News

1. Conferences

1.1. Joint Conference on Digital Libraries

The Joint Conference on Digital Libraries will take place from June 24 to 28, 2001 at the Hotel Roanoke, Roanoke, VA, USA (http://www.jcdl.org/). The Conference is jointly sponsored by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) Special Interest Group on Information Retrieval (ACM SIGIR), and Special Interest Group on Hypertext, Hypermedia and the Web (ACM SIGWEB), and the Institute for Electrical and Electronics Engineers Computer Society (IEEE Computer Society) Technical Committee on Digital Libraries (TCDL).

The Joint Conference on Digital Libraries is a major international forum focusing on digital libraries and associated technical, practical, and social issues. Following JCDL will be an NSF PI meeting for the US Digital Libraries Initiative. JCDL encompasses the many meanings of the term “digital libraries”, including (but not limited to) new forms of information institutions; operational information systems with all manner of digital content; new means of selecting, collecting, organizing, and distributing digital content; and theoretical models of information media, including document genres and electronic publishing. Digital libraries are distinguished from information retrieval systems because they include more types of media, provide additional functionality and services, and include other stages of the information life cycle, from creation through use. Digital libraries can be viewed as a new form of information institution or as an extension of the services libraries currently provide.

The intended community for this conference includes those interested in aspects of digital libraries such as infrastructure; institutions; metadata; content; services; digital preservation; system design; implementation; interface design; human-computer interaction; evaluation of performance; evaluation of usability; collection development; intellectual property; privacy; electronic publishing; document genres; multimedia; social, institutional, and policy issues; user communities; and associated theoretical topics.

Participation is sought from all parts of the world and from the full range of disciplines and professions involved in digital library research and practice, including computer science, information science, librarianship, archival science and practice, museum studies and practice, technology, medicine, social sciences, and humanities. All domains – academe, government, industry, and others – are encouraged to participate as presenters or attendees.
The conference language is English.

Key conference committee members:

**General Chair:** Edward Fox  
**Program Chair:** Christine Borgman

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**Dept. of Information Studies,** UCLA, Los Angeles, CA, 90095 1520 USA

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**Posters Chair:** Craig Nevill-Manning  
**Panel Chair:** Gene Golovchinsky

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1.2. Second Annual Global Information Technology Management (GITM) World Conference, Dallas, Texas, USA June 10–12, 2001

http://gsmweb.udallas.edu/mraising/gitm2001Dallas/

As we progress further into the information age, the value of having access to information and the value of having the ability to interpret available information are increasing exponentially. “Easy money” in capital markets is flowing to the companies that create or promise to create wealth using information and knowledge. Information and knowledge-based organizations (so called, infomediaries) are “out-capitalizing” traditional organizations in value chains. In this new economy, only those organizations that are best in managing information and knowledge will survive and prosper.

This phenomenon is not just limited to the United States or other advanced countries, but also evident in developing countries. This track is organized to discuss all issues related to information and knowledge management in global settings.

1.2.1. Inquiries

For additional information, please contact the conference chair, program co-chairs or the track chairs.

**Conference Chair:** Prashant Palvia, University of North Carolina – Greensboro, USA. E-mail: pcpalvia@uncg.edu

**Local Chair:** Mahesh S. Raisinghani, University of Dallas, mraising@gsm.udallas.edu

**Program Co-Chairs:**

The Forum will take place in Jokkmokk, Sweden, from September 5–8, 2001

The 2001 Forum, hosted by the Sami Council, will be a continuation and expansion of the issues dealt with at the first meeting.

Additional information about the Forum is available at: http://www.sapmi.net/indigilib/. Conference attendees may also be interested in attending the Barents Libraries Conference (September 10–12, 2001), also in Jokkmokk, and/or the Goteborg Book Festival, from September 13-14.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact: teresa.brilioth@ajtte.com or peter.sarri@sametinget.se

Bures boahin Sápmi!

