

2019 Annual Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics

June 2–7, 2019
Minneapolis, USA



Photo by Daniel McCull

Opening Session

Jill Burstein (ETS), Christy Doran (Interactions), Tamar Solorio (UH)

Land Acknowledgement

You are on Dakota Lands in Mni Sota Makoce. (Land where the water reflects the sky)

In Minnesota, there remain four federally recognized Dakota tribal oyate (nations): the Shakopee Mdewakanton, Prairie Island Indian Community, Upper Sioux Community, and the Lower Sioux Indian Community. They are part of a larger group including the Lakota and Nakota with tribal lands that cover Minnesota, South Dakota, North Dakota, Nebraska, and up into Canada. All together they are the Oceti Sakowin (7 Council Fires).

You are in the place of creation for the Dakota, with Bdote (where the Mississippi and Minnesota rivers meet) and Bde Wakan (Spirit Lake, now also known as Lake Mille Lacs) part of their creation stories. This remains sacred land for many people. The water, trees, and all living things coming out of the ground, carry with them the spirit of the Dakota people because quite literally, the ground is saturated with the DNA of the ancestors who lived here for millennium.

The Dakota have survived and are thriving in many ways. Shakopee Mdewakanton is one of the wealthiest tribes in the Nation, with initiatives in organic foods, entertainment, as well as others. The State of Minnesota is beginning to recognize the Dakota contribution and place in the history and present.

If you can get the time, take a walk around Bde Maka Ska, the site of the very first school in Minnesota, in a village started by Cloud Man, and whose direct descendants still reside in the area. Come down to the Native Corridor along Franklin Ave and get some coffee at Pow Wow Grounds, and stop in to the attached gallery at All My Relations to see the 2nd annual art show. Stop in to the Minneapolis American Indian Center where you can have breakfast or lunch at the Gatherings Café, which serves Indigenous-inspired food.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Three keynotes representing the ***ethics-centered*** theme: from Arvind Narayanan, Rada Mihalcea & Kieran Snyder
- Expect to be asked to move to the middle of the row in plenary sessions, we need to use all the seats
- Daily breakfast at 7:30am
- Coffee breaks, posters and demos in the Exhibit Hall

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- BYO-lunch Sessions: Industry Track Career Panel, NAACL Business Meeting
- Banquet at the Minneapolis Institute of Art on Tuesday, ~100 tickets left available for sale. See Priscilla for details
- Check the errata enclosure in handbook
- NAACL has an anti-harassment policy, details are in the handbook

Conference Tracks

Industry Track:

- 28 accepted papers (10 oral and 18 posters, acceptance rate: ~28%)
- Careers in Industry panel: **TODAY, 13:00 - 14:30 pm.**
 - Panelists: Judith Klavans, Yunyao Li, Owen Rambow, Joel Tetreault
 - Moderator: Phil Resnik

Student Research Workshop:

- 23 accepted papers, distributed throughout the conference
- 19 submissions received pre-submission mentoring
- For the first time, both archival and non-archival submissions allowed

Demos

- 24 accepted demos
- The best demo will be announced by the end of the conference

NAACL-HLT 2019: More of everything!



What's new in 2019!

- Conference theme
- Video Poster Highlights
- Video Chair
- Remote Presentations
- Diversity & Inclusion Organization
 - View live talk captions at <https://naacl2019.org/captions> 
 - Birds-of-a-feather meetups (Northstar B)
 - Attend pre-scheduled technical meetups — pink handout in conference bag
 - Use the special rooms (locations on p. 27 of handbook)
 - Quiet Room
 - Prayer Room
 - Nursing and Childcare Rooms



Get *Whova* for NAACL HLT 2019



NAACL



- Explore the attendees
- Send in-app messages
- Network and find education, share
- Receive update notifications
- Access the event agenda and directions at your fingertips

Mon Jun 03 06:00 AM [Details >](#)
morning run
im planning on running each mo...

Wed Jun 05 07:00 PM [Details >](#)
Queer in AI social
Come hang out and meet other f...

Tue Jun 04 12:30 PM [Details >](#)
Black in AI lunch
Chance for Black in AI members...



THANK YOUR NAAACL-HLT 2019 ORGANIZERS!

