

Announcement

Virtual Reference Desk Conference 2004

8–9 November 2004, Cincinnati, OH, USA

The Information Institute of Syracuse at Syracuse University has announced that its 2004 Virtual Reference Desk (VRD) Conference will be held Nov. 8–9 at the historic Hilton Netherland Hotel in Cincinnati, Ohio. The VRD Conference has become a leading professional conference dedicated to the rapidly changing field of reference systems, standards and practice.

“Digital reference and this conference have already changed librarianship and we’re excited to see where the community is going next”, says R. David Lankes, director of the Information Institute of Syracuse and the VRD Project. “The VRD Conference has become an exciting annual brainstorming session and the event to be at in the field.”

Since its inception in 1999, the annual VRD Conference has earned its reputation as the premiere event for digital reference information and products. The conference attracts recognized leaders in the reference information field; last year it hosted more than 400 library and information professionals from the United States and abroad. It offers sessions on reference service management, resource development, current technologies, vendor product demonstrations and more. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the conference delivers practical solutions, management practices and tools, and the latest research in a congenial atmosphere that participants feel is lively, thought provoking, and informative. A pre-conference session Nov. 7 and a post-conference session Nov. 10 are being planned.

The conference is sponsored by SU’s School of Information Studies, the Online Computer Library Center’s Member Services Division, and the American Library Association’s Reference and User Services Association.

The Information Institute of Syracuse, part of Syracuse University’s School of Information Studies, is a world-class research organization with grants and contracts from NSF, the U.S. Department of Education and others. The Institute operates the Virtual Reference Desk, the Gateway to Educational Materials, and the National Science Digital Library’s AskNSDL. For more information, visit <http://iis.syr.edu>.

Officially chartered in 1870 as a private, coeducational institution of higher education, Syracuse University is a leading student-centered research university. Syracuse’s 12 schools and colleges share a common mission: to promote learning through teaching, research, scholarship, creative accomplishment and service while embracing the core values of quality, caring, diversity, innovation and service. The 938-acre campus is home to more than 18,000 full- and part-time undergraduate and graduate students from all 50 states and 90 countries.