1.4. Beyond the web: Technologies, Knowledge and People / AU-DELA DU WEB: Les technologies, la connaissance et les gens

The 29th Annual Conference of the Canadian Association for Information Science will be held with the Congress for the Social Sciences and Humanities of Canada at the Université Laval, Québec, Canada, from May 27 to 29, 2001

Website:
http://www.fims.uwo.ca/cais/caiscpe.htm (English version)
http://www.fims.uwo.ca/cais/caiscpf.htm (Version Française)

The conference will have three distinct but related themes:

Technologies
How new theories and applications of information technology are shaping and reshaping our information preferences and expectations, within traditional libraries, archives, and other burgeoning information systems and services.

Knowledge
How discourse communities, fields of knowledge and information ecologies are defining and redefining themselves in changing technological, social and political contexts.
How individuals, and their many diverse communities, interact with their information environments, both technological and intellectual, at a cognitive, cultural or intellectual level.

1.5. Twenty-Fourth Annual International ACM SIGIR Conference on Research and Development in Information Retrieval, September 9–13, 2001 New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

SIGIR is the major international forum for the presentation of new research results and the demonstration of new systems and techniques in the broad field of information retrieval (IR). See the Conference web site for further details: http://www.sigir2001.org

1.5.1. Areas and area coordinators
The major areas of interest are listed below
- Formal Models, Language Models, Search Strategies, Fusion/Combination
- Machine Learning for IR, Text Data Mining, Clustering, Text Categorization
- Cross-Lingual Retrieval, Multilingual Retrieval, Machine Translation for IR
- Topic Detection and Tracking, Content-Based Filtering, Collaborative Filtering, Agents
- Web IR, Citation and Link Analysis, XML and Metadata, Digital Libraries
- Video and Image Access, Audio and Speech Retrieval, Music Retrieval
- Text Representation and Indexing, Information Extraction, Lexical Acquisition, Natural Language Processing for IR
- Performance, Compression, Scalability, Architectures, Distributed Search
- Interfaces, Visualization, Interactive IR, User Models
- Summarization, Question Answering
- Evaluation, Building Test Collections, User Studies, Experimental Design and Metrics

1.5.2. Conference venue
The conference venue will be the Radisson Hotel at 1500 Canal Street in New Orleans (http://www.radisson.com/neworleansla).

1.5.3. Conference committee
- General Chair: Donald H. Kraft, Louisiana State Univ., USA, kraft@bit.csc.lsu.edu
- Treasurer: Andrea Houston, Louisiana State Univ., USA, ahoust2@bit.csc.lsu.edu
- Program Co-Chair – Americas: W. Bruce Croft, Univ. of Massachusetts, USA, croft@cs.umass.edu
--- Program Co-Chair – Europe: David J. Harper, The Robert Gordon Univ., U.K., djh@scms.rgu.ac.uk
--- Program Co-Chair – Asia/Pacific Rim: Justin Zobel, RMIT University, Australia, jz@cs.rmit.edu.au
--- Posters Chair: Efthimis Efthimiadis, U. of Washington, USA, efthimis@u.washington.edu
--- Tutorials Chair: Raya Fidel, U. of Washington, USA, fidelr@u.washington.edu
--- Demonstrations Co-Chairs: Evangelos Triantaphyllou, Louisiana State U., USA, vangelis@imse.lsu.edu Padmini Srinivasan, U. of Iowa, USA, padmini@uma.info-science.iowa.edu
--- Exhibits and Corporate Sponsors Chair: David Grossman, Illinois Inst. of Technology, USA, dagr@duvel.ir.iit.edu
--- Workshops Chair: Susan Gauch, University of Kansas, USA, sgauch@eecs.ukans.edu
--- Publicity Chair: Edie Rasmussen, Univ. of Pittsburgh, USA, erasmus@mail.sis.pitt.edu
--- Local Arrangements Chair: Carol Barry, Louisiana State Univ., USA, lsbary@unix1.sncc.lsu.edu
--- Information Architect: David Robins, Univ. of Pittsburgh, USA, drobins@mail.sis.pitt.edu

