

CNI Meeting, December 2008

Panel on

“Capturing Crisis: A Digital Library to Study Tragedy and Recovery from Around the World”

Kristine Hanna
Director of
Web Archiving
Services
kristine@archive.org
Internet Archive

Edward A. Fox
Director,
Digital Library
Research Lab.
fox@vt.edu
Virginia Tech

Jamaica Jones,
Manager,
Digital Research
jjones@sept11mm.org
Nat'l Sept. 11
Memorial Museum

Padmini Srinivasan
Professor
psriniva@iowa.uiowa.edu
University of Iowa

Abstract:

We are in the early stages of establishing a digital library, tentatively called 'Crisis, Tragedy and Recovery' (CTR). This digital library will capture and store information for spontaneous events so users can access, search, analyze, and study these collections and learn from events and tragedies that happen around the world. We have already collected and archived digital material relating to the campus shootings at Virginia Tech, the shootings in Finland, the tragedy at Northern Illinois University, and the flooding in Iowa. Additionally, the Internet Archive has previously worked with curators to archive events such as Hurricane Katrina, the 2004 Tsunami, and the recent Russia/Georgia conflict.

This panel will discuss the need for this digital library and our objectives, as well as some of the challenges we face as we document and learn from these fluid and fast changing events and the ongoing recovery processes that follow. We also will discuss educational strategies to train future librarians (building on an NSF funded digital library curriculum project) to exploit opportunities for designing and implementing digital libraries that serve special populations and assist in disaster recovery.

The archived data will be hosted and accessible through the Internet Archive Data Center in San Francisco, with cooperative services at Virginia Tech. We hope the data will be distributed further as well, with partners storing a copy of their data on site at their institution, as well as applying and extending digital library and preservation tools like DSpace, Fedora, and LOCKSS. We plan to support studies by social and behavioral scientists, scholars, and policy makers, as well as the general public.

At the session we will be seeking feedback, as well as interested participants and contributors.

CNI Dec. 2008 Panel on “Capturing Crisis: A Digital Library to Study Tragedy and Recovery from Around the World” - continued

Related WWW Sites:

Internet Archive

- NIU: <http://archive-it.org/collections/970>
- VT: <http://archive-it.org/collections/694>
- Other tragedies: <http://www.archive-it.org/public/topic/spontaneousEvents>

The National September 11 Memorial & Museum

- <http://www.national911memorial.org>
- <http://www.flickr.com/groups/national911memorial/>

University of Iowa Flood

- <http://www.uiowa.edu/floodrecovery/>
- <http://uiflood.blogspot.com/>

Virginia Tech, April 16, 2007

- <http://www.dl-vt-416.org/>
- <http://www.april16archive.org/>
- <http://scholar.lib.vt.edu/prevail>

Related Publication:

Edward A. Fox, Christopher Andrews, Weiguo Fan, Jian Jiao, Ananya Kassahun, Szu-Chia Lu, Yifei Ma, Chris North, Naren Ramakrishnan, Angela Scarpa, Bruce H. Friedman, Steven D. Sheetz, Donald Shoemaker, Venkat Srinivasan, Seungwon Yang, & Laura Boutwell, A Digital Library for Recovery, Research, and Learning from April 16, 2007 at Virginia Tech. *Traumatology*, 13(4), 2008