1. Call for International Paper Contest

2002 INTERNATIONAL PAPER CONTEST ON
International Digital Libraries and Information Science & Technology Advances in Developing Countries

The American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIST), International Information Issues Special Interest Group, is pleased to announce its third competition for papers to be submitted for the 2002 Annual Meeting, November 18-21 2002, Philadelphia, PA.

The theme of the paper is:
"Knowledge, Connections and Communities: the developing world perspective."

The paper topic could be at the country or regional level. Papers could discuss issues, policies and case studies on specific aspects of this theme, such as, but not limited to, the following: knowledge management, knowledge sharing, indigenous knowledge, development of electronic resources across networks, connections and connectivity, the digital divide, globalization and cultural identity, bringing access to information to distant and disadvantaged communities… There will be six winners. Winners will be selected by a panel of judges, which will include Diane Hopkins, The World Bank; Nathalie Leroy, United Nations; Cavan McCarthy, Louisiana State University, Michel Menou, City University of London; and Margarita Studemeister, United States Institute of Peace. The prize for each winner is a two-year individual membership in ASIST. In the case of multiple authors, the principal author will be awarded the ASIST membership. The first place winner of the competition will also receive $1,000 travel grant to attend the 2002 ASIST Annual Conference.

Paper presentation

Summaries of the first four papers will be presented at a Conference Session. Although travel funds are not offered, authors are invited to present their papers, or have someone present them on their behalf.

Other publishing opportunities

Submitted papers will be considered for posting on the SIG III web site as pre-publications. In addition they will also be considered for inclusion in the ASIST Bulletin, based on the decision of Editor-in-Chief, Irene Travis, Ph.D. Papers will also be reviewed for inclusion in a special issue of the International Information and Library Review, Academic Press, subject to the usual peer refereeing process; the Editor is Dean Toni Carbo of the University of Pittsburgh School of Library and Information Science.

Information for authors

Only papers by a principal author who is a citizen of, and resides in a developing country are eligible. Winners in the 2000 or 2001 contests are not eligible. The papers should be original, unpublished, preferably in English, but submissions in French or Spanish will be accepted. We encourage submissions from librarians, information and network specialists, and educators involved in the creation, representation, maintenance, exchange, discovery, delivery, and use of digital information.

ASIST Copyright Policy

ASIST will have the non-exclusive right to publish any of the papers submitted on its web site or in print, with ownership and all other rights remaining with the author.
Deadline for submission of full papers
Authors are invited to submit manuscripts, not to exceed 6000 words, by August 15, 2002. Authors are encouraged to submit papers electronically. For more information or to submit manuscripts, please contact Yunfei Du by e-mail at the following address:
ydu@lis.admin.unt.edu

More information is available from the Paper Contest page from
http://www.slis.kent.edu/~yinzhang/sigiii/

2. Important Updates on International Paper Contest

- The winner of the Paper Contest will receive a US$1,000 travel grant to attend the conference in Philadelphia.

- In addition, six two-year memberships to the American Society for Information Science & Technology (ASIS&T) will be granted to the other winners.

- The submission deadline is extended to August 15, 2002.

Please note: Only papers by a principal author who is a citizen of, and resides in a developing country are eligible. The papers should be original, unpublished, preferably in English, but submissions in French or Spanish will be accepted.

We encourage submissions from librarians, information and network specialists, and educators involved in the creation, representation, maintenance, exchange, discovery, delivery, and use of digital information.

More information about the Contest on our webpage at: http://www.slis.kent.edu/~yinzhang/sigiii/

3. ASIST Travel Grant

ASIST Travel Grant made possible with support from the Eugene Garfield Foundation

The American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIST) http://www.asis.org, with support from The Eugene Garfield Foundation, is offering limited travel grants for information scientists from developing countries to attend the ASIST Annual Meeting, in Philadelphia, PA, USA, November 18-21, 2002. [definition of a developing country for the purposes of this grant is Low-Income Economies, Lower-Middle-Income Economies, and Severely-Indebted Economies as defined by the World Bank, January 2002, http://www.worldbank.org/data/countryclass/classgroups.htm.]

ASIST Travel Grant Committee: Dick Hill, Executive Director; ASIST members Norman Horrocks, Diane Hopkins, Michel Menou, Toni Carbo, Dudee Chiang, Irene Travis, Joseph Busch, and Sue O'Neill Johnson.

Please note that these grants are limited and there is a possibility that the grant will not cover all of a participant's costs. In addition, travel grants are only available for those professionals who have never been to the United States.

Application Procedure (all-electronic):

1. Submit a standard curriculum vitae in English including your current position (and description of the position in detail), past positions, education, association activities, awards, lectures and papers.

2. Write a brief description on the situation on information science in your institution or country, and how your institution and/or country will benefit by your attending this conference.

3. Write a brief statement of the anticipated budget for your participation, including a statement of why this funding support is needed.

4. If available, attach a copy of a recent paper or lecture you have written.

Send this information or any questions by e-mail to sueojohnson@msn.com, Chair Elect of ASIST, SIG International Information Issues. The deadline is August 31, 2002. Travel grant winners will be announced by September 15, 2002.
4. Accepted SIG III Sponsored Sessions for 2002 Annual Meeting

The following five sessions have been accepted for 2002 Annual Meeting. Schedules of these sessions will be posted soon.

