

Workshop on Literature in Cognition and Computers

26 July, 2006, 1:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Keywords: Literature, text, aesthetics, rhetoric, metaphor

Introduction

The Workshop on Literature in Cognition and Computers is a workshop intended as a forum for the exchange of activity reports among cognitive science researchers interested in literature, aesthetics, and arts. The goal of the workshop is to gather research experiences from various disciplines for discussion, as well as to focus on opening up an interesting future for literature and cognitive science research. As literature represents one of the ultimate products of high-order cognitive processes, studies of literature can reveal ultimate aspects of human thought, values, evaluations and affective processes.

Aims and Scope

Topics at the workshop will include:

- Literature theories and cognitive science
- Computational approaches to literary text
- Appreciation and creation of literary text
- Cognitive aesthetics
- Hyper-media
- Other types of artistic media (including film, music, fine arts) and cognitive science

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Program

Session 1: Approaches to Literature [position papers]

Iwagaki, M. Figurative Techniques for Metamorphosing Stories into Literary Works: As we use computers to create stories and wish to metamorphose them into literary works, figurative forms of expression can be very advantageous.

Utsumi, A. (*Uni. of Electro-Communications*) Poetic Appreciation of Metaphor and Simile: This paper presents an empirical study of whether metaphors and similes differ in poetic appreciation and what causes such differences.

Kanai, A. (*Hosei Uni.*) Rhetoric, Non-Story, and Transition: The reality effects of narrative are caused by the interaction between cognitive process and story and non-story rhetorical aspects. In this paper, we discuss the transition in cognitive process caused by non-story aspects of rhetoric.

Tokaji, A. (*Hiroshima Uni.*) Mechanisms of evoking "kandoh" responses: Our recent studies have focused on emotional responses called "kandoh" (state of being profoundly-moved emotionally) in Japanese. These

responses can be regarded as high-order cognitive responses and are very unique among emotions. When kandoh is evoked, people often change their cognitive frameworks, thoughts, and attitudes. Our research is seeking to elucidate the mechanisms that evoke kandoh and their various influences.

Yoshimine, N. (*Shonan International Women's College*) Reconstruction of Fictional Worlds and the Role of Inferences: The cognitive mechanisms of fiction understanding enable the reader to construct a consistent situational model of the story world. As the text provides no explicit instructions concerning the inferential rules for establishing situations, the reader must make inferences by utilizing both various textual clues and their existing knowledge-base. Various types of reader inferential strategies are illustrated by simulation experiments implemented with a semantic network processing system (SNePS).

Session 2: Research Papers [submitted papers]
Refereed research papers will be presented here.

Session 3: Literature and Vancouver

Vancouver has produced a treasure trove of literary authors, including William Gibson (*Neuromancer*) and Douglas Coupland (*Generation X*). We will take a cognitive look at this thrilling tradition, with the help of literary scholars.

Participation and Registration

CogSci 2006 participants will be welcome and invited to join the workshop. To participate in the workshop, please first register with CogSci 2006.

Proceedings

The workshop will publish proceedings separately from the CogSci2006. Registered participants of the workshop can receive the proceedings at the workshop site.

Literary Walk

After the workshop, the participants will be able to take part in a literary walk, in which we will visit several locations with connections to literary works or literary authors.

Contact and Web Site

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Organizing and Program Committee

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