General Chair



Jill Burstein

Industry Track



Anastassia Loukina



Rohit Kumar

Demos



Annie Louis

& Waleed Ammar
& Nasrin Mostafazadeh

Ring Master



Priscilla Rasmussen

Workshops



Smaranda Muresan



Swapna Somasundaran

Tutorials



Anoop Sarkar



Michael Strube

Publications



Stephanie Lukin



Alla Roskovskaya



Michelle Morales

Student Volunteers

Lu Wang



Elena Volodina

THANK YOUR NAAACL-HLT 2019 ORGANIZERS!

Handbook



Steve DeNeefe

Publicity & Social Media



Yuval Pinter



Rachael Tatman

Student Research Workshop



Laura Wendlandt



Farah Nadeem

Special Thanks



Ted Pedersen

Remote Presentation



Abhinav Misra
& Meg Mitchell

Sponsorship



Tonya Custis
& Chris Callison-Burch

Website & App



Nitin Madnani

Videos



Spencer Whitehead

Diversity & Inclusion



Jason Eisner



Natalie Schluter

& Na-Rae Han



Greg Durret



Sudipta Kar



John Henderson



Cash deLeon



Jalen Tran



Mahsa Shafaei



Amirreza Shirani

NAACL 2019 Area Chairs

NLP Applications

T. J. Hazen
Alessandro Moschitti
Shimei Pan
Wenpeng Yin
Su-Youn Yoon

Phonology

Ramy Eskander
Grzegorz Kondrak

Question Answering

Eduardo Blanco
Christos Christodoulopoulos
Asif Ekbal
Yansong Feng
Tim Rocktäschel
Avi Sil

Semantics

Ebrahim Bagheri
Samuel Bowman
Matt Gardner
Kevin Gimpel
Daisuke Kawahara
Carlos Ramisch

Summarization

Mohit Bansal
Fei Liu
Ani Nenkova

Social Media

Dan Goldwasser
Michael J. Paul
Sara Rosenthal
Paolo Rosso
Chenhao Tan
Xiaodan Zhu

Speech

Keelan Evanini
Yang Liu

Style

Beata Beigman Klebanov
Manuel Montes
Joel Tetreault

Syntax

Adam Lopez
Roi Reichart
Agata Savary

Guillaume Wisniewski

Sentiment Analysis

Isabelle Augenstein
Wai Lam
Soujanya Poria
Ivan Vladimir Meza Ruiz

Text Mining

Kai-Wei Chang
Anna Feldman
Shervin Malmasi
Verónica Pérez-Rosas
Kevin Small
Diyi Yang

Theory and Formalisms

Valia Kordoni
Andreas Maletti

Vision & Robotics

Francis Ferraro
Vicente Ordóñez
William Yang Wang

Resources & Evaluation

Torsten Zesch
Tristan Miller

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Gold: ByteDance, Megagon Labs, Vanguard

Silver: Cisco, Duolingo, Ebay, Grammarly, Interactions, Microsoft, SAP

Bronze: Clinc, ETS, Raytheon BBN Technologies, USC Viterbi School

Sponsors of the Student Research Workshop: CRA Computing Community Consortium, National Research Council Canada, National Science Foundation



Janyce Wiebe (1959 - 2018)

