

## **Some Language Resource-related Activities in Japan**

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The following is a summary of activities which I am involved in. It is not a complete list of activities in Japan.

### **AFNLP/ALRC (Asian Federation of Natural Language Processing/Asian Language Resource Committee)**

The mission of AFNLP is to promote and enhance research and development in natural language processing in Asian region through information sharing, conference organization, and research and publication coordination. Asian Language Resource Committee is responsible to (1) coordinate the activities of resource building in the region, (2) interact with international initiatives of resource building and standardization activities, and (3) make recommendations to the AFNLP board to initiate Asian-wide cooperation of resource building and related research. Prof. Chu-Ren Huang and I are co-chairing the committee. We would like to serve as a contact to the activities in other regions. AFNLP/ALRC have already contributed to the last ISLE workshop by providing feedback to their proposal in terms of several Asian languages. We believe AFNLP/ALRC can make similar contributions to the EU's language resource initiatives to establish a genuine international standard.

### **GSK (Non profit organization for sharing Language Resources)**

The mission of GSK is to promote building and sharing of language resources (including texts, speech data and multimedia data) and NLP tools in the community of language-related research, education and industry. The organization was just founded in June 2003. At the moment, we focus on linguistic resources related to Japanese language, but we will enlarge the target in cooperation with AFNLP/ALRC.

### **COE21/Framework for Systematization and Application of Large-scale Knowledge Resources**

The Ministry of Education in Japan started the COE21 program last year in which they aim to build centers of excellence in various research fields at universities. The designated research site will be financially supported for 5 years by the Japanese government in order to start up a center for research and education in a specific field. Our research group applied to the program this year with the research topic "Framework for Systematization and Application of Large-scale Knowledge Resources" and it was accepted. The project involves about 20 professors from various fields such as language education, history, archaeology, cognitive science, computational linguistics, software engineering, speech processing and computer graphics. Therefore the research target is not limited to language resources but includes broad "knowledge". I would like to build a certain amount of annotated Japanese corpora and contribute to standardization of linguistic resources in cooperation with AFNLP/ALRC and EU initiatives. In addition, we are planning a student/researcher exchange program with foreign research sites.