

**Presenting Terminology and Knowledge  
Engineering Resources Online:  
Models and Challenges**

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Ireland.  
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## Foreword

Fiontar, Dublin City University is delighted to host the TKE (Terminology and Knowledge Engineering) Conference 2010.

Fiontar has been involved in providing terminology resources for Irish since its establishment in 1993, and the school now conducts its teaching and research in a range of disciplines: business, management, communications, information technology and sociolinguistics. At the time of its foundation, no other university was offering courses in finance, computing and enterprise through the medium of Irish, and there were large deficits in terminology provision. Fiontar has, therefore, always had a terminologist on its staff.

Seventeen years later, Fiontar is conducting cutting edge research in developing electronic resources for the Irish language, especially in terminology and placenames. Its research projects are rooted in the use of digital resources such as databases, Internet tools and corpora, to provide terminological and placename materials to researchers and to the global Irish-speaking community. The resources are developed by a team of researchers in collaboration with Irish State agencies and EU institutions with national and European funding.

‘Focal’, in Irish, means ‘word’, and is pronounced [fɔkəl]. Focal.ie, the national terminology database, was developed by Fiontar, using software developed in-house. The editorial team input, checked and amended all available material, and terminology has been added continuously since then, as it is developed and approved by the National Terminology Committee (Foras na Gaeilge), the statutory body responsible for terminology development in the Irish language. There are over 300,000 terms in focal.ie, and about 750,000 searches were performed per month on the site in early 2010.

Other terminology projects in Fiontar include research into a new dictionary of sport; the digitisation and extraction of terms from statutory instruments; and the development of terms for the IATE

database, in cooperation with and validated by the EU institutions and the Terminology Committee in Ireland. There are 100,000 placenames as well as sound recordings and images in Focal's sister site, Logainm.ie, and a database of 1,700 Irish-language biographies is under development at Ainm.ie.

Fiontar currently has a team of thirteen staff working on language projects, including a project manager, terminologist, technical manager, editorial manager, and a team of about 9 editorial assistants.

Given the central role Focal plays in supporting users of the Irish language, the theme of *Presenting terminology and knowledge engineering resources online: models and challenges* is an important one to Fiontar. We hope that the exchange of ideas at this conference (and, later, through the Proceedings) will lead to new debates (and, perhaps, new partnerships) in this exciting area.

Úna Bhreathnach  
Fionnuala de Barra Cusack  
Dublin, August 2010

## GTW - the Association for Terminology and Knowledge Transfer

The Association for Terminology and Knowledge Transfer is co-organizer of the conference series TKE – International Conference of Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, and we present here a brief overview of the history of the association and its activities.

GTW was founded in Trier in 1986 with the German name *Gesellschaft für Terminologie und Wissenstransfer*, hence the abbreviation GTW which is commonly used also by English speakers. It is an international forum for the promotion of knowledge and technology transfer by means of research and development with regard to technological procedures for special language communication on the basis of terminological procedures and data. As such it was a part of the *Global Group* of Terminology Organisations.

Particular attention is paid to the computer-specific representation, maintenance and adaptation of information and knowledge. The task of the Association for Terminology and Knowledge Transfer includes the organization or co-organization of symposia, congresses and workshops, among them TKE.

Up until around 2000, the association was involved in many other activities, concentrated on programme and working groups. The programme groups discussed the scientific position of the Association with regard to long-term objectives, whereas the working groups implemented clearly defined projects within a certain time limit. 5 programme groups and 13 working groups were established which did not operate all at the same time.

The 5 programme groups were:

- Terminology, knowledge theory, knowledge engineering
- Terminology of knowledge engineering

- Harmonization and standardization
- Forecasts on knowledge engineering
- Impact of the development of knowledge engineering on working conditions and society

The following working groups were active in the period:

- Conception of terminological knowledge banks
- Planning and construction of terminological data banks (TDB)
- Computer-aided terminology work by experts
- Interfaces between TDBs and other computer as well as communication systems
- Man-machine interaction with TDBs
- Professional profile of terminologists and knowledge engineers
- Training for a profession linking computer science and design and application of knowledge systems
- Expert workstations in the natural language field
- Terminology documentation in translation
- Terminology documentation in interpretation services
- Criteria for the evaluation of terminology management systems
- Terminology relevant information in the world wide web
- Working procedures in terminography

In 2005, GTW was reorganized and moved to Copenhagen. The members of the association are active in many other contexts, and therefore, in recent years, the only activity of the association is the organization of the International Conferences of Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, and the general assembly of the association is held during the conference. This should not discourage members or potential members from proposing and actively taking part in other types of activity.

### **TKE conferences**

The international TKE conferences are held in Europe, co-organized by the Association for Terminology and Knowledge Transfer and the local

university hosting the conference. Usually a special theme for the conference is chosen and proceedings are published. 100 - 350 scientists, developers and users from the fields of terminology, computer science, documentation, computer linguistics and related subjects participate in each of these congresses, presenting research results, ongoing research and experience from practical work.

- TKE'87: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Trier, Germany.
- TKE'90: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Trier, Germany.
- TKE'93: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Cologne, Germany.
- TKE'96: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Vienna, Austria.
- TKE'99: On the way to Multilingual Information Markets, Innsbruck, Austria.
- TKE 2002: Computational Terminology for Information Accessibility and Organization, Nancy, France.
- TKE 2005: Terminology and Content Development, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark.
- TKE 2008: Managing Ontologies and Lexical Resources, Copenhagen Business School, Denmark.
- TKE 2010: Presenting terminology and knowledge engineering resources online: models and challenges, Dublin City University, Ireland

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## Proceedings from earlier conferences

Czap, Hans & Christian Galinski. (eds.) (1987): *TKE'87: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Proceedings of the First International Congress, 29 September - 1 October 1987, Trier*. Frankfurt: Indeks-Verlag, Vol. I, 435 p.

Czap, Hans & Wolfgang Nedobity (eds.) (1990): *TKE'90: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Proceedings of the Second International Congress, 2-4 October 1990, Trier*. Frankfurt: Indeks-Verlag, Vol. I, 362 p.

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Schmitz, Klaus-Dirk (ed.) (1993): *TKE'93: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Proceedings of the Third International Congress, 25-27 August 1993, Cologne*. Frankfurt: Indeks-Verlag, 472 p.

Galinski, Christian & Klaus-Dirk Schmitz (eds.) (1996): *TKE'96: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Proceedings of the Fourth International Congress, 26-28 August 1996, Vienna*. Frankfurt: Indeks-Verlag, 461 p.

Sandrini, Peter (ed.) (1999): *TKE'99: Terminology and Knowledge Engineering, Proceedings of the Fifth International Congress, 25-27 August 1999, Innsbruck*. Vienna: TermNet-Verlag, 832 p.

Melby, Alan (ed.) (2002): *Proceedings of TKE '02 - Terminology and Knowledge Engineering*. INRIA, Nancy.

Madsen, Bodil Nistrup & Hanne Erdman Thomsen (eds.) (2005): *Terminology and content development – Proceedings of the 7th International Conference on Terminology and Knowledge Engineering*. Copenhagen: Litera, 2005. ISBN: 87-91242-46-0

Madsen, Bodil Nistrup & Hanne Erdman Thomsen (eds.) (2008): *Managing Ontologies and Lexical Resources– Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Terminology and Knowledge Engineering*. Litera 2008. ISBN: 87-91242-50-9

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