1.5.4. Program committee
Helena Ahonen-Myka, University of Helsinki, Finland
Giambattista Amati, Fondazione Ugo Bordoni, Italy
Peter Anick, AltaVista
Javed Aslam, Dartmouth College
Micheline Beaulieu, University of Sheffield, UK
Ricardo Baeza-Yates, Universidad de Chile
Peter Bailey, The Australian National University, Australia
Krishna Bharat, Google Inc
Gloria Bordogna, National Research Council (CNR), Italy
Pia Borlund, Royal School of Library and Information Science, Denmark
Eric W. Brown, IBM T.J. Watson Research Center
Soumen Chakrabarti, Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
Matthew Chalmers, University of Glasgow, UK
Charles L. A. Clarke, University of Waterloo, Canada
David Cohn, Burning Glass Technologies/CMU
Fabio Crestani, University of Strathclyde, UK
Mark D Dunlop, University of Strathclyde, UK
John P Ekains, University of Northumbria at Newcastle, UK
David Eichmann, University of Iowa
James C. French, University of Virginia
Ophir Frieder, Illinois Institute of Technology

ELPUB2001 will be held at the University of Kent at Canterbury, UK, from July 5 to 7th, 2001

http://www.tu-chemnitz.de/pm/elpub2001

ELPUB2001 is the 5th in a series of annual international conferences on Electronic Publishing. The objective of ELPUB2001 is to bring together researchers, managers, developers, and users working on the issues related to electronic publishing for public, scientific and commercial applications. The conference will continue the tradition of the previous conferences which took place in Great Britain in 1997, Hungary in 1998, Sweden in 1999 and Russia in 2000.

Three main topics with several subsections are addressed:

New Publishing Models

XML and further standards, interchange networks, distributed systems, document input, document delivery, e-books and new output media. Global co-operation in publishing, scientific demands (Citing, Linking), education and training, user needs and user profiles.

Digital Libraries

Architecture, knowledge management, multimedia in digital libraries, multilingualism, Navigation and information retrieval. New library services, content management, user interfaces, cataloguing and archives

E-Commerce for Publishing
Copyright saving and security systems, new business models, author-publisher-librarian: costs & payments; legal issues.
Each topic has two tracks:
1. Technical focus 2. Human and cultural focus Proceeding of the conference will be published both as a book and electronically.

1.6.1. General information
Host:
University of Kent at Canterbury, UK <http://www.ukc.ac.uk/>
General Chair:
John W.T. Smith
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ELPUB2001 website:
http://www.tu-chemnitz.de/pm/elpub2001

2. Schools of Library and Information Science

2.1. Florida State University
The School of Information Studies, Information Use Management and Policy Institute at Florida State University is pleased to announce its receipt of two awards from the US Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS).

2.1.1. Developing National Data Collection Models for Public Library Network Statistics and Performance Measures
This study, funded under the National Leadership Grants will run from October 1, 2000 through September 30, 2000 and is supported by IMLS for $226,000. The study addresses the ways in which to design and implement a national data collection, analysis, and reporting system for public library network statistics and performance measures that is both accurate and reports data in a timely fashion.

John Carlo Bertot, Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Information Use Management and Policy Institute, and Charles R. McClure, Francis Eppes Professor and Director of the Information Use Management and Policy Institute are the Co-Principal Investigators for the study.
The goal of the study is to develop a process whereby the public library community, state library agencies, policy makers, researchers, and others can have accurate and timely national data that describe networked services, resources, and activities. More specifically, the study objectives are to:

1. Develop and test a model for a national approach for collecting and analyzing public library data that describe networked services and resources;
2. Develop and implement a process whereby selected statistics and performance measures that describe networked services, activities, and resources that can be established as national standards; and,
3. Assist public libraries and state library agencies implement and refine the model.

The study includes cooperative effort and support from the National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) and the National Information Standards Organization (NISO). A final product of the study will be recommendations for establishing an enhanced approach for a national public library network statistics and performance measure development, data collection, and reporting system.


Additional information about this project can be obtained from John Carlo Bertot jcbertot@slis-two.lis.fsu.edu, and other studies/work being completed at the Information Use Management and Policy Institute can be found at: http://www.ii.fsu.edu/.

