabeth Clark, Anne Spencer Ross, Chenhao Tan, Yangfeng Ji, and Noah A. Smith. In *IUI'18: 23rd International Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces Proceedings*, 2018.

"Sounding Board – University of Washington's Alexa Prize Submission." Hao Fang, Hao Cheng, Elizabeth Clark, Ariel Holtzman, Maarten Sap, Mari Ostendorf, Yejin Choi, and Noah A. Smith. In *1st Proceedings of Alexa Prize (Alexa Prize 2017)*, 2017.

"Tweet! – And I Can Tell How Many Followers You Have." Christine Klotz, Annie Ross, Elizabeth Clark, and Craig Martell. In *Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing* - Vol 265, 2014.