1. Digital Divide II: Global vs. Local Content
2. Information Society Metrics in the Global Environment
3. Multicultural Aspects of Information Organization
4. SIG/III Special Session: Global Information Village Plaza
5. Bridging the Digital Divide as Capacity Building for the Information Economy

5. Call for Participation

Frustrated by the Dot Force, Dot Opportunity, Dot Future, Dot For-All, Dot You-Name-It?

Join the Global Information Village Plaza
Celebrating ASIS&T SIG/III 20th Anniversary

A major feature in the so-called "information society" or else "digital economy" is its global nature. This aspect is analyzed, described and commented upon by many "specialists." The same specialists and other happy few are involved in the preparation of policies and programs supposed to support the transition into this "new era."

Yet the lay professional public has little opportunity to express and confront its views in a truly open and participative fashion, unbiased by corporate, political or career stakes. While general economic and social challenges or current practices are often debated, what do this "new" society mean and imply for people is more often than not overlooked.

This event will provide a unique opportunity for all ASIS&T members and information professionals at large to express and share their personal views. In keeping with the spirit of the Plaza -e.g., the 'public place' or shared community space reminiscent of the public sphere- the social interaction between the various participants and contributors is an important part of the process of reflecting about these issues.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE?

Step #1: Send to the SIG/III discussion list sigiii-l@asis.org a short (300 words maximum) position statement on the following questions:

1. What in your opinion will be radically changed in your professional life as a result of the globalization of the information society?
   - Why?
   - What should you do in order to cope with the change?
   - What should the information science & technology community do to help you and itself cope with the change?
   - What should the information science & technology community do to help itself cope with the change?

2. What in your opinion will be radically changed in your personal life as a result of the globalization of the information society?
   - Why?
   - What should you do in order to cope with the change?
   - What should the information science & technology community do to help you cope with the change?

Messages should clearly indicate "Plaza" in the subject line. Anyone can post messages to the sigiii-l list but if you wish to see what others have posted and participate in further discussion, we recommend that you subscribe to the list (see http://mail.asis.org/mailman/listinfo/sigiii-l for details on how to subscribe). Note that the list will be moderated to avoid spamming and unrelated announcements.

Step #2: Send your comments about the statements posted on the list.
Step #3:
Attend the "Global Information Plaza" session on Tuesday November 19 from 12-1pm, at the ASIS&T Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, PA (http://www.asis.org/Conferences/AM02/index.html) and participate in the debates.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE ASIS&T ANNUAL MEETING?
A few weeks before the session, the moderators will summarize the major themes that arose from the statements and discussions into poster form.

A poster with an overview of the main topics identified will be placed in the Registration area. Attendees are encouraged to contribute their ideas by putting stickers with their comments and suggestions throughout the conference.

At the special session on "Global Information Plaza":

a) Posters on the various topics identified will be placed on the walls around the room. Participants will be able to move around the room and contribute to the topics by placing stickers with their ideas, or discussing these with other participants.

b) Volunteers will be asked to moderate each poster discussion.

c) Halfway through the session, individual discussions will stop. The volunteers and moderators will then gather the various ideas (and stickers) and produce a short position statement summarizing the main concepts and proposals.

d) The volunteers and moderators will briefly introduce the position statements and highlight the contentious issues. This will be followed by a general discussion (recorded).

A summary of the session will be subsequently posted on the Sigiii-l discussion list along with edited position statement(s). It is our hope to then revise and expand these for publication in a professional journal, along with reflections on the process and outcomes of the experience.

Don't miss the opportunity to say your word (politically correct language NOT required). It might not change the course of history but it may make you feel better.

The moderators: Michel J. Menou, Department of Information Science, City University London (menou@soi.city.ac.uk) and Nadia Caidi, Faculty of Information Studies, University of Toronto (caidi@fis.utoronto.ca)

6. Frequently Asked Questions about sigiii-l Subscriptions and SIG III Web Site

The purposes of SIG III are--

- to promote better awareness among ASIS&T members and information professionals of the importance of international cooperation;
- to facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction among ASIS members and their foreign colleagues on information issues; and
- to provide a forum for exploring and discussing international information issues and problems. SIG/III membership includes most non-U.S. ASIS&T members and a true cross-section of U.S. ASIS&T members.

The sigiii-l list is open to all (regardless of membership) and it is unmoderated. We felt that of all ASIS&T SIGs, International Information Issues especially needed the ability to communicate quickly and widely. In the past, we had taken the liberty of subscribing all members of SIG III based on the information available at headquarters. However, this year, the ASIST&T had problems to update list owners. Therefore, the Communication Officer has not been able to manage the list. Nevertheless, you may change your subscription as you would need by following the instructions below.
To post a message to sigiii-l:
   Send your message to <sigiii-l@asis.org>  [All lower case!]
   Attachments will NOT be processed.

To subscribe:
   Send to: majordomo@asis.org
   Subject line should be blank. It will not be processed.
   Text: subscribe sigiii-l
       [Note: no capital letters. No signature file.
        Do not include your name or e-mail address.]

To unsubscribe:
   Send to: majordomo@asis.org
   Subject line should be blank. It will not be processed.
   Text: unsubscribe sigiii-l
       [Note: no capital letters. No signature file.
        Do not include your name or e-mail address.]

The official Web site of SIG III is located at http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/index.html. Due to transition problems, the SIG III’s web site is temporarily available http://www.slis.kent.edu/~yinzhang/sigiii

Please contact the SIG III Communication Officer, Yin Zhang (yinzhang@slis.kent.edu), if you have any questions regarding the sigiii-l listserv and the SIG III web site.

This issue of SIGIII newsletter is compiled by: Yin Zhang (yinzhang@slis.kent.edu)
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