

News

1. Conferences

1.1. 16th BOBCATSSS 2008: Providing Access to Information for Everyone, Zadar, Croatia, 28–30 January 2008

Access to information is vital for the personal and social growth of every individual. However, many people are facing barriers in accessing information, whether they are technical issues – like infrastructure, standards or the usability of services; political and legal issues – like copyright or censorship; social issues – like information literacy or information behaviour of different user groups; or economical issues – like cost of information. The goal of the BOBCATSSS 2008 Symposium is to explore access to information for everybody from the technical, political and legal, social and economical point of view. The Symposium would like to identify the existing barriers in accessing information and to offer an overview of new concepts, ideas and examples of good practice in order to raise awareness and achieve possible solutions. Invited are contributions in a form of a paper, workshop or a poster covering the following topics:

Technical aspects:

- Infrastructures, standards and interoperability for universal access to information
- Open access supported by open source
- Digital repositories and document server (long term preservation and access)
- Usability, service and interface design

Political aspects:

- Repression via information – withdrawal/censorship
- Bills and laws for LIS – an international composition
- Copyright aspect of open access and open source initiative
- Role of national/regional/local government in the development of information institutions

Social aspects:

- Digital divide
- Information professionals in the information society
- Information literacy (a holistic approach)
- Information ethics

- Information behavior of different users groups

Economical aspects:

- Cost of information
- Cost of electronic resources
- Licensing agreements
- Digital library costs

For further information please visit our website: www.bobcatsss2008.org.

*1.2. Librarian@2010 – Educating for the future, Lisbon, Portugal, 19–21
September 2007*

EBLIDA and EUCLID are proud to announce their first ever joint conference to be held in Lisbon from the 19th to the 21st of September 2007.

Background and goals

EBLIDA and EUCLID share the belief that Europe needs strong libraries and knowledgeable librarians who can help in creating a strong European economy. Today libraries and the information sector face a series of complex challenges due to fundamentally changing expectations of users. The introduction of ICT, born digital material, digitization of large volumes of traditional material and a shift from the public to the private domain have profoundly changed the library environment.

The Bologna process aims at creating a European educational space characterized by transparency and promoting mobility of academic staff and students, as well as professionals within the LIS Sector in order to promote employability and facilitate integration. This process is of vital interest for the academic field as well as the field of practice. So far European education and research institutions on one side and the field of practice on the other have, to a large extent, discussed these issues separately. There is a need to bridge the gap between the academic field and the field of practice when discussing the future of European library and information science education, the profession and its services. In order to promote such a joint discussion, EUCLID and EBLIDA are arranging a joint conference in Lisbon, Portugal, in September 2007.

This conference aims to bring educators, researchers and practitioners together in order to discuss the effects of profound social changes related to digitization, multiculturalism and the growth of the knowledge economy. The conference will also consider the impact of the Bologna process, both in the arena of education and research and also in professional practice, and the relationship between the two. The conference will be organized according to the following themes and the submission of papers is welcomed.

Theme 1. “Cooperation between academia and practice”

How can LIS research be incorporated, integrated and disseminated into LIS practice? How can research and education be stimulated and enriched by practice?

Can “arenas” or “fora” be established where researchers and practitioners can meet and discuss”? Are there institutional or other barriers which make this cooperation difficult?

Theme 2. “Mobility and flexibility”

How can the LIS community work together on issues of mobility and ensure cooperation between academia and practice for the benefit of students and professionals in the LIS sector? Are mobility and flexibility in the employment market-place important for its development?

Theme 3 The role of academia and the LIS associations in the continuous training of library professionals.

What role can the LIS associations and organizations play in partnership with the LIS educational sector to ensure that there is relevant and research based continuous education for the LIS sector as whole. Are the associations and organizations prepared to meet the needs of its members and other stakeholders?

Panel discussion: “Towards a common curriculum”

Does the LIS educational sector need a common curriculum or guidelines for LIS academic institutions? A panel of practitioners and researchers will analyse and discuss the “European curriculum reflections on library and information science education” published in 2005 by The Royal School of Library and Information Science, Copenhagen to see if these curriculum suggestions meet the needs of the institutions in the future.

