

New Mode of Universal Access: The Latest Development of *Global Memory Net*

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In this digital era, we have witness the exciting convergence of content, technology, and global collaboration in the development of digital libraries. The mode of universal access for information seeking and knowledge acquisition differs greatly from the traditional ways. From the information resources point of views, the old model of “owning” a collection has given way to “sharing,” and the new emphases have shifted from possessing large “physical libraries” to “virtual libraries” digitally distributed all over the world.

This presenter has experienced much of these transformations through her own R&D activities – from the creation of interactive videodisc and multimedia CD in the 80s and 90s to leading a current international digital library project, Global Memory Net, supported by the US National Science Foundation. In presenting her vision for linking world digital resources together for universal access, she will share with the audience the latest development of Global Memory Net.

Dr. Ching-chih Chen is Professor of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College. An international consultant and speaker, she has written or edited over 35 books and more than 200 scholarly journal articles. Since 1993, Dr. Chen has helped the development of digital libraries in numerous countries by linking worldwide libraries, museums and archives into the Global Digital Library Initiative. Since 2000 she has led two NSF/International Digital Library Projects, including the *Global Memory Net*. She is co-PI of the *China-US Million Book Digital Library Project*, has served as a member of the Advisory Committee of the European Digital Library Network (DELOS), and is a consultant to the National Library of China's major *China Digital Library Project*. Her *Global Memory Net* project has served as a model for promoting universal access, content building (especially image and video), archiving and international collaboration.

A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Ching-chih Chen has received many awards and honors. During 1997-2002, she served as a member of the US President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC) under both Presidents Clinton and Bush.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Ching-chih Chen -- Link to Simmons (not really up-to-date, but OK)
- Global Memory Net -- www.memory.net

- List of recent papers:
 - Chen, Ching-chih. 2005. "Digital Libraries and Universal Access in the 21st Century: Realities and Potential for US China Collaboration," In: Proceedings of *The 3rd China-US Library Conference*, Shanghai, China, March 22-25, 2005. Beijing, China: National Library of China. pp. 138-167. Invited Speech [shanghai_0503]
 - Chen, Ching-chih. 2004. "The Promise of International Digital Library Collaboration for Innovative Use of Invaluable Resources," In: Proceedings of *LIDA 2004 (Library in the Digital Age): Human Information Behaviour & Competences for Digital Libraries*, Dubrovnik and Mljet Island, Croatia, May 25-29, 2004. Osijek, Croatia: University J. J. Strossmayer in Osijek. pp. 7-15. Keynote speech [LIDA_article]