

UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA

DEPARTMENT OF  
INFORMATION  
ENGINEERING

UNIVERSITY OF PADOVA



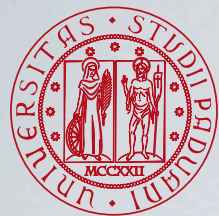
# CLEF 2011: Evaluation Labs, Conference, and Initiative

**Nicola Ferro and Hideo Joho**

University of Padua, Italy and The University of Tsukuba, Japan

The Fourth International Workshop on Evaluating Information Access (EVIA 2011)  
National Institute of Informatics (NII), Tokyo, Japan, 6 December 2011





# Outline

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- CLEF 2010 and CLEF 2011 towards CLEF 2012
- The CLEF Initiative



# CLEF 2010



- What and how innovate
- Change in the coordination
- Funding





**CLEF 2010** as a **bridge**  
to the future

The **community** is the  
key to **success**

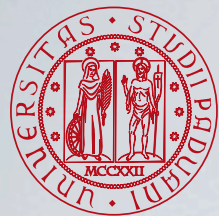




# Approach







## Conference

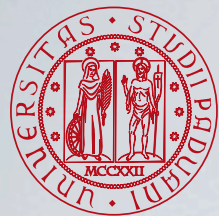
- Two days
- Large program committee
- Keynote talks and panels
- Publication in Springer LNCS
  - no more LNCS post-proceedings of the CLEF working notes



## Labs

- Two days (more space than in CLEF classic)
- Lab selection committee
- Online publication (with ISBN) in time for the conference
- Lab organizers are responsible for individual outcomes for post-conference publication (special issues, ...)