Accepted papers will be considered for publication in the journal *Education for Information*.

On behalf of the Organizing Committee

Helena Patricio

Executive Committee Member, EBLIDA

1.3. *The 4th International Conference on Technology, Knowledge and Society, Northeastern University, Boston, US, 18–20 January 2008*

<http://www.Technology-Conference.com>

Presenters may choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed *International Journal of Technology, Knowledge and Society*. If you are unable to attend the conference in person, virtual registrations are also available which allow you to submit a paper for review and possible publication in the journal, and provide access to the online edition of the journal.

To submit your proposal, please visit the Submit Proposal link on the conference website <http://www.Technology-Conference.com>.

We look forward to receiving your proposals and hope you will be able to join us in Boston in January 2008.

Dr. Marcus Breen

Northeastern University, Boston, USA

1.4. The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Pre-conference and Satellite Meeting, Dakar, Senegal, in collaboration with the Africa, Information Technology, and Management and Marketing Sections: "Managing technologies and library automated systems in developing countries Open source VS commercial options", 14–16 August, 2007

Details concerning the terms of registration and the preliminary program at:

<http://www.dakar.aliaco.com/>

Themes

- Management of technologies and library automated systems in the context of developing countries
- Open sources software and applications VS new commercial products

Objectives

- Bring together library practitioners, researchers, and educators in library and information science as well as designers and providers of technologies, software and other products that can be useful to libraries and their users, in order to exchange information and ideas;
- Share international experiences focusing on various approaches to the management of technologies and library systems in the context of developing countries;
- Contribute to the organization of study groups on these questions among African information professionals from different linguistic communities;
- Explore possibilities that can be offered by IFLA core programmes to support developing countries in developing their management of technologies and library and automated systems.

Outline of the preliminary program

- Opening presentations and discussion about the theme of the conference
- Lessons from experience: recent case studies in the implementation of technologies
- The context of technological developments in Africa
- New technologies and new tools for development
- New projects for the future of Africa
- Conclusion and synthesis

For more details: http://www.dakar.aliaco.com/pre-prog_en.pdf

<http://www.aliaco.com/dakar/pre-prog_fr.pdf>

For questions regarding registration or the program, please contact Réjean Savard: rejean.savard@umontreal.ca

Violaine Fortier (violaine.fortier@umontreal.ca)

<http://Bibliodoc.francophonie.org>

1.5. The 5th International Conference on the Book, Madrid, Spain, 20–22 October 2007

<http://book-conference.com/>

This broad-ranging and cross-disciplinary conference will discuss the past, present and future of publishing, libraries, literacy, learning and the information society. Presenters may choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed *International Journal of the Book*. If you are unable to attend the conference in person, virtual registrations are also available which allow you to submit a paper for review and possible publication in the journal, and provide access to the online edition of the journal.

To submit your proposal, please visit the Submit Proposal link on the conference website <http://book-conference.com/>.

We look forward to receiving your proposals and hope you will be able to join us in Madrid in October 2007.

Yours Sincerely,

Karim Gherab Martín

Director,

Bibliotecas Digitales, Madrid, Spain

For: The International Advisory Board of the International Conference on the Book

1.6. 9th Information Architecture Summit 2008, Hyatt Regency Miami, US, 10–14 April, 2008

The ASIS&T Information Architecture Summit is the premier annual gathering for information architects. Research papers provide an opportunity to present original contributions to the research, theory, and practice of information architecture. Submissions should demonstrate an awareness of relevant literature, both empirical and theoretical, while clearly indicating the importance of the research to IA practice. In addition, submissions to the research stream must include the full text of the paper, not just an abstract. All research papers will undergo a blind peer-review. Accepted papers will be included in the digital conference proceedings and made publicly available on the conference website.

Although we are seeking original research contributions, this does not mean that your submission must strictly conform to the traditional format for scholarly research papers. The exact nature and format of the paper lies with the author. However, regardless of the format, research papers should still meet accepted scholarly standards for quality, clarity, validity, and originality. Papers will typically be between 3000 and 5000 words (roughly 6–12 pages), plus references and supporting images and tables as required.

