

**LAP 04 – CALL FOR PAPERS**  
The 9th International Working Conference on the  
The Language-Action Perspective on Communication Modelling

Rutgers University  
New Jersey, U.S.A  
June 2 - 3, 2004

<http://www.scils.rutgers.edu/lap04/lap04.htm>

General chair: Mark Aakhus (Rutgers University)  
Program chairs: Mikael Lind (University College of Borås, Sweden), Mark Aakhus (Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA)

**Invited Speakers**

*Kalle Lyytinen,*  
Iris S. Wolstein Professor of Information Systems  
Weatherhead School of Management at Case Western Reserve University.

*Thomas Erickson*  
IBM T.J. Watson Research Center  
Social Computing Group.

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**The Challenge**

The challenges involved in creating and implementing effective information systems have intensified in recent years. Organizations and communities are increasingly turning to information systems to facilitate the interactions central to their purpose. These interactions include but are not limited to business transactions, negotiation, knowledge creation and dissemination, inter-organizational cooperation, argumentation, problem-solving, collaboration, learning, customer relations, and civic participation. How these interactions are understood and modelled is fundamental to the quality of the support that designed systems can offer organizations and communities.

**The Language-Action Perspective**

LAP – the Language-Action Perspective on Communication Modelling – is a theoretical orientation toward solving these design challenges that has been taken up by an international, multi-disciplinary community of researchers and practitioners. LAP emphasizes the importance of interaction and communication in designing useable, useful, and legitimate information systems. LAP recognizes that language is not only used for exchanging information, as in reports or statements, but that language is used to perform actions, as in promises, orders, requests, and declarations. Such actions are the foundation of communities and organizations and must be understood to create effective systems. This insight has

profound implications for the theory and practice of designing systems to support organizational and community processes.

Two theories of communication, which recognize language as a form of action, have traditionally formed the theoretical foundations of LAP: Searle's Theory of Speech Acts and Habermas' Theory of Communicative Action. Following Winograd and Flores' pioneering work on language-action in system design and implementation, a second wave of frameworks, models and systems emerged in the 90s. In the new century, the LAP community continues to provide an intellectual forum for those concerned with advancing the theory and practice of communication modelling to better understand the design and use of information systems.

So far, 8 successful gatherings of scholars and practitioners interested in the Language-Action Perspective (LAP) have been held in the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, Germany and Canada. Last year the traditional workshop format was changed to an international working conference to reflect the level of maturity the LAP field has achieved. Recent proceedings are available at:

- LAP '03 – <http://infolab.uvt.nl/grnsd/lap2003/>
- LAP '02 – <http://www-i5.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/conf/lap2001/LAP2002Proc.pdf>
- LAP '01 – <http://www-i5.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/conf/lap2001/programme.htm>
- LAP '00 – <http://www-i5.informatik.rwth-aachen.de/conf/lap2000/contents.pdf>
- LAP '99 – [http://www.ihh.hj.se/eng/vits/lap99/Proc\\_papers.htm](http://www.ihh.hj.se/eng/vits/lap99/Proc_papers.htm)
- LAP '98 – [http://www.ihh.hj.se/eng/vits/lap98/Proc\\_papers.htm](http://www.ihh.hj.se/eng/vits/lap98/Proc_papers.htm)

### **The Invitation**

We invite you to be part of this growing community by participating in the 9<sup>th</sup> annual working conference. We encourage submissions concerning all topics related to the Language-Action Perspective and communication modelling. We also encourage those whose research is related to LAP to submit their work. Communication modelling is highly relevant in many areas of practice including the health-care industry, telecommunications, business process design, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), environmental policy and conflict management, education, and government services. Those practicing in these areas are especially encouraged to participate and submit papers.

### **Potential Topics**

The following list exemplifies relevant LAP topics but submissions are not limited to these topics:

- |                                |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| - E-Commerce                   | - Theoretical underpinnings of LAP    |
| - Health Informatics           | - Comparing LAP with other approaches |
| - Community Informatics        | - Language Pragmatics & Modelling     |
| - Political Participation      | - Conversation Analysis in Design     |
| - Knowledge Management         | - Systems architectures               |
| - Community Journalism         | - Enterprise Application Integration  |
| - Communication diagnosis      | - Intelligent agents                  |
| - Organisational Semiotics     | - Document Management                 |
| - Distributed Teams & Teamwork | - Argument Mapping                    |
| - Formal aspects of modelling  | - Decision Support                    |
| - Methods of Model Validation  | - Process Modelling                   |

- Context Modelling
- Computer-Supported Cooperative Work
- Negotiation Support
- Practical experiences with LAP
- Reassessment of LAP
- Democratization potential of ICT

### **Important Dates**

- Submission of regular papers            1 March 2004
- Submission of short papers            10 March 2004
- Notification of acceptance            20 April 2004
- Submission of final version            10 May 2004
- Conference            2-3 June 2004

### **A Related Conference**

LAP 04 will coincide with the International Communication Association's ([www.icahdq.org](http://www.icahdq.org)) annual conference "Communication in the Public Interest." The ICA conference will be of special interest to those involved in LAP theory and research. The ICA's call for papers and registration is located at: (<http://www.icahdq.org/>).

### **Submission Process LAP 04**

Full research papers should describe innovative and original research in any of the above or related topics. Submissions are limited to 15 pages, single-spaced. Due March 1, 2004.

Short papers should address academic or industrial approaches, including work in progress, related to the conference theme. Submissions are limited to 5 pages, single-spaced. Due March 10, 2004.

Submissions should be sent electronically in RTF or PDF format to [Mikael.Lind@hb.se](mailto:Mikael.Lind@hb.se). Document templates are provided on the LAP 04 website.

Enquiries can be addressed to Mikael Lind ([Mikael.Lind@hb.se](mailto:Mikael.Lind@hb.se)) or Mark Aakhus ([aakhus@scils.rutgers.edu](mailto:aakhus@scils.rutgers.edu))

Contributions to LAP receive blind, peer-review by members of the LAP Program Committee. The committee uses the following criteria to assess the merit of contribution: Originality, Scientific Contribution, Technical Quality, Links to existing/ related knowledge, Readability, Quality as Survey, Conclusions/Lessons Learned, Relevance to LAP2004, and Overall Judgment including any positive and negative points about the contribution made by the reviewer(s). The choice to include any contribution in the working conference and proceedings is made by the program chairs based on the program committee members' assessment. Please review the call for papers and the criteria above when preparing the contribution.

### **Program Committee LAP 04**

Aldo de Moor - The Netherlands  
Carla Simone - Italy  
Carson Woo – Canada  
Dov Te'eni - Israel  
Erik Proper - The Netherlands

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Goran Goldkuhl - Sweden  
Hans Weigand - The Netherlands  
Heinz Klein - USA  
James Taylor - Canada  
Jan Dietz - The Netherlands  
Jan Ljungberg - Sweden  
Jens Allwood - Sweden  
Joaquim Filipe – Portugal  
Kalle Lyytinen – USA  
Mareike Schoop - Germany  
Mark Aakhus – USA  
Mikael Lind - Sweden  
Peter Boegh Andersen - Denmark  
Pär Ågerfalk – Ireland  
Ronald Stamper – UK  
Steven Kimbrough - USA  
Victor van Reijswoud - Uganda  
Wolfgang Prinz - Germany  
Yao-Hua Tan - The Netherlands