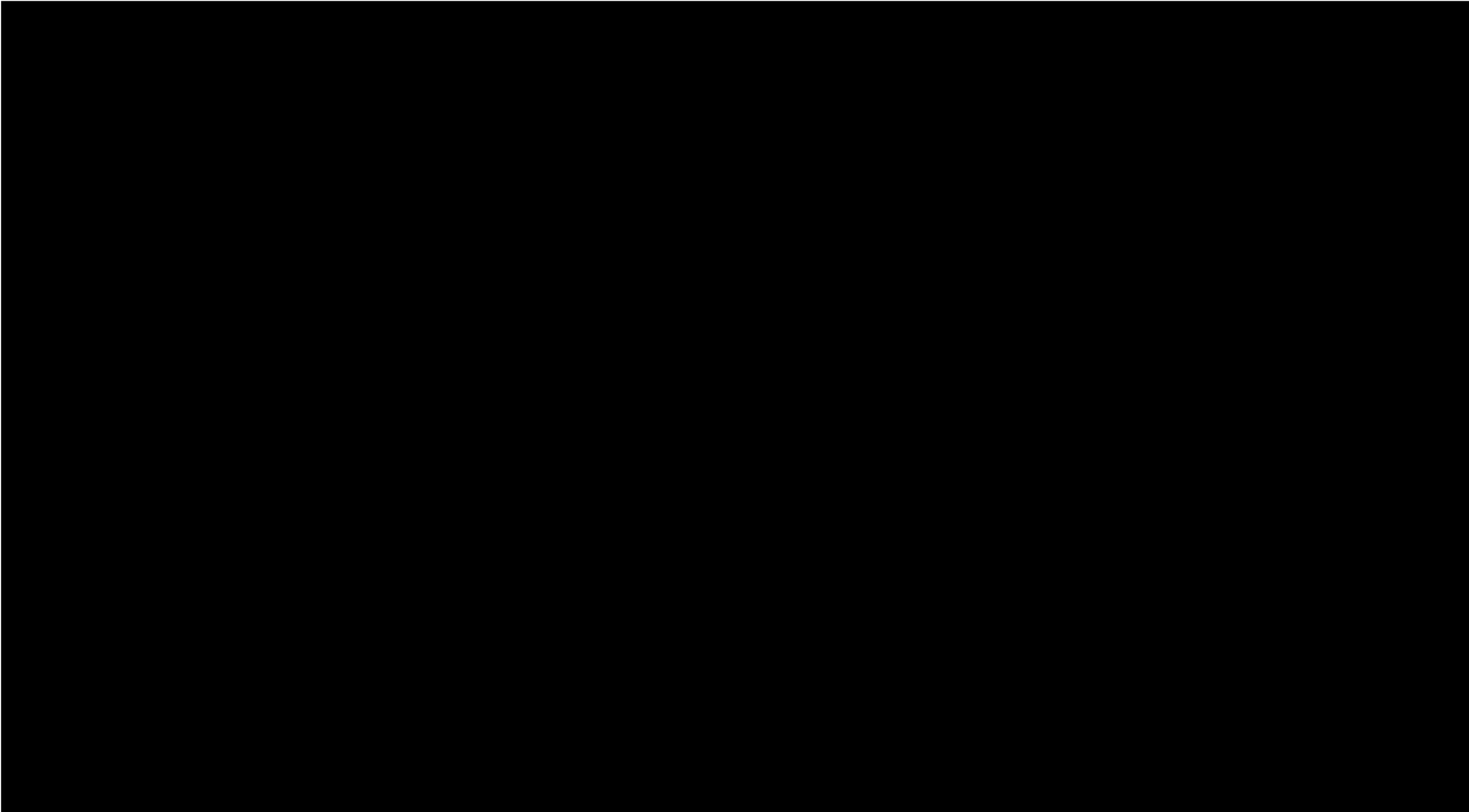
<https://vimeo.com/42665392>





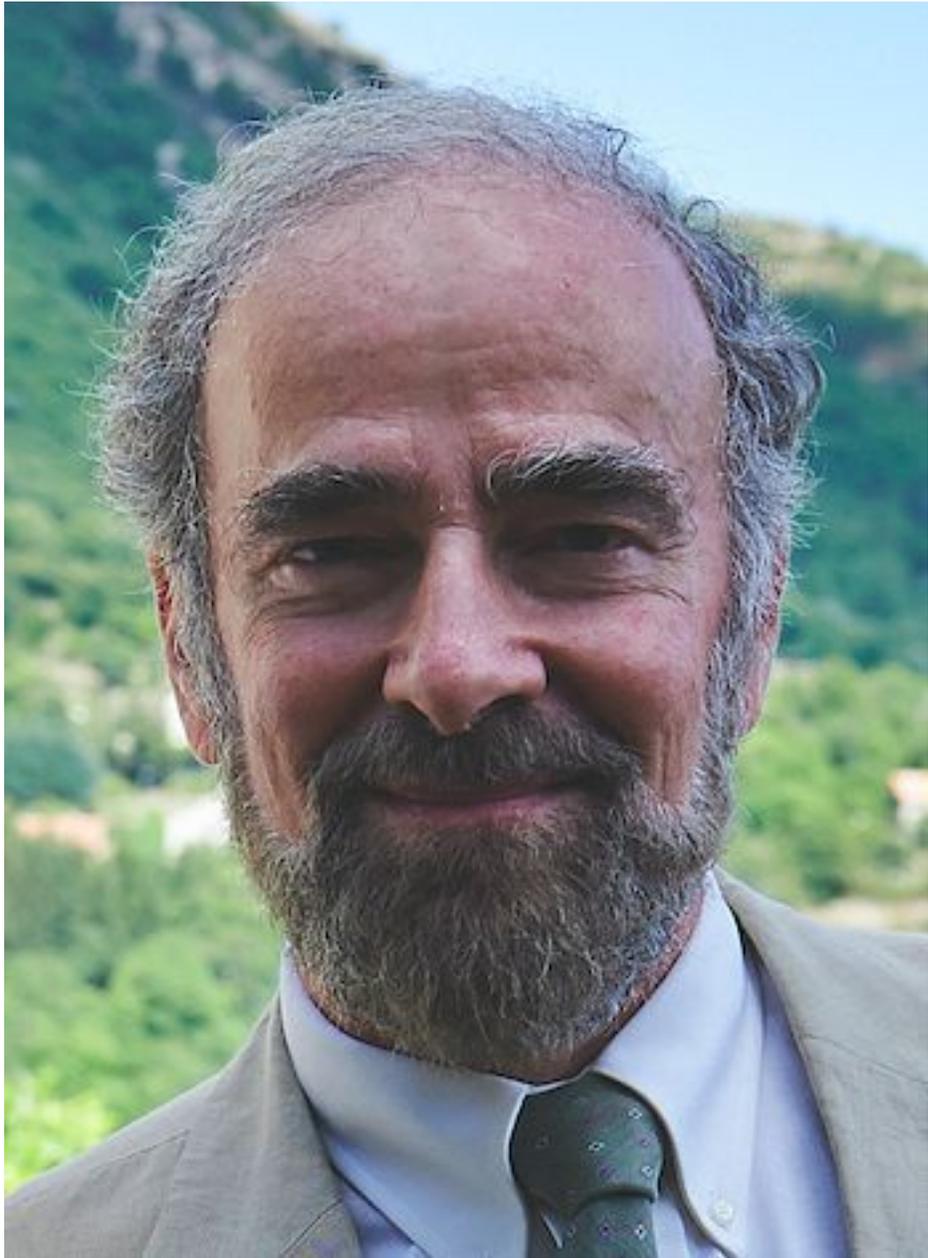


<https://naacl2019.org/blog/in-memory-of-jan-wiebe/>





<https://engage.pitt.edu/project/15501>



Richard
(Dick)
Kittredge
1941-2019

Accomplishments

- 1969: PhD University of Pennsylvania (Linguistics), Henry Hiz and Zelig Harris, advisors.
- Professor at the Université de Montréal
- 1980s and early 1990s: Founder of ORA Montreal, and subsequently co-founder of CoGenTex, an early start-up dedicated to natural language generation

Major Research Contributions

- Member of the TAUM research group on machine translation; one of the first commercial applications of machine translation, the METEO system in Canada
- The linguistic study of sublanguages
 - Kittredge and Lehrberger (eds.) 1982; Grishman and Kittredge (eds.) 1986, Kittredge 2003
- Multilingual natural language generation (NLG) as an alternative to machine translation
 - Kittredge, Polguère and Goldberg 1986
 - Including TTS: generation of spoken weather reports, ran in several US ports for 15 years
- The computational use of Igor Mel'čuk's Meaning-Text Theory
 - Iordanskaja, Kittredge and Polguère 1991
 - RealPro realizer distributed freely for research

