

ICADL2002 Final Report
The 5th International Conference of Asian Digital Libraries
Singapore, Grand Hyatt Hotel
11 to 14 December 2002

Introduction

This final report serves to provide a record on the proceedings of ICADL2002 for reference and future use by new ICADL Organising Committees.

Organising Committee

The Organising Committee was finalised in July 2002. The Division of Information Studies, the main organisers of the conference, managed to obtain the support and collaborative partnerships from the National Library Board of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University Library, National University of Singapore Libraries, Library Association of Singapore and Library and Information Technology Association to form ICADL2002's Organising Committee. This has effectively brought together key information and academic institutions as well as professional library bodies in Singapore to be involved in this conference. This collaboration is an important achievement which augurs well for continued co-operation and partnership for similar joint ventures and activities in future.

Conference Publicity

The Publicity Committee was responsible for raising general awareness of the Conference, attracting a large number of participants as well as good quality paper submissions. This was achieved through the creation of the ICADL2002 website (<http://www.cais.ntu.edu.sg:8000/icadl2002/>), distribution of Call for Paper brochures (in excess of 3000 copies), sending of targeted emails, announcement or advertisement in professional magazines and newsletters, distribution of Call for Participation brochures (in excess of 2000 copies).

Conference Sponsorship

A total of 18 sponsors contributed around S\$93,000 (both in money and in kind). In addition, indirect assistance was provided by other organisations who sponsored delegates to the conference. In all, a total equivalent of around S\$100,000 was raised which surpassed the original target of S\$65,000. This is made possible by the sustained effort and commitment of the Committee with follow-ups to the original requests for sponsorships that were sent to more than 70 organisations.

Conference Programme Committee

ICADL2002 received 109 regular paper submissions and 62 short paper submissions. The total number of 171 paper submissions far exceeded the original expectation. The papers came from 25 different countries making the conference programme truly international. A total of 34 full papers, 20 short papers and 16 posters were accepted following the review process.

Highlights of the Conference Programme

Joint Keynote Addresses

- Serge Abiteboul, INRIA, France. (Web services and Web integration)

- Srikant Ramakrishnan, IBM Almaden Research Lab, USA. (Data mining technologies for digital libraries and Web information systems)

ICADL Keynote Address

- Jane Prey, National Science Foundation, USA. (Progress on educational digital libraries)

ICADL Invited Talks

- Hsinchun Chen, University of Arizona, USA. (From digital library to digital government: A case study in crime data mapping and mining)
- Christine Borgman, UCLA, USA. (Challenges in building the digital library for the 21st century)
- Shigeo Sugimoto, ULIS, Japan, Stuart Weibel, OCLC, USA, Thomas Baker, GMD, Germany (Dublin Core: Process and principles)
- Edward Fox, Virginia Tech, USA. (Building digital libraries made easy: Towards open digital libraries)
- Ian Witten, University of Waikato, New Zealand. (Examples of practical digital libraries: Collections built internationally using Greenstone)
- Zhang, Xiaoxing, National Library of China, PRC. (Introduction to China digital library project)

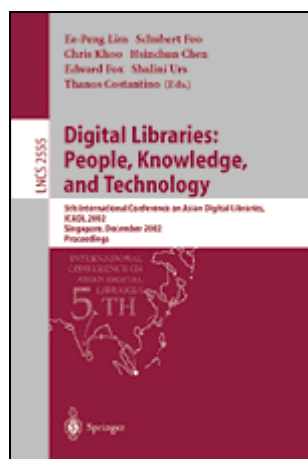
Paper Session Themes

- (1a) Information retrieval techniques
- (1b) Multimedia digital libraries
- (2a) Data mining in digital libraries
- (2b) Special purpose digital libraries
- (3a) Digital library services
- (3b) Digital libraries for community building
- (4a) Information retrieval in Asian languages
- (4b) Building and using digital libraries
- (5a) Metadata issues
- (5b) Algorithms and protocols
- (6a) Human computer interfaces
- (6b) Digital library infrastructures

Special Issue of Information Processing and Management for Selected Conference Papers

Of the 34 full papers accepted for presentation at the Conference, 10 were short-listed for inclusion in a special issue of *Information Processing & Management*. Editors of the special issue, Edward Fox and Elisabeth Logan, will notify the authors and request submission of updated, revised or otherwise augmented papers based upon their work reported in ICADL. From these, six to eight papers will be selected by a second review and included in this special issue. This special issue seeks to reinforce and complement the ICADL proceedings in reaching a wider readership, as well as attracting a significant number of quality papers for the Conference.

