

## News

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### 1. Conferences

#### *1.1. IFLA-Sections on Audiovisual and Multimedia, and on Education and Training Berlin Conference Open Forums Berlin, Germany, August 1st–9th, 2003*

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) will be meeting in Berlin, Germany, August 1st–9th, 2003. As part of the conference, the Section on Audiovisual and Multimedia and the Section on Education and Training are planning coordinated Open Forums entitled:

“Audiovisual and Multimedia as part of the Curricula in Library Schools and Continuing Education – Visions and Realities.”

The two sections invite proposals on the diversity of study programmes and contents, learning labs, examination contents, and infrastructure to gain competencies in audiovisual and multimedia applications for libraries. Proposals are also invited that examine how audiovisual and multimedia are included in the curricula in library education and training programs to educate current and future librarians in the methods and techniques of developing and utilizing audiovisual and multimedia in their professional activities in libraries. We plan to request that IFLA Headquarters schedule our coordinated open forums sequentially.

Included in the scope of interest is the use of audiovisual and multimedia as teaching tools in schools of library and information studies as well as courses involving training in the use of audiovisual and multimedia in the library. Curricular issues related to teaching bibliographic control (description, access modalities etc.) of audiovisual and multimedia materials may also be considered within the scope.

#### *1.2. American Library Association. LIBRARY RESEARCH ROUND TABLE CALL FOR PAPERS – LRRT RESEARCH FORUMS, ALA Annual Conference Toronto, Canada, June 19–25, 2003*

What are the LRRT Research Forums?

A set of programs at the ALA Annual Conference featuring presentations of LIS research, in progress or completed, followed by discussion. In 2003, two LRRT Research Forums will be scheduled, one on general LIS research, one on Digital Library Services.

Who generally makes presentations?

Practitioners, new researchers, and experienced researchers are all encouraged to present. Both members and nonmembers of LRRT are welcome. Selected presenters

are expected to present their papers in person at the forums and to register for the conference.

What types of papers are suitable for submission to the LRRT Research Forums?

LRRT welcomes papers emphasizing the problems, theories, methodologies, or significance of research findings for LIS. Works in progress are encouraged. Papers on the evaluation of electronic resources and reference services (such as chat, email, or video reference) are especially welcome.

*1.3. DOCAM<sup>103</sup>: An International Conference on Document Research and Development in Sciences, Arts and Business, University of California, Berkeley (The School of Information Management and Systems, SIMS), August 13–15th, 2003*

DOCAM<sup>103</sup> is the first annual meeting of The Document Academy, a collaborative project of The Department of Documentation Science, University of Tromsø, Norway and The School of Information Management and Systems, UC Berkeley.

The aim of The Document Academy is to create a space for experimental and critical research on documents in a wide sense drawing on traditions and experiences around the world.

As a starting point everything produced by a human being using some instruments in certain ways, can be considered as a document. It includes writing, music, images, architecture, clothes, etc.

That means that the Academy is open for scholars, artists, businessmen, students and many other kind of people attempting to do the very best at the same time as one is still making “work in progress”.

Scholars, developers, artists and practitioners working with document research and development are invited to submit 500 words proposals for papers or other kinds of presentation for seminars and workshops at DOCAM<sup>103</sup> by 3rd February 2003

We welcome especially proposals on the following themes:

- Document theory
- Document history
- Forms of documentation Scientific documentation / Health documentation / Artistic documentation / Technical documentation / Commercial documentation
- Tools and media for production, use and organisation of document

Proposals should include:

- a short description of the work to be presented
- name of all contributors,
- address, including email contacts and URL
- a list of up to 5 keywords

Abstract should be submitted electronically in Word or RTF format to niels.windfeld.lund@hum.uit.no at latest February 3rd 2003

Accepted contributions notified 3rd March 2003

Further documentation will be available on and added continuously to the web site of The Document Academy <http://thedocumentacademy.hum.uit.no/>

Any questions concerning DOCAM<sup>1</sup>03 and The Document Academy can be addressed to the chair of the Document Academy, Niels Windfeld Lund, professor, Head of Department, Department of Documentation Science

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*1.4. 9th International Conference on Scientometrics & Informetrics. Beijing, 25–29 August, 2003.*

Under the auspices of the ISSI (International Society for Scientometrics and Informetrics) the Chinese Association for Science-of-Science and Science & Technology Policy (CASTP) will organize the 9th International Conference on Scientometrics & Informetrics. The event will take place in Beijing (P.R. China) from 25 till 29 August 2003. More information and details about the procedure for submission of abstracts, posters and articles can be found on the conference web page: <http://www.cscd.ac.cn/issi2003>.

