Foreword

This report constitutes the proceedings of the ninth Text REtrieval Conference (TREC-9) held in Gaithersburg, Maryland, November 13–16, 2000. The conference was co-sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), and the Advanced Research and Development Agency (ARDA). Approximately 175 people attended the conference, including representatives from seventeen different countries. The conference was the ninth in an on-going series of workshops to evaluate new technologies for text retrieval and related information-seeking tasks. Sixty-nine groups submitted retrieval results to one or more of the workshop's tracks.

The workshop included plenary sessions, discussion groups, a poster session, and demonstrations. Because the participants in the workshop drew on their personal experiences, they sometimes cited specific vendors and commercial products. The inclusion or omission of a particular company or product implies neither endorsement nor criticism by NIST. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in the individual papers are the authors' own and do not necessarily relect those of the sponsors.

The sponsorship of the U.S. Department of Defense is gratefully acknowledged, as is the tremendous work of the program committee and the track coordinators.

Ellen Voorhees,
Donna Harman
August 29, 2001

TREC-9 Program Committee

Ellen Voorhees, NIST, chair
James Allan, University of Massachusetts at Amherst
Nick Belkin, Rutgers University
Chris Buckley, Sabir Research, Inc.
Jamie Callan, Carnegie Mellon University
Susan Dumais, Microsoft
Donna Harman, NIST
David Hawking, CSIRO
Bill Hersh, Oregon Health Sciences Institute
Darryl Howard, U.S. Department of Defense
David Hull, WhizzBang Labs
John Prange, U.S. Department of Defense
Steve Robertson, Microsoft
Amit Singhal, AT&T Labs–Research
Karen Sparck Jones, University of Cambridge, UK
Tomek Strzalkowski, State University of New York, Albany
Ross Wilkinson, CSIRO