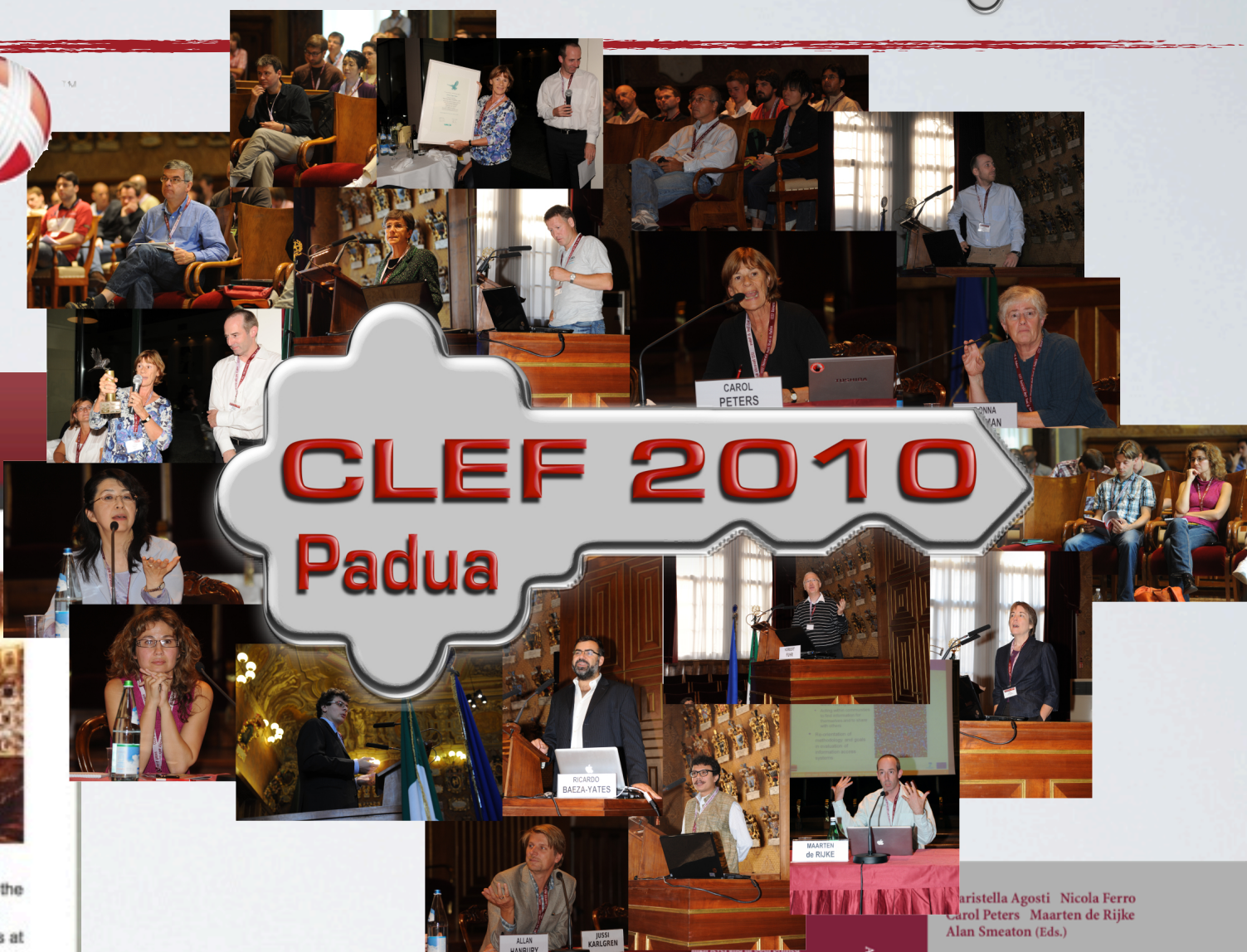




# CLEF 2010: 20-23 September 2010 in Padua



Over 140 attendees and external sponsors



Conference on Multilingual and Multimodal Information Access Evaluation  
20-23 September 2010, Padua.

**Menu**

- Home
- Registration and Accommodation
- General Information
- Program and Slides
  - Programme Overview
  - Keynote Talks
  - Accepted Papers
  - Panels
  - Labs and Workshops
  - Social Events
- Photo Album And Video
- Organizers
  - Program Committee
  - Lab Selection Committee
- Important dates
- Call for Papers
- Labs
  - Call for Participation
  - Call for Lab proposals - closed
  - Notebook papers
- Venue and Travel
- Contact us
- Sponsors

**Home**

The CLEF 2010 conference is the continuation of the popular CLEF campaigns and workshops that have run for the past ten years (2000-2009). CLEF 2010 covered a broad range of issues from the fields of multilingual and multimodal information access evaluation.

CLEF 2010 consisted of two parts, of two days each. One part was devoted to presentations of papers on all aspects of the evaluation of information access systems.

The other two-day part of CLEF 2010 was devoted to a series of "labs". Two different forms of labs were offered: labs could either be run "campaign-style" during the twelve month period preceding the conference, or adopt a more "workshop"-style format that can explore issues of information access evaluation and related fields. The labs culminated in sessions of a half-day, one full day or two days at the CLEF 2010 conference.

CLEF 2010 took place in Padua, Italy, 20-23 September 2010.

[Download Flyer](#)

Under the patronage of

University of Padua, Faculty of Statistical Sciences, and Department of Information Engineering

Copyright 2009-2010 | [Data](#)

CLEF 2010 Conference on Multilingual and Multimodal Information Access Evaluation

Caristella Agosti Nicola Ferro  
Carol Peters Maarten de Rijke  
Alan Smeaton (Eds.)

## Multilingual and Multimodal Information Access Evaluation

International Conference of the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum, CLEF 2010 Padua, Italy, September 2010, Proceedings

Agosti et al. (Eds.)

LNC3 6360

LNC3 6360

Multilingual and Multimodal Information Access Evaluation

ISSN 0302-9743

ISBN 978-3-642-15974-7

[Lecture Notes in Computer Science](#)

LNC3 LNAI LNCS

More recently, several color-cover sublines have been added featuring, beyond a collection of papers, various added-value components; these sublines include:

- tutorials (textbook-like monographs or collections of lectures given at advanced courses)
- state-of-the-art surveys (offering complete and mediated coverage of a topic)
- hot topics (introducing emergent topics to the broader community)

In parallel to the printed book, each new volume is published electronically in LNC3 Online.

