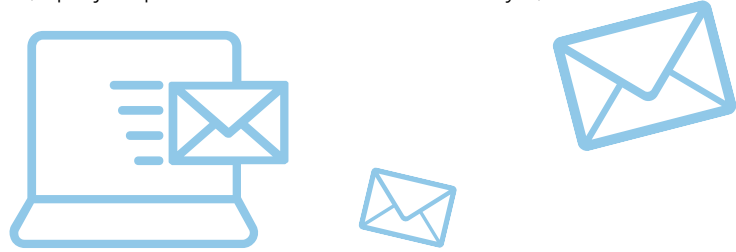# Dear RES-Q+ partners, colleagues, supporters, and friends,

We are bringing you a new issue of the RES-Q+ Newsletter summarizing our activities in July and August. You will find a few information about our first introductory meeting with members of External Advisory Board and Ethics Board and about the status of amendment and deliverables. We will remind you again what meetings are coming up soon and you will this time learn more about our RES-Q+ project partners Oliver Lemon and Terry Quinn.

Thank you for your great work and cooperation.

Your project management team

Today we would like you to get to know better our two islanders Terry and Oliver and find out who likes classic movies and who worked at NASA! Thank you, Oliver and Terry, for your time.

Oliver, you are a co-founder of ALANA. What did you study?
My first degree was in Mathematics and Philosophy, which naturally blend in logic, which was the dominant approach in AI and NLP at the time. I was fascinated by logical approaches to understanding meaning in human language and conversation. I then went on to do a PhD in AI and Cognitive Science at Edinburgh University and became more interested in machine learning approaches.
We decided to found Alana AI after our experiences in the Amazon Alexa Challenge. We developed a conversational system that was deployed for 2 years across the USA and had millions of interactions with real people. Getting our work out of the lab was fascinating and challenging, and also generated a lot of commercial requests to create conversational systems for different applications.
Alana gives us a way to discover new research problems and develop real-world impact of our research in NLP by creating and deploying conversational AI applications.

RES-Q+ project isn't the only project you work on, what else do you do?
I am the Chief AI Officer for Alana AI, and also a Professor of AI, and Academic Co-Lead for the UK's National Robotarium -- the UK's research facility for Robotics and AI.
These roles involve a mixture of research in AI, NLP, and robotics, team-building, and project management.
I'm involved in another EC project (called SPRING), where we build a conversational robot for elder care in the Broca Hospital, Paris.
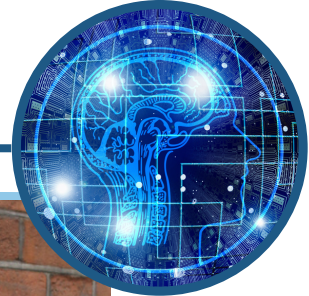Another aspect of my job is creating new collaborations and projects where we can further develop and apply AI and NLP research.

You're a Scottish working for an Irish company, is it safe to assume you know both countries well? What do you like most about the two countries?
It's complicated :-). I grew up in Northern Ireland during the 'troubles', and I've lived in England, Scotland, Ireland, Germany, and California. My favourite thing about Scotland is the west coast and islands, and for Ireland, the people.

Will you tell us something interesting about you that the partners may not know?
I was a Visiting Scientist at NASA, working with the Clarissa team who put the first conversational AI system in space!

Terry, you specialize in geriatric medicine, how did you come across the RES-Q+ project and what do you do beside that? What is your job like?

I am lucky because I get to enjoy two very different jobs in my working week. For 50 % of the time, I work for the University of Glasgow. My University work includes research (on exciting projects like RES-Q+), teaching (I am in charge of junior clinical academic training) and administration (amongst other things, I am vice chair of ethics). For the other 50 % of the time, I work as a clinician in the National Health Service. My clinical work is a mix of stroke, geriatric medicine, and general internal medicine. It sometimes feels like I am working 100 % for both the university and the NHS at the same time, but I would rather be busy than bored!

What about some interesting hobbies of yours?

Juggling being a consultant in the NHS, being a university academic and being a dad to two young kids doesn't leave a lot of time for hobbies. My kids would tell you that there is nothing interesting about me, which is probably true. When I get any spare time, I enjoy music and films. Immediately after the RES-Q+ meeting in Athens, I am returning to Glasgow for a film festival, including a 14-hour back-to-back screening of classic movies - bliss.