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## **2. Schools**

*2.1. University of Arizona, US*

Anita Coleman, Assistant Professor in the School of Information Resources and Library Science, University of Arizona, has been awarded a \$50,000 grant from the Engineering Information Foundation to implement her project “Virtual Laboratories for Digital Libraries”. The project will investigate the information seeking behaviors

of engineering students and instructors with regard to physical and virtual laboratories in selected areas of Civil Engineering.? From study findings it will be possible to develop immediately useful applications or products such as entry vocabularie best practices for virtual lab authoring, and evaluation and selection criteria for inclusion of engineering labs in digital libraries.

## 2.2. *University of Texas, Austin, US*

Andrew Dillon, Dean and Professor at GSLIS, University of Texas at Austin has been awarded \$200 000 by Microsoft Research to lead a series of investigations into the user response to ClearType technology. Dillon was approached by Microsoft Research to design a series of evaluations that will test the impact of this new feature on a range of real world information-intensive tasks. The funding will support a research team at Austin and further aid the development of a new user experience research lab at the School.

### 2.2.1. *The Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Texas at Austin is pleased to announce that Dr. Loriene Roy has been awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Tocker Foundation (<http://www.tocker.org/>) to support, "If I Can Read, I Can Do Anything."*

The research program promotes reading at schools on or near reservations through building library collections and organizing reading promotion events. Twelve schools in seven states are currently participating in the project; new schools are added each August. Results to date indicate noticeable improvements in literacy scores for participating children.

For further information contact: Professor Loriene Roy at (512) 471-3959, e-mail:loriene@gslis.utexas.edu. Or, visit the project Web site at <http://www.gslis.utexas.edu/~ifican>.

### 2.2.2. *GSLIS at UT-Austin announces \$0.5 million award*

The Graduate School of Library and Information Science of the University of Texas at Austin announces receipt of a two-year grant of \$460,000 outright and \$80,000 in matching from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support the Preservation and Conservation Studies Program whose graduates take responsibility for maintaining both the integrity of and the continuing usability of the priceless resources of America's libraries and archives.

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### 2.3. Florida State University, US

#### 2.3.1. Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) Grant

The Florida State University School of Information Studies has been awarded a three-year, \$482,780 grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) to develop a model for recruiting and teaching future library and information science educators. The grant will fund a project that will help replenish the inadequate supply of library and information science (LIS) faculty. IMLS, an independent federal agency that supports the nation's museums and libraries, has reported that nearly two-thirds of the nation's practicing librarians will retire by 2019.

FSU will work in collaboration with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the University of Washington to develop "Project Athena", an adaptable model for the recruitment and preparation of the next generation of library and information science faculty. It includes a recruitment model, a new doctoral course and resources and instruments for outcome-based assessment of recruitment and preparation activities nationally.

Each school will recruit three doctoral fellows who will participate in developing and demonstrating the recruiting model. The project also involves revising the Survey on Doctoral Education and Career Preparation that was funded by the Pew Charitable Trusts and developed by the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2000. The survey was designed for several reasons, one of which was to discover how effective doctoral programs are at preparing students to become faculty members. School of Information Studies Dean Jane B. Robbins will lead this research effort.

Burnett and Robbins are joined by co-principal investigators Laurie J. Bonnici, Director and Assistant Professor at the School of Library and Information Studies at Texas Woman's University and a former Visiting Assistant Professor at FSU, and Judith Mulholland, an FSU doctoral student who will be joining the faculty at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. Linda Smith, Interim Dean of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Harry Bruce, Associate Dean for Research at the University of Washington, will serve as coordinators of the project at the partner schools.

The grant, which is funded from August 2002 through July 2005, was one of seven awarded by IMLS for a total of \$9.4 million.

#### 2.3.2. National Leadership Grant in Education and Training, "Public Library Network Statistics: Librarian Education for the Collection, Analysis, and Use of Library Network Services and Resources Statistics"

The Information Institute has received from the US Institute of Museum and Library Services a two year \$248,600 National Leadership Grant in Education and Training, "Public Library Network Statistics: Librarian Education for the Collection, Analysis, and Use of Library Network Services and Resources Statistics." This award supports a national education and training program that provides public librarians with

multi-faceted instruction regarding the usage of and uses for networked information resources.

Charles R. McClure, Francis Eppes Professor and Director, and John Carlo Bertot, Associate Professor and Associate Director of the Institute, serve as Co-Principal Investigators for the projects.