2.1.2. Children’s Access to Technology Evaluation (CATE)

Assistant Professor Melissa Gross and Associate Professor Eliza T. Dresang will serve as evaluation consultants on a subcontract for an Institute for Museum and Library Services Research and Demonstration grant for $219,239 that was awarded to the St. Louis Public Library to evaluate whether the digital divide is or can be effectively reduced for school age children by the presence of computers in public libraries. A substantial portion of the grant, $99,698, will provide funds for Florida State University researchers Gross and Dresang to serve as evaluators for the study that will run from December 1,2000 to December 1,2002.

Despite the millions of dollars that the government and private foundations provide libraries for computers and Internet access, the impact on children’s information needs has not previously been systematically studied.

The goals of this study are to

1. Develop and demonstrate use of a comprehensive outcome-based model that public librarians can adopt or adapt to plan, evaluate, and improve children’s access to, and use of technology in an urban public library using market research techniques;
(2) Train Saint Louis Public librarians, and subsequently librarians nationwide, to adopt or adapt and apply this outcome-based mode to plan, evaluate and improve school age children’s access to and use of technology.

Additional information about this project can be obtained by E-mailing Dr. Gross at mgross@lis.fsu.edu or Dr. Dresang at edresang@mailer.fsu.edu. The St. Louis Public Library will establish a web site in February 2001 that will provide continually updated information about the progress and interim findings of the project. It will be linked to the main SLPL site at http://www.slpl.lib.mo.us At the end of the project a web-based course on the evaluation of children’s use of technology will be offered nationally and internationally via the web by FSU.

2.2. University of New South Wales

The University of New South Wales, School of Information Systems, Technology and Management (SISTM) is offering support for visiting researchers to participate and contribute to collaborative research with academic staff and postgraduate research candidates in the Information Management Program of SISTM.

The visiting scholar program is centred on the following areas: Informetrics (including bibliometrics & scientometrics), web-related communications, information retrieval issues and specialized information services.

Ideally, Visiting Researchers would participate in and contribute to current and proposed studies in the above fields or more broadly in information management related topics; they will also work collaboratively on publications related to completed studies or projects.

The Visiting Research Program is for periods between 2 and 6 months duration. This opportunity would be suited to those looking for appropriate sabbatical leave or study leave placement. The financial support offered is accommodation in a fully furnished apartment close to the campus, and on campus, an office with attendant academic infrastructure support. Honorariums may be offered for public or academic lectures given by the Visitor, as well as for presentations to university workshops or seminars.

Applicants should have research experience that falls within the general field of information science / studies and its various sub-disciplines.

Applications from prospective Visiting Researchers should indicate research experience in the relevant areas above and willingness to participate in collaborative research. Applicants should send (via email or snail mail) a current curriculum vita with information relating to their academic record, publications and other details of experience and skills. Two referees should be nominated together with appropriate contact information for them.

Expressions of interest in the Visiting Research program should be addressed to:
Dr. C.S. (Connie) Wilson,
Associate Head of School
2.3. University of South Carolina

The Institute of Museums and Library Services has awarded the University of South Carolina a 2000 IMLS National Leadership Grant. The grant will fund the Preservation Training Initiative for Small Libraries and Museums in South Carolina. South Carolina conservators will utilize video broadcasts, Internet streaming, and face-to-face sessions to help small local libraries, museums, and related organizations learn proper preservation and collection care techniques. This initiative will also help establish a statewide digital community dedicated to the development of sound preservation practices and quality collection maintenance. A regional and national extension of the initiative is planned based on the in-state experience. The Initiative is a joint venture developed by the Thomas Cooper Library Preservation Services Department and McKissick Museum in collaboration with the College of Library and Information Science.

