

Message from the Program Co-chairs

The International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Applications 2001 (DC-2001) is, in one respect, the ninth in a series of metadata workshops that began six years ago in Dublin, Ohio, USA. These workshops have focused on the technologies, policies, semantics, and use of Dublin Core as an emerging metadata standard.

Over the past few years, however, issues related to the broader context for Dublin Core have come to the fore, such as XML and, since 1997, the Resource Description Framework, now part of a Semantic Web Activity; harvesting approaches such as Open Archives Initiative; domain-specific metadata standards and their relation to a “core”; and the constructs and policies necessary for managing namespaces and “application profiles” for automatic processing by machines.

DC-2001 has acknowledged this broadening of scope and interest by following the traditional workshop, focused on Dublin Core working groups, with a conference on metadata in general. Within the Dublin Core series, moreover, this is the such event to be held in Asia.

The conference program includes a keynote by Dr. Makoto Nagao, President of Kyoto University, leader of academic societies in computer and information sciences, and President of the Japan Library Association, who is widely known for his distinguished work in digital libraries.

As program co-chairs, we have sought to organize this conference as a forum for the exchange the ideas and experiences within the broader global metadata community. We solicited not just research papers but also implementation reports. The submissions have come from over twenty countries on five continents, on topics ranging from application profiles for various fields and reports on metadata developments in specialized areas such as government and education to advanced technologies and metadata models. Some of these topics are the focus of special sessions with invited papers.

We are particularly grateful to Dr. Jun Adachi and his colleagues at the National Institute of Informatics (NII) for hosting this event at their beautiful new facilities in central Tokyo. Our thanks, as well, to the dedicated work of a program committee of experts from fifteen countries, and to Stuart Weibel and Makx Dekkers of the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative.

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