Detailed information on LNC3 can be found at [www.springer.com/lnc3](http://www.springer.com/lnc3)




Proposals for publication should be sent to LNC3 Editorial, Tiergartenstr. 17, 69121 Heidelberg, Germany E-mail: [lnc3@springer.com](mailto:lnc3@springer.com)



- Honorary Chair
  - Carol Peters, ISTI-CNR, Italy
- General Chairs
  - Maristella Agosti, University of Padua, Italy
  - Maarten de Rijke, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Program Chairs
  - Nicola Ferro, University of Padua, Italy
  - Alan Smeaton, Dublin City University, Ireland
- Lab Chairs
  - Martin Braschler, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland
  - Donna Harman, NIST, USA

- 12 papers (8 full papers and 4 short papers)
  - out of 21 submissions (17 full papers and 4 short papers)
- Two keynote talks
  - Norbert Fuhr, “IR Between Science and Engineering, and the Role of Experimentation”
  - Ricardo Baeza-Yates, “Retrieval Evaluation in Practice”
- Other Evaluation Initiatives
  - Ellen Voorhees for TREC; Noriko Kando for NTCIR; Prasenjit Majumder for FIRE; Jaap Kamps for INEX; Pavel Braslavski for ROMIP
- Two panels
  - Donna Harman, Noriko Kando, Mounia Lalmas, Carol Peters, “The Four Ladies of Experimental Evaluation”
  - “A PROMISE for Experimental Evaluation” by the partners of the project

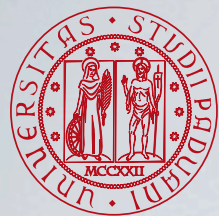


- Benchmarking activities
  - **CLEF-IP**: a benchmarking activity on intellectual property
  - **ImageCLEF**: a benchmarking activity on image retrieval
  -  **PAN**: a benchmarking activity on plagiarism detection
  - **RespubliQA**: A benchmarking activity on question answering using multilingual political data
  -  **WePS**: A benchmarking activity on web people search
- Workshops
  -  **CriES**: a workshop aimed at exploring the evaluation of searching for expertise in social media
  - **LogCLEF**: a workshop aimed at exploring methodologies for studying search engine log files

# CLEF 2011







# CLEF 2011 Approach: Interleaved Sessions



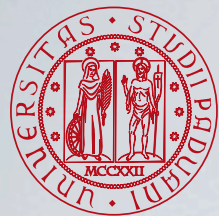
Conference  
Conference  
Conference  
Conference



Community  
Community

Labs/Workshops  
Labs/Workshops  
Labs/Workshops  
Labs/Workshops





# CLEF 2011: 19-22 September 2011 in Amsterdam



Over 170 attendees and external sponsors





**CLEF 2011**  
Conference on Multilingual and Multimodal Information Access Evaluation  
19-22 September 2011, Amsterdam



Home Conference Labs Program Schedule Venue General Info Registration Sponsors Contact us

**Home**

Since 2000 the Cross-Language Evaluation Forum (CLEF) has played a leading role in stimulating investigation and research in a wide range of key areas in the information retrieval domain, becoming well-known in the international IR community. It also promoted the study and implementation of appropriate evaluation methodologies for these diverse types of tasks and media. As a result a wide, strong, and multidisciplinary research community has been built, which covers and spans the different areas of expertise needed to deal with the spread of CLEF tracks and tasks. The results had traditionally been presented and discussed at annual workshops in conjunction with the European Conference for Digital Libraries.

CLEF 2010 represented a radical innovation of the traditional "classic CLEF" format whose main aim was trying to understand how to innovate CLEF while still preserving its traditional core business, namely the benchmarking activities carried out in the various tracks and tasks. CLEF 2010 was thus organised as an independent four-day event consisting of two main parts: a peer-reviewed conference followed by a series of laboratories and workshops. CLEF 2010 was hosted by University of Padua, Italy and was partially supported by the PROMISE project.

