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Medical Information Retrieval Workshop at SIGIR 2014

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Preface

Medical information is accessible from diverse sources including the general web, social media, journal articles, and hospital records; users include patients and their families, researchers, practitioners and clinicians. Challenges in medical information retrieval include: diversity of users and user ability; variations in the format, reliability, and quality of biomedical and medical information; the multimedia nature of data; and the need for accuracy and reliability. The objective of the Medical Information Retrieval workshop is to provide a forum to enable the progression of research in medical information retrieval to provide enhanced search services for all users with interests in medical information search. The workshop aims to bring together researchers interested in medical information search with the goal of identifying specific research challenges that need to be addressed to advance the state-of-the-art and to foster interdisciplinary collaborations towards the meeting of these challenges. To enable this, we encouraged participation from researchers in all fields related to medical information search including mainstream information retrieval, but also natural language processing, multilingual text processing, and medical image analysis.

The organizers would like to thank Dr Karin Verspoor (University of Melbourne, Australia) for giving a keynote talk at the workshop, paper authors for their invaluable contribution, the members of the program committee for their help in the reviewing process, and SIGIR for hosting the event.

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July 2014

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