Bilingual Weather Report Generation

2200 mon 83/09/22 end.
frob wind 220 30 &
nt 5 300 35 & nt 18 speed 40
wea rain cont heavy &
nt 15 nl n 65 rain per moderate
temp -3
end.

marine forecasts for arctic waters issued by environment
Canada
at 3.00 pm mdt monday 22 September 1983
for tonight and tuesday.

frobisher-bay
gale warning issued ...
freezing spray warning issued ...
winds southwesterly 30 veering and strengthening to
northwesterly
gales 35 late this evening then strengthening to northwesterly
gales 40 late tuesday afternoon. cloudy with rain then
showers
developing north of 65 n latitude tuesday. visibility fair in
precipitation.

previsions maritimes pour l'arctique emises par environnement
Canada
a 15h00 har le lundi 22 septembre 1983
pour cette nuit et mardi.

frobisher-bay
avertissement de coup de vent en vigueur
avertissement d'embruns verglacants en vigueur ...
vents du sud-ouest a 30 virant et se renforçant a coups de vents du
nord-ouest a 35 tard ce soir puis se renforçant a coups de vents du
nord-ouest a 40 tard mardi apres-midi. nuageux avec pluie puis
averses commençant au nord de la latitude 65 n mardi. visibilite
passable sous les precipitations.

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Meaning-Text Theory