PROMISE is an EU FP7 Network of Excellence which aims at advancing the experimental evaluation of complex multimedia and multilingual information systems.

Following the success of the CLEF 2010 new model, CLEF 2011 will be organized in a similar way consisting of an independent conference on a broad range of issues in the fields of multilingual and multimodal information access evaluation, and a set of labs and workshops designed to test different aspects of mono and cross-language information retrieval systems. Together, the conference and the lab series will maintain and expand upon the traditional CLEF Track philosophy.

For the registration to the Labs click [here](#)

CLEF 2011 will be hosted by the University of Amsterdam The Netherlands, 19-22 September 2011.

**Program**

- Keynote Talks
- Accepted Papers
- Labs
- CHIC - Workshop
- Community Sessions

**News**

**Registration**

The registration desk will be open throughout the conference, on the first floor of Casa 400. Additional opening hours are:

- Sunday 18 September, from 17:00 to 19:00
- Monday 19 September, from 08:00 onwards

**Fee waivers**

CLEF 2011 receives last-minute sponsorship for student registration fee waivers. Apply (with motivation + proof of stud. status) at [clef2011\[at\]list.uva.nl](mailto:clef2011[at]list.uva.nl)

**Schedule Change**

The notifications of acceptance







- General chairs
  - Julio Gonzalo, National Distance Education University (UNED), Spain
  - Maarten de Rijke, University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands
- Program chairs
  - Jaana Kekäläinen, University of Tampere, Finland
  - Mounia Lalmas, Yahoo! Research Barcelona, Spain
- Lab chairs
  - Paul Clough, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom
  - Vivien Petras, Humboldt University, Germany

- 14 papers (10 full papers and 4 short papers)
  - out of 23 submissions (19 full papers and 4 short papers)
- Two keynote talks
  - Elaine Toms , “Would you trust your IR system to choose your date? Re-thinking IR Evaluation in the 21st Century”
  - Omar Alonso, “Crowdsourcing for Information Retrieval Experimentation and Evaluation”
- Community Sessions
  - **Other Evaluation Initiatives:** Ellen Voorhees for TREC; Hideo Joho for NTCIR; Jaap Kamps for INEX; Gareth Jones for MediaEval
  - **CHORUS+ Session:** Information Retrieval from Scientific Multimedia Data
  - **Infrastructure Session:** the Promise evaluation infrastructure, where Visual Analytics meets Information Retrieval
  - **Funding Opportunity Session:** Intelligent Information Management - FP7 ICT Workprogramme 2011 - 2012, Strategic Objective 4.4. - General information and conditions of Call 8

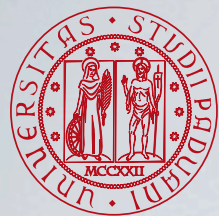


- Benchmarking activities
  - **CLEF-IP**: a benchmarking activity on intellectual property
  - **ImageCLEF**: a benchmarking activity on image retrieval
  - **LogCLEF**: a benchmarking activity on Multilingual Log File Analysis: Language identification, query classification, success of a query
  - **PAN**: a benchmarking activity on plagiarism detection
  - **QA4MRE**: a benchmarking activity on the evaluation of Machine Reading systems through Question Answering and Reading Comprehension Test
- Workshops/Pilots
  -  **CHiC**: a workshop aimed at moving towards a systematic and large-scale evaluation of cultural heritage digital libraries and information access systems and helping to shape a possible roadmap for it
  -  **MusicCLEF**: a pilot benchmarking activity on the evaluation of music search engines that are based both on audio content and on multilingual textual descriptions

# CLEF 2012







# CLEF 2012: 17-20 September 2012, Rome





## CLEF 2012 Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum

*Information Access Evaluation meets Multilinguality, Multimodality, and Visual Analytics*

**17-20 September 2012, Rome, Italy**

### Home

- Conference
- Labs
- Call for Lab Proposals
- Schedule
- Organizers
- Sponsors
- Contacts

### CLEF Initiative

- CLEF 2011
- CLEF 2010
- About

### Welcome

CLEF 2012 is the third CLEF conference continuing the popular CLEF campaigns which have run since 2000 contributing to the systematic evaluation of information access systems, primarily through experimentation on shared tasks.

