



SEMDIAL 2019

LondonLogue

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Julian Hough
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Preface

LondonLogue brings the SemDial Workshop on the Semantics and Pragmatics of Dialogue to Queen Mary University of London for the first time, though back to London, as the 12th meeting – LONDIAL – took place at King’s College London in 2008. LondonLogue, and the SemDial workshop as a whole, offers a unique cross section of dialogue research including experimental studies, corpus studies, and formal models.

This year we received 30 full paper submissions, 16 of which were accepted after a peer-review process, during which each submission was reviewed by a panel of three experts. The poster session hosts 7 of the remaining submissions, together with 15 additional submissions that came in response to a call for late-breaking posters and demos. All accepted full papers and poster abstracts are included in this volume.

The LondonLogue programme features three keynote presentations by Staffan Larsson, Rose McCabe and Sophie Scott. We thank them for participating in SemDial and are honoured to have them at the workshop. Abstracts of their contributions are also included in this volume.

LondonLogue has received generous financial support from the Queen Mary University of London’s Institute of Applied Data Science (IADS). We have also been given endorsements by the ACL Special Interest Group SigDial and the Alan Turing Institute.

This year marks the changing of the guard at SemDial, and we would like to offer our utmost thanks and regards to our outgoing presidents, Raquel Fernández and David Schlangen who held the position from 2008-2018. We hope and believe that SemDial will continue to go from strength to strength under the stewardship of its new presidents Ellen Breitholtz and Julian Hough.

We are grateful to Casey Kennington for his stewardship on the challenge of making SemDial proceedings more indexable from this year onwards and to Chris Howes for her leadership and organisation in the compiling and editing of these proceedings. We would also like to extend our thanks to our Programme Committee members for their very detailed and helpful reviews.

Last but not least we would like to thank our local organisers from the Cognitive Science Group at Queen Mary University of London who have made LondonLogue possible. Special mentions go to our webmaster and proceedings cover designer Janosch Haber and head of production Sophie Skach for bringing quality graphic design and user experience to the event. We would also like to thank Taste QMUL catering and Events and Hospitality QM for their fantastic service on campus. Thanks to everyone who helped with all aspects of the organisation.

Christine Howes, Julian Hough and Casey Kennington

London

September 2019

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