### *2.3.3. National Leadership Grant in Research and Demonstration, "Integrating Public Library Databases onto a Nationwide Digital Basemap for Enhanced Library Services"*

The GeoLib Program, Florida Resources and Environmental Analysis Center (FREAC) at Florida State University has received a two-year \$249,081 National Leadership Grant in Research and Demonstration, "Integrating Public Library Databases onto a Nationwide Digital Basemap for Enhanced Library Services" award. Christie Koontz, Director of the Program is the PI and Dean Jue is the Associate Director and is Co-PI on the project. Charles R. McClure and John Carlo Bertot are also Co-PIs.

Additional information about these studies can be found at: <http://www.ii.fsu.edu/Announce/grants.html>

### *2.4. University of Maryland, US*

Dr. Ann Carlson Weeks, Professor of the Practice in the College of Information Studies (CLIS), will serve as Co-Principal Investigator of a project supported by a \$3 million National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to develop a large-scale digital archive of children's books.

Creation of the International Children's Digital Library (ICDL) builds upon the technologies developed by the University of Maryland's previous NSF-DLI-2 funded research, SearchKids, directed by Dr. Allison Druin and Dr. Benjamin Bederson. This visual browsing and searching interface for young children is being modified and expanded to accommodate the new domain of books. The ICDL will give young people around the world access to children's literature through an archive of more than 10,000 digitized children's books.

The new project is a joint effort of Maryland's Human-Computer Interaction Lab and CLIS. Dr. Druin is Principal Investigator on the Project; Dr. Bederson is Co-Principal Investigator.

Interface research issues surrounding scale, metadata, book readers, localization, and community building will be addressed during this five-year project. In addition, intellectual property, copyright protection and distribution issues are being explored with the help of stakeholders (e.g., authors, publishers, librarians, etc.) who have come together as partners in this research effort. Dr. Weeks' work will focus on examining children's and librarians' use of digital resources and the impact such technology can have on collection development policies and library programming practices. The work is being assessed by a combination of methods that combine

interview and observation techniques with online surveys, artifact, and log data analysis.

For more information on CLIS and its programs, check our web site, or contact Dr. Diane Barlow, Associate Dean, [dbarlow@deans.umd.edu](mailto:dbarlow@deans.umd.edu), 301-405-2042.

### *2.5. Drexel University, Philadelphia, US*

Thanks to a grant from the federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), Drexel's College of Information Science and Technology (IST) in collaboration with the Free Library of Philadelphia, will conduct a three-year research project to develop and test tools to enhance library service provision to urban young adults.

The co-principal investigators are Drs. Sandra Hughes-Hassell and Denise Agosto, both assistant professors at Drexel University. Dr. Sandra Hughes-Hassell has done extensive research in the delivery of information services to children and young adults, the social impact of information technology, and the information needs of disadvantaged youth. Dr. Agosto also has a major research interest in young people's information seeking in digital environments, and focuses on Hispanic and multicultural issues in children's and young adult literature and library services.

IMLS is an independent federal agency located in Washington, D.C. that fosters leadership, innovation and a lifetime of learning by supporting museums and libraries. It awards National Leadership Grants for Libraries to enhance the quality of library services nationwide. Winning projects test potential solutions to real-world problems and provide leadership models for other organizations to emulate.

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### *2.6. State University of New York, Buffalo, US*

The Center for Applied Research in Library and Information Science (CARLIS) in the School of Informatics at the State University of New York at Buffalo has received a National Leadership Grant from The Institute of Museum and Library Services for \$177,668 to investigate the impact that youth's use of the Internet is having on youth's use of the public library. This new grant builds on a previous IMLS funded project in which CARLIS, in collaboration with the Urban Libraries Council, investigated the impact of the Internet on adult use of the public library. The final report of that study is available at <http://www.urbanlibraries.org>, and a paper summarizing the results of the study was published last August (2002) in JASIST. Dr. George D'Elia,

Professor and Director of CARLIS, will serve as the PI for this new project. Dr. June Abbas and Dr. Kay Bishop will serve as Co-Investigators for the project.

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### *2.7. Dominican University, River Forest, Illinois, US*

A demand for professionals who can adapt to ever-changing technology systems and navigate information management issues has led to a master's degree in knowledge management at Dominican University. This joint program between the Graduate School of Library and Information Science and the Graduate School of Business and Information Systems, is the only program of its kind in the Chicago area and explores an industry that is expected to reach \$12 billion in spending worldwide within the next two years.

