

Preface

The second evaluation campaign of the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF) for European languages was held from January to September 2001. This campaign proved a great success, and showed an increase in participation of around 70% compared with CLEF 2000. It culminated in a two-day workshop in Darmstadt, Germany, 3–4 September, in conjunction with the 5th European Conference on Digital Libraries (ECDL 2001). On the first day of the workshop, the results of the CLEF 2001 evaluation campaign were reported and discussed in paper and poster sessions. The second day focused on the current needs of cross-language systems and how evaluation campaigns in the future can best be designed to stimulate progress. The workshop was attended by nearly 50 researchers and system developers from both academia and industry. It provided an important opportunity for researchers working in the same area to get together and exchange ideas and experiences. Copies of all the presentations are available on the CLEF web site at <http://www.clef-campaign.org>. This volume contains thoroughly revised and expanded versions of the papers presented at the workshop and provides an exhaustive record of the CLEF 2001 campaign.

CLEF 2001 was conducted as an activity of the DELOS Network of Excellence for Digital Libraries, funded by the EC Information Society Technologies program to further research in digital library technologies. The activity was organized in collaboration with the US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The support of DELOS and NIST in the running of the evaluation campaign is gratefully acknowledged. We would also like to thank the other members of the Workshop Steering Committee for their assistance in the organization of this event.

April 2002

Carol Peters
Martin Braschler
Julio Gonzalo
Michael Kluck

CLEF 2001 Workshop Steering Committee

Martin Braschler, Eurospider Information Technology AG, Switzerland
Julio Gonzalo Arroyo, UNED, Madrid, Spain
Donna Harman, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), USA
Djoerd Hiemstra, University of Twente, The Netherlands
Noriko Kando, National Institute of Informatics (NII), Japan
Michael Kluck, Informationszentrum Sozialwissenschaften (IZ), Bonn, Germany
Carol Peters, IEI-CNR, Pisa, Italy
Peter Schäuble, Eurospider Information Technology AG, Switzerland
Ellen Voorhees, National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), USA
Christa Womser-Hacker, University of Hildesheim, Germany