

Service Statement

Kevin Knight

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In addition to teaching and leading a research group at USC, I have taken on these other roles:

Conference, Journal, and Workshop Organization

I was Program Chair for the North American Association for Computational Linguistics (NAACL) conference in 2001. I was also General Chair for the ACL conference in 2005. In between, I served as Area Chair for multilingual processing at numerous conferences.

I have served on several journal editorial boards, including *Computational Linguistics* (1999-2001), the *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research* (1999-2001), *ACM Transactions on Speech and Language Processing* (2004-2007), and *Machine Translation* (2007-).

I was invited to lead the Johns Hopkins summer workshop on language translation in 1999. This six-week intensive workshop produced publicly-available software that is still widely used by research groups today.

In 2001, I co-organized (with Franz Josef Och and Jessie Pinkham) the first Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL) workshop on data-driven approaches to language translation. Annual workshops on translation research have since been among the largest events associated with ACL conferences.

Research Program Management

I provided guidance to DARPA program managers Charles Wayne and Gary Strong, serving as Area Coordinator for Machine Translation in the DARPA TIDES research program (2001-2005). In particular, I organized program-wide work on data resources to support translation research, bridging between the research community and the Linguistic Data Consortium at the University of Pennsylvania.

I was also active in the DARPA GALE program (2005-2010), one of the largest R&D programs at DARPA. I coordinated language translation research in the AGILE research group, whose members include BBN, Cambridge University, Berkeley, University of Edinburgh, MIT, USC/ISI, and HKUST.

Executive Committees

I was elected to serve as President of ACL in 2011. As President, I took the initiative to create a new ACL Fellows program, and I headed the coordination committee for the 50th anniversary meeting of the ACL (Korea, 2012). I also serve for five years on the ACL Executive Committee (2009-2013). Previously, I was elected to serve as a Councillor for the Association for the Advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AAAI) from 2005 to 2007.

Commercialization

I co-founded Language Weaver, Inc. (2001) and serve as its Chief Scientist. Language Weaver has made numerous contributions to the US national defense, including small-memory-footprint translation systems and broadcast monitoring systems, among other transitioned technologies. Language Weaver also allows companies like Dell, Adobe, Intel, and TripAdvisor to provide high-accuracy customized translations to their users on the web. The company was acquired by SDL plc in 2010.