

DC-2003
28 September - 2 October 2003
Seattle, Washington USA



2003 Dublin Core Conference:
Supporting Communities of Discourse and Practice—Metadata Research & Application

DC-2003—Proceedings of the
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Seattle, Washington, USA

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DC-2003: Supporting Communities of Discourse and Practice— Metadata Research and Applications

I want to welcome all participants, our colleagues and friends from all over the world, to the 2003 Dublin Core conference.

This is the third time, after Tokyo 2001 and Florence 2002, that we hold the annual DCMI event as a combination of tutorials, conference papers and workshop sessions. Building on good experiences and positive feedback from our community in the first two editions, we believe that this event offers a program of interest to novices, experienced implementers and researchers alike, and allows people of different nationalities, backgrounds and field of expertise to meet each other, not only in the context of the program but also in informal settings.

This opportunity for practitioners and researchers to meet is an important aspect for DCMI as an organisation as well as for me personally. After all, DCMI has always been an organisation relying on co-operation and human interaction and we hope that this event will be as satisfying for the participants as previous occasions were.

I would like to express our gratitude to the organising committee at the University of Washington for hosting us in Seattle and the program committee under chairmanship of Jane Greenberg and Stuart Sutton for realising a very interesting program

Best wishes to all of you for a useful and pleasant week in Seattle.

Makx Dekkers
Managing Director
Dublin Core Metadata Initiative



Thinking back, looking forward

Looking back to the first invitational Dublin Core Workshop in 1995, I can't help but marvel at what we've achieved.

The ideas brought into focus at that meeting and elaborated in the years since were neither radical nor profound. Their importance resides in the consensus they represent, the openness of their formulation, and the global recognition of their usefulness.

The tone and tenor of the meetings has changed over the years. There are rarely shouting matches any more, and the participation is more diverse than ever. We have grown to include tutorials and conference papers as well as the ongoing activities of formal working groups, and the conference has become an event of significant scholarship as well as community building.

This Seattle meeting is particularly pleasurable for me, because I've enjoyed the luxury of watching it unfold, rather than organizing it. It is my pleasure to simply be participating, benefitting from the excellent organization put in place by the Seattle Program Committee under the leadership of Stuart Sutton and Jane Greenberg. Makx Dekkers has shaped the workshop program as he has since the Tokyo meeting in 2001, and the entire package looks better than ever before.

I look forward to seeing many old friends, making new ones, and together bringing our community to new levels of achievement.

Stuart Weibel
Senior Research Scientist
OCLC Office of Research



Welcome from the Program Committee Co-Chairs

Dublin Core 2003 is the eleventh international Dublin Core Workshop and the third full Conference program to include peer-reviewed conference papers, posters, and tutorials. Dublin Core 2003 also includes a series of first-time events. It is the first time that the full international Conference program is being held in the United States, that special topical sessions have been coordinated to facilitate dialog on important metadata issues, and that a DC-Lab is being held for the demonstration of advances in metadata tools and services.

The Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI), the Conference Chair and Program Committee Co-Chairs, Coordinators, and Program Committee members recognize that metadata is fundamental to persons, organizations, and initiatives that are increasingly turning to the Web to disseminate and locate information. This perception is informed by the significant energy being directed to metadata schema development, implementation, and maintenance; the ongoing development of metadata creation tools; metadata advancements in many different domains (e.g., government, education, and statistical), and the integral link to metadata exhibited by initiatives, such as the Semantic Web and the Open Archives Initiative. These undertakings have permitted researchers, implementers and practitioners to join forces to further our metadata knowledge and activities.

The DC-2003 Conference theme "Supporting Communities of Discourse and Practice—Metadata Research & Applications" allows researchers to share inquiries, research methodologies, and results from their latest studies and for system implementers to share application developments, evaluations, and to display their tools through the DC-Lab. Following the open spirit of the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI), DC-2003 continues to foster an environment where metadata practitioners, researchers, system implementers, administrators, and others have come together to engage in discourse and advance the metadata practices and research efforts.

The papers in these published proceedings affirm these goals by addressing an array of significant metadata issues and questions. The topical clusters highlight issues of *metadata creation*, including models, methods, and quality; *metadata uses* in the areas of access, users, and specific needs; *metadata implementations* from both systems-oriented and collaborative approaches; *domain specific metadata*; issues of *interoperability*, and the *metadata evaluation, aggregation, use, and reuse*. These papers present a cross-section of developments in the field of metadata, with particular attention given to several of the most pressing challenges and important successes. Their publication serves as a record of the times and provides a permanent body of knowledge to which we can add as metadata activities progress.

We are pleased to have representation of such high quality papers and to have had the input and review of an outstanding Program Committee in making the selection for this year's conference. We are also pleased that the Dublin Core is taking place in Seattle, a city of innovative information and technological achievement. We are honored to have been invited to serve as this year's Program Committee Co-Chairs and bring you a fine collection of papers from our colleagues around the world.

Jane Greenberg, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Stuart Sutton, University of Washington
Program Committee Co-Chairs



Dublin Core Metadata Initiative
Making it easier to find information