Conference Publication



The 535-page conference proceeding was published by Springer Verlag as Vol. 2555 in the Lecture Notes in Computer Science series (<http://link.springer.de/link/service/series/0558/tocs/t2555.htm>).

LNCS is a well-known and prestigious series in the Computer and Information Science field.

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A total of 380 copies of the proceedings were ordered from the publisher for conference participants -- including 60 free copies provided by the publisher and 320 copies purchased at a discounted rate of EUR\$32 (around S\$55) per copy.

The conference programme booklet, in A5 size, was designed and printed by Xpress Print Pte Ltd. A total of 400 copies (all given out) were printed. The programme booklet may be downloaded at

<http://mandolin.cais.ntu.edu.sg/icadl2002/program.pdf>.

The Conference Organising Committee acknowledges Xpress Print for the partial sponsorship of the programme booklet, and the excellent and prompt service rendered.



Conference Tutorials

A total of 4 pre-conference tutorials were held on Wednesday, 11 December 2002. A total of 155 delegates registered for the tutorials. Due to flight delays affecting two tutorial speakers, the tutorials had to be rescheduled and extended into the evening. Nonetheless, all the tutorials were very well-attended with each session having around 155 participants in the day and 60 each in the evening.

- (1) Evaluating Digital Libraries for Usability (9:00am-12:15pm) Christine Borgman, Univ. of California, Los Angeles, USA
- (2) Knowledge Management Systems: A Text Mining Perspective ((1:30 pm-5:00pm) Hsinchun Chen, Univ. of Arizona, USA
- (3) Digital Libraries: Theory and Practice (6.00 pm – 8.00 pm) Edward Fox, Virginia Tech, USA
- (4) Dublin Core (6.00 pm – 8.00 pm) Stuart Weibel, OCLC, USA

Conference Local Arrangement

The Conference was held at the Grand Hyatt Singapore which is strategically located at the start of Orchard Road, in the heart of Singapore's commercial and entertainment district (<http://singapore.grand.hyatt.com/index.shtml>).

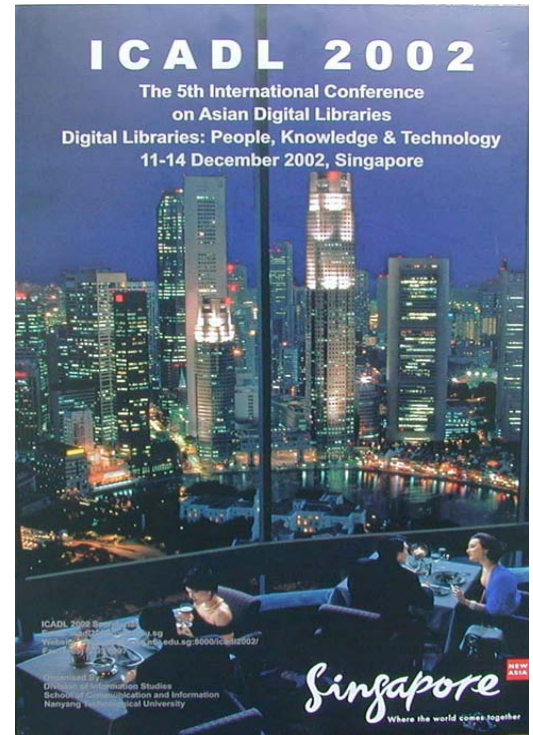
A total of around 400 delegates from 30 countries attended the 4-day event. This is substantially higher than the original estimate and some logistic rearrangements had to be made to accommodate the very enthusiastic participants. This included the need to order additional proceedings, conference bags, and revised arrangements for the gala dinner and library tours.

