Abstract
Web information retrieval typically aims for providing a few high quality relevant documents that satisfy the user’s information need. In information retrieval (IR) terms, the focus is on high precision. There are other IR applications over special text corpora, where the focus is on retrieving all documents that are relevant to the user’s information need, i.e. aiming to achieve 100% (total) recall, while keeping precision acceptable. Examples of total recall IR applications include legal search (looking for all relevant court decisions to a given legal case), systematic medical reviews (looking for all relevant research literature to a given disease, in order to prepare a systematic review for physicians), factory incident reports (finding all relevant incidents to a scenario being investigated), or desktop search (finding all relevant documents on one’s desktop). Contrary to web information retrieval, which is generally considered able to fulfill its mission, thanks to ranking algorithms that exploit the link structure of the Web, IR on special text corpora is notoriously hard. In this talk, I will review semantic relatedness measures for text and I will speculate on how they can be applied to address total recall in interactive information retrieval from special text corpora.

Bio
Evangelos Milios received a diploma in Electrical Engineering from the NTUA, Athens, Greece, and Master’s and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Since July of 1998 he has been with the Faculty of Computer Science, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, where he served as Director of the Graduate Program (1999-2002) and as Associate Dean - Research since 2008. He is a Senior Member of the IEEE. He was a member of the ACM Dissertation Award committee (1990-1992), a member of the AAAI/SIGART Doctoral Consortium Committee (1997-2001) and he is co-editor-in-chief of Computational Intelligence. He was a member (2008-2010) and Group Chair (2011-
2013) of the Computer Science Evaluation group of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada. At Dalhousie, he held a Killam Chair in Computer Science (2006-2011). He has published on the interpretation of visual and range signals for landmark-based navigation and map construction in robotics. He currently works on modelling and mining of content and link structure of Networked Information Spaces, text mining and visual text analytics.