Official registration will begin in the spring of 2001. For more information please contact:

Darrick Hart, Initiative Coordinator
Preservation and Conservation Specialist
University of South Carolina
(803) 896-3801
DarrickH@gwm.sc.edu

2.4. Prism, the American Library Association Office for Accreditation newsletter

Prism is now available at: www.ala.org/alaorg/oa/prism.html

This first Web issue of Prism includes items on the following and more: COA accreditation actions, strategic priorities, the 2000-01 COA roster, and the schedule of reviews.

For more information or a paper copy, please contact the Office for Accreditation at 800-545-2433 x2432.

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2.5. “Changes in LIS Education.”

http://www.lis.uiuc.edu/b-sloan/edbib.html

This bibliography is an attempt to gather relevant literature related to changes in LIS education over the past fifteen years or so, for North American schools accredited by the American Library Association. It contains entries that treat the topic from the perspectives of both practitioner and educator.

Right now there are about 125 entries in the bibliography, with about three dozen or so available online.

Note: This bibliography is very much a work in progress. I have not yet reviewed every entry to determine its applicability. New entries will be added. Existing entries may be dropped if they are not directly applicable. Additional entries may be dropped as I tighten the focus of my research.

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2.6. University of Buffalo

The University at Buffalo’s Department of Library and Information Studies winter continuing education workshops are offered solely on the Internet: Cataloging Basics, Documents Basics, Documents Jump Start, KidzCat: Cataloging Children’s Materials, Legislative Research, Regulations, and Sleuthing Serials: Serials Cataloging in Reverse. Full descriptions of workshops can be accessed at <http://www.sils.buffalo.edu/faculty/Robinson/conted/winter.htm>. For more information contact Judith Robinson, School of Information & Library Studies, 534 Baldy Hall, Buffalo, NY 14260-1020; Tel.: +1 716 6453327; Fax: +1 716 6453775; E-mail: lisrobin@buffalo.edu; http://www.sils.buffalo.edu/Faculty/Robinson/index.htm

2.7. Drexel University

The National Science Foundation has awarded $498,000 to the College of Information Science and technology at Drexel University to create and test a digital library supporting instruction in computer programming. The study will focus on how to identify and acquire relevant content for digital libraries and bridge the gap between what is available and what users actually need.

The research team comprises Professors Mike Atwood, Kathy Shlefier and Bruce Char.
3. Publications

3.1. SIMILE – Studies in media & information

3.1.1. Literacy

SIMILE is a new refereed e-journal that will be published quarterly by the University of Toronto Press starting in the winter of 2001, with issues appearing at the beginning of February, May, August, and November. All manuscripts will be subject to a double-blind peer review process.

SIMILE will focus on topics connected with media literacy instruction in school, public, and academic libraries, as well as with the role that teachers, librarians, and information professionals at all levels can play in bringing about a better understanding of the social, cultural, economic, and political forces that shape traditional and new media production.

Contributions are welcomed from throughout the world. Articles dealing with media issues outside of North America are particularly encouraged. In keeping with the cross-disciplinary nature of the subject matter to be covered, there are 26 Editorial Board members from a variety of fields, including education, library science, English, media studies, and history. There is broad geographic representation on the Editorial Board. Fourteen scholars are from the United States, eight from Canada, two from Australia, and one each from Mexico and Wales.

The large number of Editorial Board members attests to the interest in this journal as well as the lack of other periodical venues for the type of scholarship which SIMILE intends to publish. In addition, the size of the Editorial Board will ensure scholarly rigor and respect within the academic community. These are especially important considerations for e-journals, and the editorial staff of SIMILE and the University of Toronto Press are committed to upholding high academic standards in this publication.

3.1.2. Statement of purpose

The aim of SIMILE is to provide a venue for scholarly articles which will bridge the subject areas of bibliographic instruction, information literacy, and media literacy.

Directed at a readership in the fields of information/media studies, library science, and education, SIMILE will examine ways in which reference- and teacher-librarians, teachers, and other concerned professionals can integrate media literacy concepts into instructional sessions on the use of print and electronic mass media sources.