The Conference gala dinner on Thursday, 11 December at Alkaff Mansion was attended by more than 250 participants. The old colonial mansion provided a cosy ambience for the participants to mingle and get connected in an evening that commenced with a city-tour enroute to the dinner. A 4-piece jazz band under the Voxx Events Management provided the music to liven up the informal ambience. They were accompanied by one of our talented Invited Speaker, Prof Ian Witten on the clarinet. A simple acknowledgement ceremony and presentation of mementos was held to acknowledge the advisors, sponsors, keynote and invited speakers and organising committee members. Among the mementos given out was a gem-stone picture of a series of customised Singapore Merlions made from agate, amethyst and aventurine. Participants were given door gifts and 2 sets of ICADL souvenir posters were specially prepared for participants.



Singapore Merlion memento

The forthcoming ICADL2003 was announced by Hsinchun Chen at the gala dinner. The ICADL plaque (that was initiated in Bangalore (ICADL2001), was handed over by Schubert Foo (ICADL2002, Organising Chair) to Norpishan Mohd Noor (ICADL2003 Organising Committee representative). ICADL2003 will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 9 to 12 December 2003.



ICADL 2002 Posters

ICADL2002 also hosted professional tours to the libraries of the National Library Board (NLB), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and National University of Singapore (NUS) Libraries on Friday, 12 December from 5.00 pm to 7.00pm. The original 35 places for each library tour was quickly filled and additional transport and logistics were arranged to cater to the average of 50 participants for each tour finally. Each participating library hosted a one-and-a-half hour tour of their libraries that included the Woodlands Regional Library (NLB), Lee Wee Nam Library (NTU) and C J Koh Law Library (NUS). In line with the theme of the Conference, the delegates were given a presentation of the respective digital library and its services. This was followed by a tour of library facilities. The visit ended with some light refreshments and informal exchange amongst the delegates and library representatives.



ICADL2002 delegates at the C J Koh Law Library

Post Conference Workshop

The LISEA (Library and Information Science Education in Asia) Workshop was held the afternoon of December 14, following the close of the ICADL Conference. Two sessions with the themes, Roles and opportunities for E-learning in the LIS Curriculum, and Standards for Accreditation: Thinking About LIS Accreditation in Asia, were held at the same Grand Hyatt hotel. 3 papers were presented in each session. Each was attended by approximately 35 to 40 participants. The workshop sessions generated much interest and many questions were posed to the presenters. Presenters represented universities in Australia (2), Bangladesh, Kuwait, Taiwan, and Singapore. Spiral bound copies of workshop proceedings were distributed to all participants. Following the workshop, presenters and attending members of the advisory committee were invited to an informal dinner at a local restaurant where discussions continued. The workshop papers will subsequently appear in a special issue of *The Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management*.

ICADL2003

The ICADL Steering Committee, comprising steering members, previous organisers and potential country hosts, met over a working lunch on 11 December to decide on the next hosting country and organising committee for ICADL2003. The committee members, whose representation included US, Europe and most Asian countries, voted to accept the National Library of Malaysia, Librarian's Association of Malaysia and MIMOS Berhad proposal, presented by Ms Norpishan Mohd Noor to host ICADL2003.

The 6th International Conference on Asian Digital Libraries, ICADL2003, will be held at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 9 to 12 December 2003 with the proposed theme "Digital Libraries: Developing & Enhancing Indigenous Knowledge for Global Access".

Outstanding Activities

A small number of outstanding activities remain and will be completed in due course. This include:

- (1) Publishing selected conference papers in the Special issue of *Information Processing & Management*
- (2) Publishing workshop papers in the Special issue of *The Singapore Journal of Library and Information Management*
- (3) Digitising photographs taken at the Conference for publication on the website.

Conclusion

With the concerted and enthusiastic efforts of the entire Committee, ICADL2002 has achieved much success in all areas of an academic conference: publicity, sponsorship, program, publication, tutorials, workshop, and local arrangement. It has been a very rewarding and a good learning experience for the Committee. The Committee registers its gratefulness to the number of high quality paper submissions, programme and presentations, and networking opportunities over the few days in Singapore. It remains for the Committee to sincerely acknowledge everyone who has made ICADL2002 possible, and for their contributions, in one way or another.

Finally, the Committee extends their best wishes to the ICADL2003 Organising Committee and look forward to the Conference to be held at Kuala Lumpur in December 2003.

Prepared by ICADL2002 Organising Committee
January 2003