

Call for Participation

**Young Researchers' Roundtable on Spoken Dialog Systems**

an ISCA event  
in conjunction with  
INTERSPEECH/EUROSPEECH 2005  
9<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Speech Communication and Technology  
Lisbon, Portugal  
Thursday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005

Website: [www.cs.cmu.edu/~dod/roundtable](http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~dod/roundtable)

Contact: [yr-organizers@cs.cmu.edu](mailto:yr-organizers@cs.cmu.edu)

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**Workshop Overview**

The Young Researchers' Roundtable on Spoken Dialog Systems will bring together students, post docs, and junior researchers from different countries, different research institutions, and different disciplines who share an interest in applied dialog systems research. It will provide a setting in which participants can discuss their own research and work and obtain feedback from others who are at a similar level and who are working on similar problems. It will also provide a forum for discussing recent papers and talks with an eye toward (1) solving the problems participants currently face in their work and (2) identifying issues that are likely to be important in the coming years. Perhaps most importantly, the event will help to create a more permanent international network of young researchers working in spoken dialog systems.

This workshop will be a full-day event consisting of multiple small-group discussions of topics that will be chosen based on suggestions submitted by the participants themselves. Potential roundtable discussion topics could include:

- What are best practices for conducting and evaluating user studies of spoken dialog systems?
- How can users be made aware of the capabilities and limitations of spoken dialog systems?
- Spoken dialog systems and robots: what are the issues and challenges?
- What skills must a dialog agent have to be able to engage in a multi-participant conversation?
- Where can spoken dialog systems have a significant impact in the world?
- What are best practices for rapidly deploying dialog systems in the real world?
- Should human-computer communication mimic human-human communication?
- How can a dialog system learn from its own experience automatically?

After the small-group discussions, each of the groups will present a summary to the rest of the participants. We hope that the discussion format will foster creative thinking about current issues in spoken dialog systems research, setting the stage for the colocated conferences SIGdial and INTERSPEECH.

We invite participation from students, post docs, and junior researchers who are currently working in applied spoken dialog systems research. We also invite participation from those who are working in related fields such as human factors, speech recognition, artificial intelligence, or speech synthesis, as applied to spoken dialog systems. Potential participants should submit a 2-page paper following the template provided at [www.cs.cmu.edu/~dod/roundtable/cfp.html](http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~dod/roundtable/cfp.html). The paper will include a statement of research interests, an overview of past, current and future work, a discussion of what you consider to be the most compelling issues in spoken dialog systems, and a short biographical sketch. Accepted papers will be collated and distributed to participants in CD-ROM and/or paper format. We also plan to publish the position papers and presentations from the workshop on the web, subject to sponsor or publisher constraints.

**Fees (EURO):**

Students: € 40.00

Postdocs and junior researchers: € 60.00

Lunch and light refreshments are included in the registration fee

**Important Dates:**

The target size for the workshop is 45 participants.

Submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis beginning:

March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005

Submissions will no longer be accepted after:

July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005

Workshop date (full day):

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005

**Organizing Committee**

Satanjeev Banerjee, Carnegie Mellon University

Dan Bohus, Carnegie Mellon University

Ellen Campana, University of Rochester

Stephen Choularton, Macquarie University, Australia

Antoine Raux, Carnegie Mellon University

Stefanie Tomko, Carnegie Mellon University

Jason Williams, Cambridge University, UK

**Advisory Committee**

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Chih-yu Chao, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

Grace Chung, CNRI, USA

Robert Dale, Macquarie University, Australia

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Kristiina Jokinen, University of Helsinki, Finland

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Masafumi Nishida, Chiba University, Japan

Tim Paek, Microsoft Research, USA

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Mark Swerts, Tilburg University, The Netherlands

Steve Young, Cambridge University, UK