

Editor's Notes

This issue Vol. 26-1 of the IASSIST Quarterly brings you three papers:

Vernon Leighton from Princeton University delivered a paper "Developing a new Data Archive in a Time of Maturing Standards" at the session "A New Topical Data Archive: Building a Research Infrastructure for Arts and Cultural Policy Studies in the U.S." at the IASSIST 2002 conference in Storrs, CT. The paper describes how the CPANDA (Cultural Policy and the Arts National Data Archive) team has worked and chosen standards among the many customs, standards and standard applications. The old joke: "it is so nice with standards, because there are so many to choose from" does actually imply a lot of work. The paper discusses techniques and standards like XML, DDI codebook formats, archival management software, use of controlled vocabularies, full text indexing in database management systems and much more. The successful strategies, followed by CPANDA, have been to adopt previous efforts and to minimize duplication.

The paper from Robert G. Cromley and Patrick McGlamery on "Integrating Spatial Metadata and Data Dissemination Over the Internet" has not been part of a session in an IASSIST conference. However, the two authors did present some other work at the poster session at the 2002 conference in Storrs, CT. The authors Cromley and McGlamery are working at the Department of Geography and the Homer Babbidge Library at the University of Connecticut. Storrs, CT. The paper describes the components of the metadata records for spatial data and describes the supporting system that will bring this information to the users.

Patricia Cruse, California Digital Library, University of California; Ilona M. Einowsky, UC Data/SRC, University of California, Berkeley, and Juri Stratford, Government Information and Maps, Shields Library, University of California, Davis presented at the IASSIST 2001 conference in Amsterdam the paper "Applications in the Real World: The Counting California Experience with the DDI". The Counting California initiative is committed to enhancing California citizens' access to the growing range of social science and economic data produced by government agencies. This is accomplished by enabling users access to data compiled by federal, state, and local agencies through a single interface. As the title shows the paper is about metadata and the use of DDI (Data Documentation Initiative). But you should also visit the impressive website <http://countingcalifornia.cdlib.org> and have a look at the data.

Remember that conference information is available on

the web. You can see the PowerPoint presentation at the IASSIST web-site www.IASSISTdata.org where many "Multimedia Presentations" are available. If your presentation is not included you should contact the collector Lisa Neidert lisan@umich.edu. Papers from the conference are scheduled to appear in this and coming issues of the IASSIST Quarterly. Please contact the editor kbr@sam.sdu.dk.

Plan ahead and make a note about the IASSIST conference in Ottawa in 2003 (May 27-30).

Karsten Boye Rasmussen, Oct. 2002