Building on the format first introduced in 2010, CLEF 2012 consists of an independent peer-reviewed conference on a broad range of issues in the fields of multilingual and multimodal information access evaluation, and a set of labs and workshops designed to test different aspects of mono and cross-language information retrieval systems. Together, the conference and the lab series will maintain and expand upon the CLEF tradition of community-based evaluation and discussion on evaluation issues.

CLEF 2012 is an activity of the **PROMISE Network of Excellence**.

CLEF 2012 will be hosted by the University "La Sapienza" in Rome, Italy, 17-20 September 2012



### News

30 November 2011  
**Notification of Labs acceptance**

20 November 2011  
**Lab proposal deadline**

28 October 2011  
**Call for Lab Proposals**

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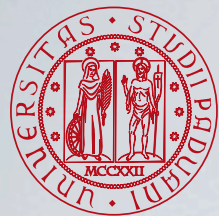
CLEF 2012 Conference on Multilingual and Multimodal Information Access Evaluation is an activity of the **PROMISE Network of Excellence**





- General chairs
  - Tiziana Catarci, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
  - Djoerd Hiemstra, University of Twente, The Netherlands
- Program chairs
  - Anselmo Peñas, National Distance Learning University, Spain
  - Giuseppe Santucci, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy
- Lab chairs
  - Jussi Karlgren, Swedish Institute of Computer Science, Sweden
  - Christa Womser-Hacker, University of Hildesheim, Germany





# CLEF 2012 Conference



- **Call for Papers** coming out soon, **mid December 2011**. Don't miss it!!!
- Paper **submission deadline** around **late April 2012**

## Benchmarking activities



**CHiC**: a last-year workshop turning into a benchmarking activity for the cultural heritage domain based on Europeana collections



**CLEF-IP**: a benchmarking activity on intellectual property



**ImageCLEF**: a benchmarking activity on image retrieval



**INEX**: the well-known Initiative for Evaluation of XML retrieval joins efforts with CLEF to target new synergies between multilingual, multimodal and semi-structured information access



**PAN**: a benchmarking activity on plagiarism detection



**QA4MRE**: a benchmarking activity on the evaluation of Machine Reading systems through Question Answering and Reading Comprehension Test



**RepLab**: a benchmarking activity on microblog data for online reputation management

## Workshops



**eHealth**: a workshop on new evaluation issues in the health domain, related to the Louhi series of workshops on NLP in Health Informatics



## Benchmarking activities



**CHiC:** a last-year workshop turning into a benchmarking activity for the cultural heritage domain based on Europeana collections



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**RepLab:** a benchmarking activity on product data for online reputation management

## Workshops



**eHealth:** a workshop on new evaluation issues in the health domain, related to the Lough series of workshops on NLP in Health Informatics

**12 proposals submitted**  
**(10 labs + 2 workshops)**  
**8 proposals accepted, 4 new**  
**(7 labs + 1 workshop)**



# The CLEF Initiative





# The CLEF Initiative: Mission

**The CLEF Initiative is a self-organized body whose main mission is to promote research, innovation, and development of information access systems with an emphasis on multilingual and multimodal information with various levels of structure.**