The maximum length for research papers is 7000 words.

Although the research stream intends to encourage contributions from academic researchers, we strongly encourage anyone to submit research papers, including practitioners and students. Affiliation with an academic institution is not required to submit a research paper.

Approximate dates for research track submissions:

November 2007: Full papers due

January 2008: Notification of acceptance Early March 2008: Revised full paper in PDF due for inclusion in electronic proceedings

Additional details about submission requirements will be available later this year on the conference website at <http://www.iasummit.org>. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

D. Grant Campbell, Program Chair,
IA Summit Research Track
gcampbel@uwo.ca

2. Schools

2.1. University of Indiana, US

The School of Library and Information Science at Indiana University Bloomington is pleased to announce the introduction of the Graduate Certificate in Information Architecture. This new program focuses on building a set of skills for the design of effective and efficient information systems. Although information architecture has yet to be defined by an accepted set of professional standards, there is a core set of skills, knowledge, and experiences relevant to its practice. The Graduate Certificate in Information Architecture (GCIA) combines a theoretical foundation in the principles of representation and organization with the practical skills of systems analysis, vocabulary development, interface design and project management. These skills are integrated in a culminating experience—the newly developed Capstone in Information Architecture—which provides hands-on experience that brings together the theoretical and practical components of the GCIA program.

The GCIA requires successful completion of 18 credit hours of graduate-level coursework. In addition to the Capstone project (3 cr.), students will take coursework in five areas relevant to the practice of information architecture:

- Theoretical foundations of information architecture: S515 (L540) Foundations of Information Architecture (3 cr.)
- Systems analysis: S556 (L545) Systems Analysis and Design (3 cr.)
- Project management: S512 (L577) Management of Information System Design (3 cr.)
- Development and maintenance of controlled vocabularies: S633 (L583) Indexing Theory and Practice (3 cr.)

- Design and usability for human computer interaction: S516 (L542) Introduction to Human Computer Interaction (3 cr.)

Coursework must be completed within three (3) years of entering the certificate program. No credits may be transferred from another graduate or undergraduate program in order to satisfy the requirement for 18 credit hours of coursework. However, if a student has completed equivalent graduate coursework in one or more of the relevant areas prior to admission to the program, this coursework may be applied to satisfy content requirements for the certificate. The student will select alternative courses from a list of electives in order to meet the 18 credit hours required for the certificate. The student must maintain a GPA of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale with a minimum course grade of B. Any course in which the student earns a grade of less than B must be repeated to remain in the certificate program.

To be eligible for admittance to the certificate program, the student must have successfully completed an undergraduate degree and must meet the requirements for admission to a master's degree program in IUB's School of Library and Information Science.

Additional information about the Graduate Certificate in Information Architecture may be obtained from <<http://www.slis.indiana.edu/degrees/arch.php>> or contact SL:IS Assistant Professor Noriko Hara <nhara@indiana.edu>

2.2. *Kent State University, US*

An online graduate certificate course in Knowledge Management (KM) will begin in August 2007 at Kent State University. Using the Internet to link students, instructors and world renowned guest experts, students will emerge from the six, fifteen-week classes with applicable skills and understanding of how to capture tacit knowledge, how to tap organizational expertise, how to facilitate knowledge sharing, how to gather competitive intelligence and how to enhance organizational learning. The certificate provides a valuable complement to business degrees and on-the-job expertise and will enhance a professional's career opportunities in diverse areas of employment.

KM experts are prevalent and in demand within all organizations and can expect to find careers as chief knowledge officers, competitive intelligence managers, information strategy specialists, knowledge engineers, business intelligence analysts, knowledge architects, and knowledge coordinators, among others.

Admission requirements include an earned undergraduate bachelor's degree; GPA thresholds; and letters of recommendation. For additional information on the knowledge management graduate certificate program and interdisciplinary IAKM degrees, visit the website at <http://iakm.kent.edu>; contact iakm@kent.edu; or call the program office at 330-672-5840.