GENERAL REMARKS ABOUT THE CONFERENCE
• Strengthening the CLARIN family by
  – telling you about what has happened and what is going to happen at the CLARIN ERIC level (first session today, last session on Saturday)
  – discussing topics of common interest (committee meetings and open user session Friday afternoon)
  – telling each other what we are doing in the national consortia (all paper and poster sessions), covering both technical infrastructure, creation of data and tools and using the infrastructure in research
• Better understanding of our common endeavour by seeing the whole picture
• Identification of opportunities to offer more and better services to our users
• Identification of collaboration opportunities to increase the European added value of CLARIN
• For participants from candidate member countries: familiarizing themselves with CLARIN
• Arwin van der Zwan: main organizer
• Hetty Winkel: for all sorts of practical assistance
• Sebastian Drude: same, but also our main time keeper (supporting the session chairs)
• Arjan van Hessen: same, but especially on technical matters
• All participants: for making it a successful conference
What has happened since our last conference in Prague?
Some highlights
• 2006: CLARIN concept is born and included in the ESFRI Roadmap
• 2007: Creation of active teams in 23 European countries, joint application for EC funding
• 2008-2011: CLARIN Preparatory Phase Project
• 2012: CLARIN ERIC established with founding members AT, BG, CZ, DE, DK, DLU, EE, NL, PL
• 2013: NO joins CLARIN ERIC as observer
• 2014: SE and LT join as new members, MoU signed with CMU, more members, observers, collaboration agreements and MoUs in the pipeline
• Board of Directors stable:
  – Steven Krauwer (Executive Director till 2015 – *no successor appointed yet*)
  – Bente Maegaard (Vice Executive Director)
  – Dieter Van Uytvanck (Technical Director & Chair of the Centres Committee – *re-elected till 2016*)
  – Erhard Hinrichs (Chair of the National Coordinators Forum – *re-elected till 2016*)
  – Martin Wynne (User Involvement)

• You will see them all in this session
People (CLARIN Office)

• What we kept:
  • Hetty Winkel: administrator & logistic support
  • Arwin van der Zwan: office support, mailing lists, website
  • Arjan van Hessen: website, user outreach and communication

• What we lost in August:
  • Thorsten Trippel: BoD support, website, pr, conference booths & everything (including metadata)

• What we gained in September:
  • Sebastian Drude: coordinator & BoD support
• What was continued
  • Development of the Technical Infrastructure (see Dieter’s talk in this session)
  • Towards further integration (see Erhard’s talk)
  • User outreach (see Martin’s talk)
  • Work on licenses (see Krister Linden’s talk on Saturday)
  • Work on standards (see Charly Moerth’s talk on Saturday)

• What is new
  • First systematic attempt to measure progress and impact (see Bente’s talk)
Novelties

• Application for CLARIN Centres of Expertise open
• First (successful) participation by CLARIN ERIC in an EC proposal with both academic and commercial players (more later)
• Proposals till under evaluation
  – Joint CLARIN-DARIAH proposal
  – Participation in Europeana proposal
  – Participation in follow-up of EUDAT project
  – Participation in 3 other infrastructure-related projects