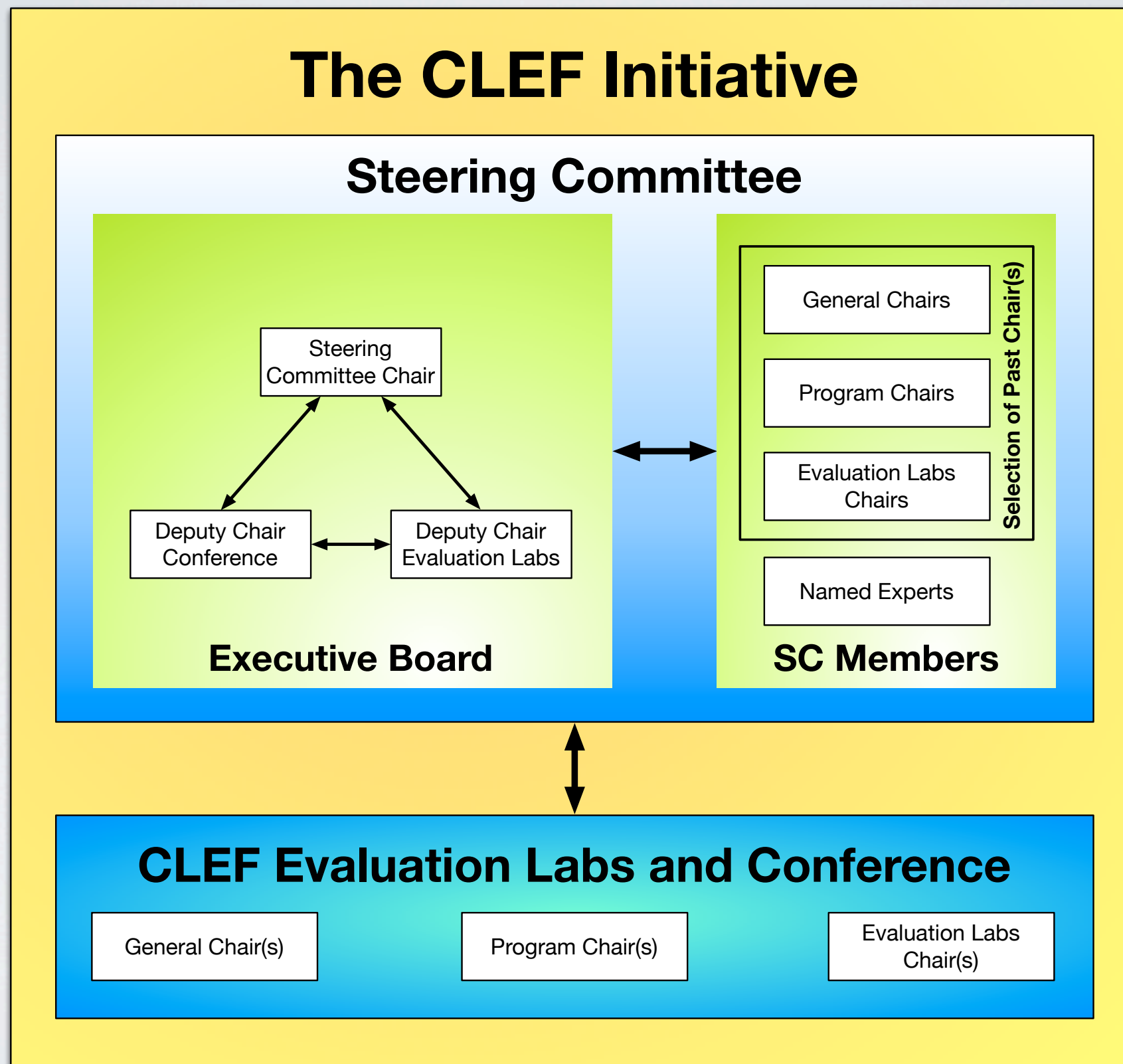
- multilingual and multimodal system testing, tuning and evaluation;
- investigation of the use of unstructured, semi-structured, highly-structured, and semantically enriched data in information access;
- creation of reusable test collections for benchmarking;
- exploration of new evaluation methodologies and innovative ways of using experimental data;
- discussion of results, comparison of approaches, exchange of ideas, and transfer of knowledge.



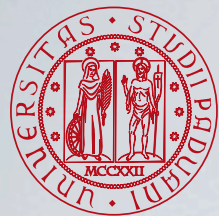
The CLEF Initiative is structured in two main parts:

- a series of **Evaluation Labs**, i.e. laboratories to conduct evaluation of information access systems and workshops to discuss and pilot innovative evaluation activities;
- a **peer-reviewed Conference** on a broad range of issues, including
  - investigation continuing the activities of the Evaluation Labs;
  - experiments using multilingual and multimodal data; in particular, but not only, data resulting from CLEF activities;
  - research in evaluation methodologies and challenges.