Can we hear some highlanders' accent in your voice? Where do you come from originally?

I grew up in West of Scotland, went to Medical School in Glasgow and apart from periods in London, Melbourne, and Oxford, have mostly worked as a doctor in Glasgow. So, there must be something good about Glasgow, as I keep coming back. On my mum's side of the family there are true highlanders, but on my dad's side of the family are Irish – my accent is probably a fusion of the two.

Scotland is a country of William Wallace, bagpipes, kilts, black pudding and Lochness monster. What do you like the most about your country?

Not black pudding, but haggis! Although I don't eat meat, so I would have to recommend vegetarian haggis. There are so many interesting things to see and do in Scotland, and especially in my hometown of Glasgow. Rather than have me pick one, you should all come and visit – you would be made very welcome, and haggis eating is not compulsory.

Prepared by Eliska Stravova

Administrative information

Project Introductory meeting with External Boards members

The first introductory meeting with External Advisory Board and Ethics Board members was organised and held online on August 16. It was focused on introducing the members of boards, their role in the RES-Q+ project and the concept and work plan of the RES-Q+ project. The results of the meeting will be part of DEL 10.2 OEI - Requirement No.2 - Ethics Board annual report and DEL 9.5 Minutes of the first EAB meeting. In general the project was assessed as very ambitious with a major impact on stroke care.

Joint controller agreement and deliverable prepared

Joint controller agreement and deliverable DEL 2.1 Guidelines for data collaboration in all relevant jurisdictions were prepared by Timelex and final reviews are ongoing.

Amendment approved by General Assembly

The amendment to the RES-Q+ project agreement is currently prepared to officially add another partner (Maynooth University) to the project and to fix minor discrepancies in the project application. The draft of amendment was approved by the RES-Q+ General Assembly (95.4 % votes in favour) and the amendment is now reviewed by the European Commission.

Meeting in Athens

We kindly remind all partners to fill in the registration form for the in-person meeting we will have in Greece, 25-27 October. Please submit your responses even if you are not participating. Kindly note that we expect all partners to attend.

Highlights from the dissemination and communication

- RES-Q+ is now featured on the World Stroke Organization's official website. This is a substantial platform, and it gives us a wider audience reach. Here you can find the related article.
- EU Projects' Roundtable: RES-Q+ was introduced in the "Privacy & Technology Scenarios on Reuse of Health Data" roundtable.
- Angels TTT Workshop: Every quarter, The Angels Train the Trainer (TTT) Workshop presents an excellent opportunity for us to talk about importance of quality monitoring and introduce RES-Q+. The workshop attendees are primarily stroke physicians, from different countries in EU and beyond. Physicians showed considerable interest in the future of quality monitoring.
- Philippines Stroke Society's Annual Workshop: We presented RES-Q+ at the Philippines Stroke Society's annual workshop on Quality Monitoring. The presentation was positively received which further strengthen our collaboration.
- Indonesia Angels Day Program: Our dissemination efforts also took us to Indonesia, where Adin Nulkhasanah, the RES-Q National Coordinator for Indonesia, presented about RES-Q+ at the Indonesia Angels Day program. This marked our first major introduction in the region, and we are excited about the reception and potential for future collaborations.

Planned Meetings

RES-Q+ face to face M12 meeting	**26 - 27 October 2023** *Athens, Greece*
Technical meeting	**25 October 2023** *Athens, Greece*

Regular Meetings

PSC monthly meeting (everyone is welcome to join)	next meeting **1 September** 12 PM CET *online, https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/97721064676?pwd=VXc5dFd2QzNVSWdtQk5pVjh6dVFaQT09#success*
WP1 meeting (designing new technologies)	next meeting **15 September** 2 PM CET *online*
WP2 meeting (legal aspects)	next meeting **6 September** 11:30 AM CET *online*
WP3 meeting (interoperability)	next meeting **22 September** 10 AM CET *online*
WP4 meeting (NLP tool)	next meeting **8 September** 10 AM CET *online*
WP5 + WP7 meeting (data flow and architecture)	next meeting **8 September** 1 PM CET *online*
WP6 meeting (AI virtual assistants)	next meeting **14 September** 3 PM CET *online*
WP9 + WP10 meeting (Project management+Ethics)	**every even Wednesday** 12:30 PM CET *online*