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CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue on Complex Digital Objects

The architecture of many early web-based digital libraries implicitly assumed the unit of discourse, frequently "reports" or "e-prints", would be a single (or at most a few) commonly understood application-specific file formats. Digital libraries and supporting technologies have now matured to the point where their contents are commonly no longer simple files. Complex and dynamic objects in digital libraries have emerged in response to various requirements, including: aggregation of formats, supporting files and applications; bundling metadata to aid digital preservation and provenance; creating opaque digital objects for e-commerce; and incorporating dynamic services with data.

However, these innovations may have come at the expense of simplicity, sustainability, preservation and interoperability. Does architectural complexity of digital objects lead to more or less inter-object interoperability? How have complex digital objects changed the object-repository relationship? What is the impact of object complexity on preservation, provenance and stewardship? Are complex digital objects more or less durable than atomic files? Recognizing the importance of the research in this rapidly evolving area, The Journal of Digital Libraries is organizing a special issue on "Complex Digital Objects". The primary focus of this special issue will be on high-quality original unpublished research, case studies, as well as implementation experiences in the area of designing, deploying and maintaining digital objects.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

Multimedia and non-textual objects
Interoperability between object models
Object dissemination and interface techniques
Integrating metadata, data and services
Digital object lifecycle and provenance
Long-term preservation of digital objects
Interaction between repositories and objects
Object naming and linking
Storage and management techniques
Emerging object & repository protocols and standards, such as:
OAI-PMH, OpenURL, Handles, DOIs, METS, MPEG-21, and OAIS

Instructions for submitting manuscripts:

Manuscripts must be written in English and should include a cover page with title, name and address (including e-mail address) of author(s), an abstract, and a list of identifying keywords. Please indicate that you are submitting to the special issue on security. Manuscripts must be submitted via the web site <http://cimic.rutgers.edu/~jdljsi/submission/>

Important Dates:

November 30, 2004 Due date for submission of manuscripts
March 31, 2005 Notification of acceptance/rejection
May 30, 2005 Due date for final version
August 31, 2005 Tentative date for publication of Special Issue



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About the Journal:

 The aim of JDL is to advance the theory and practice of acquisition, definition, organization, management and dissemination of digital information via global networking. In particular, the journal will emphasize technical issues in digital information production, management and use, issues in high-speed networks and connectivity, inter-operability, and seamless integration of information, people, profiles, tasks and needs, security and privacy of individuals and business transactions and effective business processes in the Information Age.

More information about the journal can be found at <http://cimic.rutgers.edu/~jdl/>