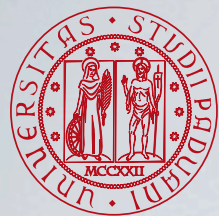


# The CLEF Initiative: Steering Committee



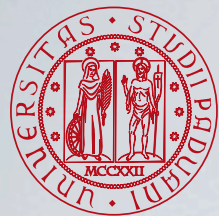
- Steering Committee Chair
  - **Nicola Ferro**, University of Padua, Italy
- Deputy Steering Committee Chair for the Conference
  - **Julio Gonzalo**, National Distance Education University (UNED), Spain
- Deputy Steering Committee Chair for the Evaluation Labs
  - **Carol Peters**, ISTI, National Council of Research (CNR), Italy
- Members
  - **Martin Braschler**, Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland
  - **Khalid Choukri**, Evaluations and Language resources Distribution Agency (ELDA), France
  - **Paul Clough**, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom
  - **Donna Harman**, National Institute for Standards and Technology (NIST), USA
  - **Jaana Kekäläinen**, University of Tampere, Finland
  - **Emanuele Pianta**, Centre for the Evaluation of Language and Communication Technologies (CELCT), Italy
  - **Maarten de Rijke**, University of Amsterdam UvA, The Netherlands
  - **Alan Smeaton**, Dublin City University, Ireland





