Call for Participation
Ninth International Conference on *Text*, *Speech* and *Dialogue*
TSD 2006
September 11–15, 2006, Brno, Czech Republic

TSD 2006 is organized by the Faculty of Informatics, Masaryk University, Brno, and the Faculty of Applied Sciences, University of West Bohemia, Pilsen. The conference is supported by International Speech Communication Association.
Venue: Hotel Continental, Brno, Czech Republic
TSD series evolved as a prime forum for interaction between researchers in both spoken and written language processing from the former East Block countries and their Western colleagues. Proceedings of TSD form a book published by Springer-Verlag in their Lecture Notes in Artificial Intelligence (LNAI) series (as Volume 4188 this year).
Topics: Topics of the TSD 2006 conference will include (but are not limited to): *text corpora and tagging; transcription problems in spoken corpora; sense disambiguation; links between text and speech oriented systems; parsing issues, especially parsing problems in spoken texts; multi-lingual issues, especially multi-lingual dialogue systems; information retrieval and information extraction; text/topic summarization; machine translation; semantic networks and ontologies; semantic web; speech modeling; speech segmentation; speech recognition; search in speech for IR and IE; text-to-speech synthesis; dialogue systems; development of dialogue strategies; prosody in dialogues; emotions and personality modeling; user modeling; knowledge representation in relation to dialogue systems; assistive technologies based on speech and dialogue; applied systems and software; facial animation; visual speech synthesis.*
Papers on processing of languages other than English are strongly encouraged.
Program Committee: *Frederick Jelinek, USA (general chair); Hynek Hermansky, Switzerland (executive chair); Eneko Agirre, Spain; Geneviève Baudoin, France; Jan Černocký, Czech Rep; Attila Ferencz, Romania; Alexander Gelbukh, Mexico; Louise Guthrie, GB; Eva Hajičová, Czech Rep; Jaroslava Hlaváčová, Czech Rep; Eduard Hovy, USA; Ivan Kopeček, Czech Rep; Steven Krauwer, The Netherlands; Siegfried Kunzmann, Germany; Václav Matoušek, Czech Rep; Hermann Ney, Germany; Elmar Nöth, Germany; Karel Oliva, Czech Republic; Karel Pala, Czech Republic; Nikola Pavesić, Slovenia; Vladimír Petkevič, Czech Rep; Josef Psutka, Czech Republic; James Pustejovsky, USA; Leon Rothkrantz, The Netherlands; E.G. Schukat-Talamazzini, Germany; Pavel Skrelin, Russia; Pavel Smrž, Czech Republic; Taras Vintsiuk, Ukraine; Yorick Wilks, GB; Victor Zakharov, Russia.*
Conference Program: The detailed conference program with links to presentation abstracts is now available on the conference web page `http://www.tsdconference.org/tsd2006/tsd_prog.html`.
Keynote Speakers: The conference will welcome four keynote speakers – **Eduard Hovy**: *Learning by Reading: An Experiment in Text Analysis*, **Louise Guthrie**: *Discovering Anomalous Material*, **James Pustejovsky**: *Unifying Semantic Annotations for Linguistic Description* and **Eva Hudlicka**: *Depth of Feelings: Alternatives for Modeling Affect in User Models and Cognitive Architectures*. Four panelists, **Elmar Noeth**, **Nadia Mana**, **Geza Nemeth** and **Eva Hudlicka**, will lead a panel discussion on *Emotions in Text, Speech and Dialogue*.
Format of the Conference: The conference program will include oral presentations and poster/demonstration sessions with sufficient time for discussions of the issues raised. Papers will be presented in plenary or topic oriented sessions. Social events including a Czech Welcome Dinner, a trip to Austerlitz Castle (with a "virtual battle" show) finished with Moravian dancing and Moravian conference dinner will allow for additional informal interactions.

Important Dates:
September 11–15, 2006 .... Conference date
Official Language of the conference is English.
Conference Fees: The conference fee depends on the date of payment and on your status. It includes one copy of the proceedings, refreshments, local transport, social events and organizing costs. The fee does not include accommodation.

	full	**student**
On-site payment:	CZK 12000	CZK 8000

All costs are in Czech Crowns (Czech Koruna, CZK), see e.g. `http://www.xe.com/ucc/` for the current exchange rate.
Accommodation:
The organizing committee has arranged discounts on accommodation in a 3-star hotel and student dormitories at reasonable prices. The current list of available accommodation and prices is accessible at the registration page of the conference website.
Address: All correspondence should be addressed to:
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Location: Brno is the second largest city in the Czech Republic with a population of almost 400.000. The city is the country's judiciary and trade-fair center. Brno is the capital of Moravia, which is in the south-east part of the Czech Republic. Brno had been a Royal City since 1347 and with its six universities it forms also a cultural center of the region.

Brno can be reached easily by direct flights from Prague, London and Munich and by trains or buses from Prague (200 km) or Vienna (130 km).

For the participants with some extra time, some nearby places may also be of interest. Local ones include: Brno Castle now called Spilberk, Veveri Castle, the Old and New City Halls, the Augustine Monastery with St. Thomas Church and crypt of Moravian Margraves, Church of St. James, Cathedral of St. Peter & Paul, Cartesian Monastery in Kralovo Pole, the famous Villa Tugendhat designed by Mies van der Rohe along with other important buildings of between-war Czech architecture.

For those willing to venture out of Brno, Moravian Karst with Macocha Chasm and Punkva caves, battlefield of Battle of three emperors (Napoleon, Russian Alexander and Austrian Franz – Battle by Austerlitz), Chateau of Slavkov (Austerlitz), Pernstejn Castle, Buchlov Castle, Lednice Chateau, Buchlovice Chateau, Letovice Chateau, Mikulov with one of the largest Jewish cemeteries in Central Europe, Telc – a town on the UNESCO heritage list, and many others are all within easy reach.