Preface: SCiL 2019 Editors’ Note

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This volume contains research presented at the second annual meeting of the Society for Computation in Linguistics (SCiL), held in New York City, January 3-6, 2019, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Linguistic Society of America.

These proceedings include the full length paper submissions that were peer-reviewed as papers and accepted for either oral or poster presentation at SCiL 2019. The first 13 papers in the proceedings are those that were accepted as oral presentations, while the remaining 16 papers were presented as posters. Submissions to SCiL also included abstracts, which were presented as talks or posters at the conference. Further information, including the schedule and abstracts, can be found at our website: https://blogs.umass.edu/scil/scil-2019/.

In total, we received 96 submissions to the conference, 52 abstracts and 44 papers. 22 submissions were selected for oral presentation (23%) and 38 for poster presentation (40%). 51 of the submissions (53%) included a female author, and 34 (57%) of accepted submissions included a female author. 11 of the talks (50%) included a female author, and 23 of the posters (60%) included a female author. We thank our reviewers for their indispensable help in selecting the research for presentation at the conference:


Thanks also to Tom Maxfield for logistical help and Andrew Lamont for help preparing the proceedings.

SCiL 2019 also included invited tutorials by Kasia Hitczenko (on Bayesian Models) and Allyson Ettinger (on Vector Space Models), invited talks by Mark Johnson and Gaja

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1 The gender statistics were collected informally and may have inaccuracies. We plan to discuss better methods for collecting and reporting gender information at the business meeting. Thanks to Yiding Hao for feedback.
Jarosz on “Learning Hidden Linguistic Structure”, and an invited panel discussion on “What Should Linguists Know About NLP/ML” by Sam Bowman, Chris Dyer, Allyson Ettinger, and Noah Smith. These invited sessions were funded by NSF conference grant BCS-1832737 to the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Further information can be found at our website: https://blogs.umass.edu/scil/scil-2019/.