



The **Center for Language and Speech Processing** at the Johns Hopkins University invites research proposals for an NSF funded **Summer Workshop on Language Engineering**, to be held in Baltimore, MD, USA, during the period of July 5 to August 18, 2006.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS **OCTOBER 14, 2005**

You may already have a good idea about the purpose of these six-week summer workshops, which we have hosted every year since 1995. We attempt to identify specific research topics (suitable for a six week team exploration) on which progress is needed to advance the state of the art in various fields of Language Engineering such as:

- Multilingual Speech Recognition
- Rich transcription of Speech
- Speech diarization
- Speech and Text Machine Translation
- Translingual information detection and extraction
- Speech Synthesis
- Information Retrieval
- Topic detection and tracking
- Text Summarization
- Question answering

The research topics explored by teams in previous workshops can serve as good examples for your proposal (<http://www.clsp.jhu.edu/workshops>).

Once the topics are selected, we attempt to bring the best researchers to the workshop to pursue the research collaboratively for six weeks. Authors of successful proposals will typically become the team leaders. Each topic brings together a diverse team of leading researchers and students. The senior participants are university professors and industrial and governmental researchers from widely dispersed locations. The graduate students are familiar with the field and are selected in accordance with their demonstrated performance, usually by the senior researchers. The undergraduates, selected through a national search, are entering seniors who are new to the field and who have shown outstanding academic promise.

We are soliciting proposals for research projects from a wide range of academic and government institutions, as well as from industry. An independent panel of experts will screen all proposals received by the deadline for suitability to the workshop goals and format. Results of this screening will be announced no later than October 24, 2005. Proposals passing this initial screening will be presented to a peer-review panel that will meet in Baltimore. This meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 11 - 13, 2005. One or two authors of the screened proposals and other leading researchers will be invited to this meeting. It is expected that the proposals will be revised at this meeting to address any outstanding concerns or new ideas. Out of these panel reviews and ensuing discussion, three or four research topics will finally be selected for the 2006 workshop.

Would you be interested and available to participate in the 2006 Summer Workshop? If so, we ask that you submit **a one-page research proposal** for consideration, detailing the problem to be addressed and a rough work agenda for the workshop. If your proposal passes the initial screening, we will invite you to join us for the organizational meeting in Baltimore (as our guest) for further discussions aimed at consensus. *If a topic in your area of interest is chosen as one of the three or four to be pursued next summer, we expect you to be available for participation in the six-week workshop.* We are not asking for an ironclad commitment at this juncture, just a good faith understanding that if a project in your area of interest is chosen, you will want to have an active role in pursuing it.

Proposals may be sent via e-mail (clsp@jhu.edu), via fax (410)-516-5050, or via regular mail

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