By combining Dominican University's nationally-recognized strength in library and information science with well-established programs in business and information systems, the knowledge management program is able to incorporate an interdisciplinary perspective that educates students with leading scholars in the field. Along with gaining a values-centered education in knowledge management, students are able to apply their knowledge through concentrated study and work in a knowledge management environment in the Chicago area.

The program requires 39 semester hours of graduate course work, totaling 13 courses and can be completed in one calendar year of two semesters and two summer sessions. Students also have the option to complete the program by taking classes part-time. Students may choose to follow a course of electives leading to a concentration in information science or management systems.

Applicants for the new master's program must have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution, an undergraduate GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale and satisfactory scores on the GMAT, GRE or MAT, two letters of recommendation and a personal essay.

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## 2.8. *Kent State University, US*

Kent State University's School of Library and Information Science received a gift of \$240,000 from the Reinberger Foundation of Cleveland for the construction of a unique national center dedicated to training librarians who specialize in services for children, young adults and school librarianship. The gift was announced in anticipation of National Library Week (April 14–20).

The Children's Resource Center will be unique among the nation's library schools and will serve as a model classroom for library science programs for children's librarians. The Center is designed to be much more than a university classroom and will include a children's resource area that will house more than 5,000 children's books, materials, and resources to create a focal point for instruction in children's, young adult, and school librarianship. The 1,700-square-foot resource center will also include a wireless computer network installed with specialized software and other resources used in children's and school libraries. In addition, the Center will incorporate a videoconferencing facility that will permit students in various locations around Ohio to complete an MLIS degree through a combination of video and web-based courses.

Megan Harding, (330) 672-0419  
KSU Marketing Coordinator

## 2.9. *McGill University, Canada*

### 2.9.1. *Children as Designers of Web Portal Architecture*

Andy Large and Jamshid Beheshti have obtained the largest Social Science and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) grant in the School's history. The three-year New Economy Initiative grant of \$213,800 on Children as Designers of Web Portal Architecture is also the largest SSHRC grant for McGill University in 2002. The research explores whether children can play a role in Web portal design, to what extent portals should be designed to meet the needs of specific ages and genders, the difference between a child's and an adult's design concept, and whether a design that children find attractive will also be as usable as that from a professional. The research will help understand how children approach software design, as well as their specific opinions on portal design. It will elaborate portal design criteria from young users' perspectives, and enable future portals to be constructed based on the cognitive processes of their users. Finally, it represents a further step in opening the information resources of the Web to students.

### *2.9.2. Integrating Classification Visualization Devices for Undergraduate Users*

John Leide, Charles Cole (Visiting Scholar), Jamshid Beheshti, and Andy Large successfully applied for a SSHRC grant on Integrating Classification Visualization Devices for Undergraduate Users. The three-year \$80,000 research will render the undergraduates experience of using an information retrieval system more effective, allowing them to produce higher quality term papers. The specific problem addressed is the divergence of an undergraduate's mental model of a term paper topic and the objective structure of the topic represented by a subject index. The research develops integrating devices that, once manipulated by the undergraduates, will enable them to understand the structure of the subject domain as well as its relationship to students' specific essay topics. By visualizing the subject domain related to their topics, and by using the devices to integrate the visualization, undergraduates can produce more effective term papers.

### *2.10. University of North Carolina, US*

Professors Gary Marchionini and Stephanie Haas at UNC-Chapel Hill's School of Information and Library Science (SILS) will lead a joint university/government effort to make government statistics available over the Internet more accessible and understandable by the general public.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has awarded Marchionini, Haas, and their team a three-year, \$1.3 million grant to lay the foundations for a national statistical knowledge network. UNC-Chapel Hill will be the lead institution on the project and will coordinate the nationwide effort to link state and federal statistical resources and develop user interfaces.

Other team members include researchers from the University of Maryland at College Park (Catherine Plaisant and Ben Shneiderman) and Syracuse University (Carol Hert), and representatives from a variety of federal and state statistical agencies, including the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census Bureau, Energy Information Administration, Social Security Administration, National Agricultural Statistical Service, and the North Carolina Office of Information Technology Services.

The project, formally titled "Integration of Data and Interfaces to Enhance Human Understanding of Government Statistics: Toward the National Statistical Knowledge Network", builds upon studies of how people seek and use statistical information and human-computer interface designs done in collaboration with these agencies over the past five years. Based in the SILS Interaction Design Laboratory (IDL) in Manning Hall, the project's web site can be found at <http://www.ils.unc.edu/govstat>.

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