

STI Highlights at ASIS&T Annual

Shaping Things to Come—DASER Summit III and Tri Society Symposium (full day seminar) Friday, November 3, 2006, 9:00-5:00

The 8th Quadrennial Tri Society Symposium / 3rd DASER Summit (the Symposium) will focus on questions of how libraries and information centers are shaping the digital information world, and how they are being shaped by it. Many have wondered if libraries -- and librarians -- will even exist in the 22nd century. The Symposium assumes scientists, engineers, and physicians will continue to need information professionals. Instead, we ask second-generational questions: What is a "library?" Where are libraries in the digital revolution? What does a physical "library" look like? What is a "librarian?" Given that information centers are loci for knowledge sharing, how are they facilitating digital collaboration, education, and information management among scientists? Research and opinion from leaders in cutting edge library and information centers will prove both enlightening and inspiring.

Information about the symposium will be updated as it becomes available. Please check <http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM06/daser.html> for updates.

Pointers

By Joe Hourcle

There is an effort from the scientific community to work on many of the issues of SIG/STI. Activities from the scientific sector include:

The American Geophysical Union has added a new focus group, Earth and Space Sciences Informatics, with sessions at their Fall 2005 and 2006 Joint Assembly meetings. http://www.agu.org/focus_group/essi/

The Space Physics Archive Search

The Landscape of Metadata Research and Development Wednesday, November 8, 1:30-3:00

Metadata R&D has gone through three phases of exploration, standardization, and expansion in the past ten years. It has become a matured research and application field, in which every branch is built upon the newest technology and concepts. This panel brings researchers from Asia, North America, and Europe to this panel with an international perspective.

Access to Scientific Data: The social and Technical Challenges & Strategies (two sessions) Wednesday, November 8, 1:30-3:00, 3:30-5:00

Panel One will present broader issues of access to scientific data from a social and policy perspective, including intellectual property concerns, ethical considerations in collaborative work, and supporting effective communication and sharing in a distributed scientific community. Presentations in panel one include:

Yale Braunstein: *Economic impact of intellectual property protection of non-original databases.*

and Extract (SPASE) Group has released version 1.0.1 of their data model for sharing metadata. <http://www.spase-group.org/>

USGS and the Geosciences Network (GEON) hosted Geoinformatics 2006 to stimulate the exchange of research results that advance the goals of Geoinformatics. <http://www.geongrid.org/geoinformatics2006/>

Johns Hopkins University's Applied Physics Lab hosted the Earth and Space Sciences Ontology Workshop in May 2006 to collaborate on existing and upcoming research projects in semantic markup and ontologies.



An unidentified Lepidoptera larva. Photographed in Oaxaca, Mexico, in April 2004, the larva is possibly a member of the Papilionidae family of butterflies. (http://www.nsf.gov/discoveries/disc_summ.jsp?cntn_id=105863&org=NSF)

Caroline Whitbeck: *Ethics of sharing scientific and technological data.*

Mark Parsons: *Designating user communities for scientific data.*

Panel Two will focus on the specific system developments that implement the broader issues on the micro-level. These developments are structures at the discipline or personal level that facilitates data archiving and promotes sharing and use of data sets among scientists. Presentations in panel two include

Timothy Eastman: *EScience and archiving for space science.*

Sherry Xie: *The long-term preservation of accurate and authentic digital data.*

John D'Ignazio: *Metadata architecture for use of scientific data.*

<http://sras.jhuapl.edu/workshop.html>

NASA has selected to fund new virtual observatories and upgrade existing data repositories as part of their Research Opportunities in Space and Earth Sciences. http://lwsde.gsfc.nasa.gov/VxO_05_Selections.pdf

The Electronic Geophysical Year (eGY) 2007-2008 is working to promote electronic records access, to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the IGY. <http://www.egy.org/>

News in Brief

Call for nominations for STI Chair-Elect and Communication officer for 2006-2007

Please send your nomination/self-nomination to Jian Qin at jqin@syr.edu by August 30, 2006.

Congyan Zhao of Dalhousie University won the SIG/STI CAS Student Travel Award

Congyan Zhao graduated from Jiangsu Institute of Petrochemical Technology, China with a bachelor's degree in analytical chemistry. She worked in the department of scientific and technical information, Nanjing Library, China before her master program in Dalhousie University.

New publications by members

Downs, R. R. & Chen, R. S. (2005). Organizational Needs for Managing and Preserving Geospatial Data and Related Electronic Records. *Data Science Journal*, 4: 255-271. Available:

http://www.jstake.jst.go.jp/article/dsj/4/0/4_255/article

New issue of Science and Technology Librarianship is available at <http://www.istl.org/06-summer/index.html>



SIG/STI officers:

<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGSTI/officers.html>

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