



NACLO PRESS RELEASE

Results from the Invitational Round of the 2017 North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO) - USA

The top eight students from the Invitational Round of the North American Computational Linguistics Olympiad (NACLO) have qualified for the International Linguistics Olympiad in Dublin, Ireland.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 10, 2017

The results from the 2017 NACLO competition are now available at www.nacloweb.org.

The NACLO contest has two stages, an Open Round and an Invitational Round. Students solve problems in language analysis drawn from languages around the world. The problems range widely across traditional and computational linguistic topics: from orthography and transcription systems to syntax, semantics, morphology, and phonology. In the Open Round of the Olympiad on January 26, 2017, 1509 students from across the U.S. and Canada competed at more than 200 university and high school sites. The Open Round featured problems about Tschiluba, Vietnamese, Turkish and Persian, Tamil, Central Alaskan Yup'ik, as well as neural networks, regular expressions, and finite-state transducers.

A total of 160 students (the top 10% of participants) participated in the Invitational Round on March 9, 2017. The Invitational round included ten problems on topics and languages such as Basque, Norwegian, Abkhaz, Māori, Bulgarian, Khakas, Proto-Algonquian, as well as rewriting automata, context-based semantic inference, and recursive grammars.

The jury has finished grading the submissions for the Invitational round. The organizing committee of NACLO is pleased to announce the top U.S. students.

Results from the Invitational Round of the Invitational Round of the 2017 NACLO:

The top four US students (Team Red) include Andy Tockman (Individual Round winner) of Houston, Texas, Annie Zhu of Andover, Massachusetts, Heidi Lei of Wallingford, Connecticut,

and Brian Xiao of Berwyn, Pennsylvania. The next four students (Team Blue) are Vanessa Hu of Livingston, New Jersey, Joey Feffer of Boalsburg, Pennsylvania, Wesley Zhang of San Diego, California, and Sonia Reilly of Columbia, Maryland.

Four students were selected as alternates. They are Pranav Krishna of Edison, New Jersey, Rose Guan of Cupertino, California, Swapnil Garg of Sunnyvale, California, and Evan Hochstein of Austin, Texas. In the event that any of the team members are unable to travel to the international contest, some of the alternates will be called on to replace them.

A separate press release about the two Canadian teams (one Francophone and one Anglophone), jointly written by NACLO and OLC-CLO, is being released separately.

NACLO was partially funded by the US National Science Foundation, the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics, the Linguistics Society of America, and Yahoo!

The International Linguistics Olympiad:

The US members are invited to participate in the Fifteenth International Linguistics Olympiad (IOL) in Dublin, Ireland on July 31 – August 4, 2017.

The IOL will involve an individual competition, structured similarly to NACLO, as well as a team round in which group members collaborate to solve a more in-depth linguistics challenge. Past team challenges have featured problems from a wide range of languages including Mongolian, Lao, Hawaiian, Northern Sotho, and American Sign Language. The IOL has grown from six countries in its founding year (2003) to thirty in 2016. The U.S. has participated since 2007. The location of the IOL changes each year; in the past four years it has taken place in Manchester, UK, Beijing, China, Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria, and Mysore, India.

Registration for the 2018 NACLO will start in September 2017.

More Information

NACLO - <http://www.nacloweb.org/> - practice problems, contest rules, and registration details for NACLO's competitions.

IOL - <http://www.ioling.org/> - contains a record of all past IOL problems and results

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