Comput*EL* closed meeting agenda

27 June 2014

Schedule

9:00–9:30	Introductions
9:30–11:00	Working group meetings (see below for further details)
11:00–11:20	**Break**
11:20–12:10	Short presentations (chair: Tess Wood) *Mike Maxwell – Grammar documentation for eternity* *Ron Lockwood – SIL software overview* *Doug Cooper – Software for the long tail* *Martin Benjamin – Kamusi: Angels and demons in the details of language documentation* *Evelyne Tzoukermann – How can language technologies help with endangered languages?*
12:10–1:30	**Lunch**
1:30–2:30	Working group meetings
2:30–3:10	Short presentations (chair: Ron Lockwood) *Colin Phillips and Tess Wood – Langscape* *Edward Ombui – Wiring Kenyan languages to the global "virtual-age"* *Julia Hirschberg and Owen Rambow – Semantics for low-resource languages* *Stephen Beale – Language descriptions in the Philippines*
3:10–3:30	**Break**
3:30–4:00	Working group final presentation preparation
4:00–4:45	Working group summary presentations
4:45–5:00	Concluding discussion

Working group themes and membership

Working Group 1: Tool usability and sustainability

How can computational results be effectively integrated into well-supported tools that can be readily used by the endangered language linguistics community given that the possibilities for commercialization are quite limited? How can these tools be supported over the long term? How can documentary linguists produce resources that can serve as input to tools used by computational linguists, such as taggers? Where is there overlap in the tool needs of these communities, and where do they diverge?

Chairs: Damir Cavar & Laura Welcher

Working Group 2: Community-building activities

What kinds of community-building activities would allow for more frequent and effective partnerships between linguists with access to data on endangered languages and computer scientists who could use that data in their own work? How can those seeking to collaborate find each other and put together fundable projects? What sorts of training opportunities would help bring more students into this area?

Chairs: Helen Aristar-Dry & Mike Maxwell

Working Group 3: New computational methods for endangered languages

What new computational methods, in computational linguistics and beyond, appear especially promising with respect to furthering the analysis of, and collection of data on, endangered languages data in the near term?

Chairs: Alexis Palmer & Fei Xia

Members: Stephen Beale, Caitlin Christianson, Julia Hirschberg, Khang Nut Lam, Ron Lockwood, Edward Ombui

Working Group 4: The contribution of endangered languages to computational linguistics

What aspects of endangered languages work are most likely to be of value for furthering computational research? Are there any special considerations regarding endangered languages that make them different from other low-resource languages?

Chairs: Lori Levin & Owen Rambow

Cross-cutting questions for working groups

1. What exemplary existing (or past) projects/initiatives can be found in your working groups's focus area? What are/were their funding and sustainability models?
2. What is the "low-hanging fruit" in terms of possible new projects in your working group's focus area? What funding resources and community structures are available to support them? What new kinds of funding resources and community structures would help them move forward? Can you outline a possible project to propose (along with potential investigators)?
3. What are the biggest barriers to achieving success in your group's focus area?
4. What areas of computer science outside of computational linguistics are relevant to your working group's focus area?
5. What areas of linguistics outside of endangered language linguistics are relevant to your working group's focus area?
6. What role can speaker communities take on with respect to your working group's focus area?