3.1.3. Scope of content

SIMILE aims to explore the ways in which social and cultural environments impact media production and the methods that could be used to teach the skills needed to “read” these environments. It will also strive to provide multiple perspectives arising from the diverse cultural contexts which undergird media literacy issues world-wide.
While mass media delivery methods and mechanisms are constantly evolving, SIMILE is interested in the content and the content-providers of mass media. Insofar as traditional media and new media “no longer exist in mutually exclusive spheres”, articles in SIMILE will examine the content of newspapers and magazines, films, videos, computer games, on-line databases, and web sources of all types, whether specialized sites, vertical portals or general-purpose portals. The images, graphics, sounds, and hyperlinks that constitute the editorial and advertising content of all print and electronic media are also open for discussion in SIMILE.

In tandem with the convergence of traditional and new media, the definition of mass media as either a form of information or of entertainment can no longer be applied. SIMILE thus understands the importance of examining the nexus of education, information, and entertainment in various media formats. Specific topics within this broad context might be: the impact of the commercialization of the internet on diverse information sources; corporate ownership of media sources; media biases; and the presence or absence of media competition.

Although the primary audience is public, school, and academic librarians, as well as elementary and high school teachers, SIMILE will also be of interest to corporate information workers responsible for tracking mass media trends. Articles should thus suggest innovative ways to impart the importance of media awareness and literacy to students and the general public.

3.1.4. Submission requirements

A list of the 26 Editorial Board Members, detailed submission requirements, and more information can be found at our web site. Please visit us at http://simile.fis.utoronto.ca

Or send an e-mail message to simile@fis.utoronto.ca

3.2. The Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography

Version 34 of the Scholarly Electronic Publishing Bibliography is now available. This selective bibliography presents over 1,250 articles, books, electronic documents, and other sources that are useful in understanding scholarly electronic publishing efforts on the Internet and other networks.

HTML: <URL:http://info.lib.uh.edu/sepb/sepb.html>
Word 97: <URL:http://info.lib.uh.edu/sepb/sepb.doc>

The HTML document is designed for interactive use. Each major section is a separate file. There are live links to sources available on the Internet. It can be searched using Boolean operators.

The Acrobat and Word files are designed for printing. The printed bibliography is over 100 pages long. The Acrobat file is over 330 KB and the Word file is over 400 KB.
The bibliography has the following sections (revised sections are marked with an asterisk):

Table of Contents

1. Economic Issues*
2. Electronic Books and Texts
   2.1 Case Studies and History*
   2.2 General Works*
   2.3 Library Issues*
3. Electronic Serials
   3.1 Case Studies and History*
   3.2 Critiques*
   3.3 Electronic Distribution of Printed Journals*
   3.4 General Works*
   3.5 Library Issues*
   3.6 Research*
4. General Works*
5. Legal Issues
   5.1 Intellectual Property Rights*
   5.2 License Agreements*
   5.3 Other Legal Issues*
6. Library Issues
   6.1 Cataloging, Identifiers, and Metadata*
   6.2 Digital Libraries*
   6.3 General Works*
   6.4 Information Conversion, Integrity, and Preservation*
7. New Publishing Models*
8. Publisher Issues*
   8.1 Electronic Commerce/Copyright Systems*

Appendix A. Related Bibliographies by the Same Author
Appendix B. About the Author

The HTML document also includes Scholarly Electronic Publishing Resources, a collection of links to related Web sites:
<URL:http://info.lib.uh.edu/sepb/sepr.htm>
The resources directory includes the following sections:
Cataloging, Classification, and Metadata
Digital Libraries
Electronic Books and Texts
3.3. NISO Standards

All NISO standards and technical reports can now be downloaded as pdf files for no charge from the NISO website. Landmark technical standards that are the basis for library systems and services, such as Z38.50 (Information Retrieval), Z39.2 (the basis for the MARC record), and the standard for paper permanence (Z39.48) are just a few of the NISO publications you can now access for free, anytime, anywhere.

From the NISO homepage (http://www.niso.org) click on the NISO Press icon, and then click on Standards, Books and Software. You can search for the title you want or review a list of all the approved and published NISO standards and technical reports.

For further information about NISO and standards go to www.niso.org or call 301-654-2512.