# Cross-Language Evaluation Forum

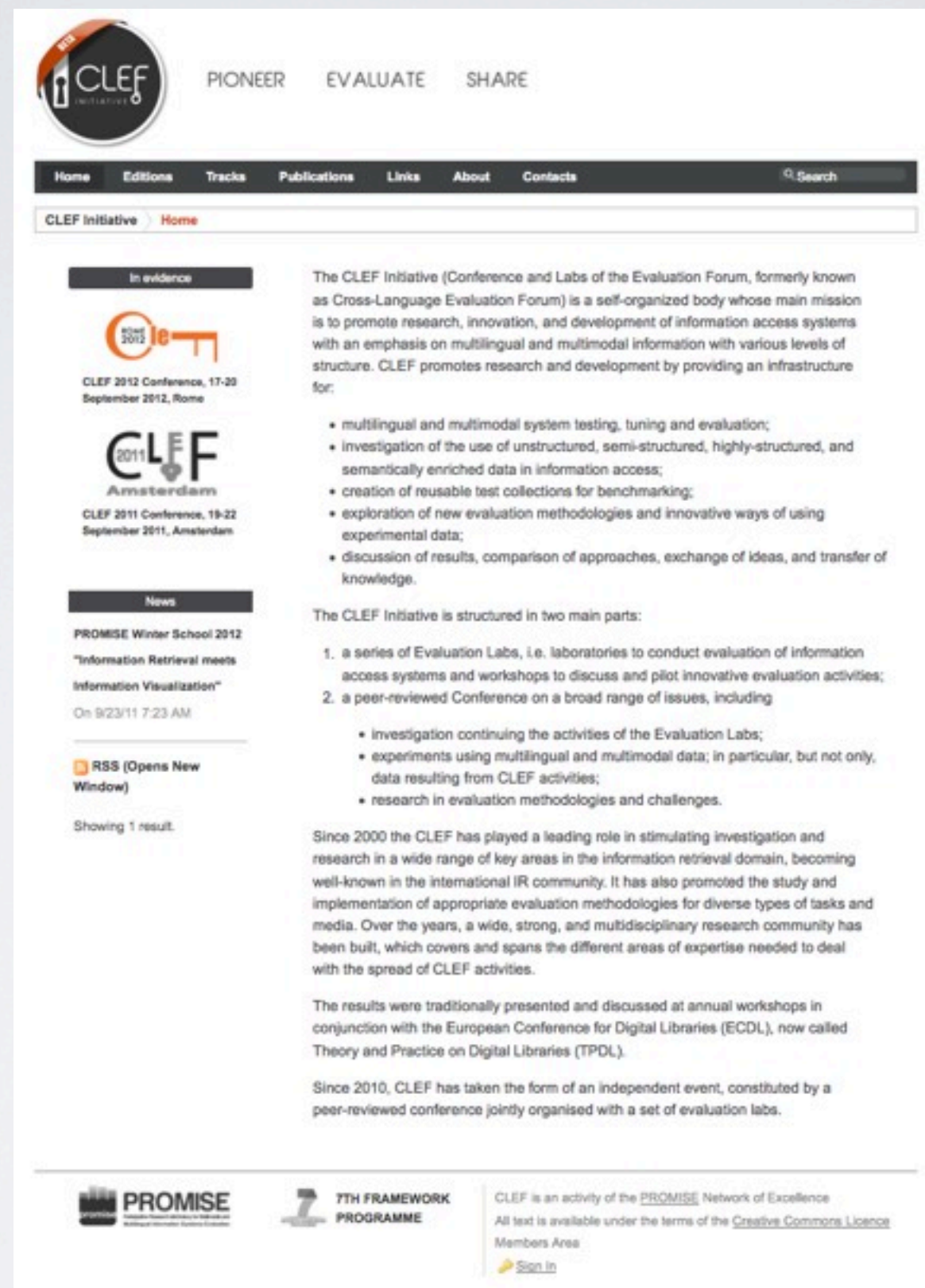




# Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum



# The CLEF Initiative: a New Website is coming



The screenshot shows the CLEF Initiative website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the CLEF logo and the words "PIONEER", "EVALUATE", and "SHARE". Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links: "Home", "Editions", "Tracks", "Publications", "Links", "About", "Contacts", and a search bar. A breadcrumb trail shows "CLEF initiative" > "Home".

The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column has a section titled "In evidence" featuring two conference announcements:
 

- CLEF 2012 Conference**, 17-20 September 2012, Rome. It includes a logo with a key and the text "Now 2012".
- CLEF 2011 Conference**, 19-22 September 2011, Amsterdam. It includes a logo with the text "2011 Amsterdam".

 Below this is a "News" section with a headline: "PROMISE Winter School 2012 'Information Retrieval meets Information Visualization'" dated "On 9/23/11 7:23 AM". There is an RSS feed link and a note "Showing 1 result."

The right column contains a detailed description of the CLEF Initiative:
 

The CLEF Initiative (Conference and Labs of the Evaluation Forum, formerly known as Cross-Language Evaluation Forum) is a self-organized body whose main mission is to promote research, innovation, and development of information access systems with an emphasis on multilingual and multimodal information with various levels of structure. CLEF promotes research and development by providing an infrastructure for:

- multilingual and multimodal system testing, tuning and evaluation;
- investigation of the use of unstructured, semi-structured, highly-structured, and semantically enriched data in information access;
- creation of reusable test collections for benchmarking;
- exploration of new evaluation methodologies and innovative ways of using experimental data;
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Since 2000 the CLEF has played a leading role in stimulating investigation and research in a wide range of key areas in the information retrieval domain, becoming well-known in the international IR community. It has also promoted the study and implementation of appropriate evaluation methodologies for diverse types of tasks and media. Over the years, a wide, strong, and multidisciplinary research community has been built, which covers and spans the different areas of expertise needed to deal with the spread of CLEF activities.

The results were traditionally presented and discussed at annual workshops in conjunction with the European Conference for Digital Libraries (ECDL), now called Theory and Practice on Digital Libraries (TPDL).

Since 2010, CLEF has taken the form of an independent event, constituted by a peer-reviewed conference jointly organised with a set of evaluation labs.



# CLEF 2013 and beyond

## Open **Bid for CLEF 2013**

CLEF 2011

- September 2011, now!

Deadline for Bid Submission

- End February 2012

CLEF 2013 Announcement

- September 2012, at CLEF 2012

Bid for CLEF 2013

- December 2011

Bid Acceptance Notification

- April 2012

All **information available** on the new Website (soon)

CLEF is the **community**: take CLEF at your home!





# Thank You



<http://www.clef-campaign.org/>