"Re-thinking Information Extraction in the Age of Neural Networks"

Abstract: In this talk, I'll examine the state of the Natural Language Processing subfield of information extraction since its inception almost 30 years ago and identify document-level event extraction as one important task that should be reconsidered in light of recent advances in neural networks. Next, I'll next present our new work that is a step in this direction --- first re-framing event extraction as an end-to-end question answering task, and then considering event extraction as the natural language generation problem of directly generating the relevant, structured event information from the original, unstructured text of an input document in an end-to-end fashion.

Bio: Claire Cardie is the John C. Ford Professor of Engineering in the Departments of Computer Science and Information Science at Cornell University. She has worked since the early 1990's on application of machine learning methods to problems in Natural Language Processing – on topics ranging from information extraction, noun phrase coreference resolution, text summarization and question answering to the automatic analysis of opinions, argumentation, and deception in text. She has been Program Chair for ACL/COLING, EMNLP and CoNLL, and General Chair for ACL in 2018. Cardie was named a Fellow of the ACL in 2015 and a Fellow of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) in 2019. At Cornell, she led the development of the university's academic programs in Information Science, was the founding Chair of its Information Science Department, and is currently serving as the inaugural Associate Dean for Education in Cornell's College of Computing and Information Science.