

OCLC Distinguished Seminar Series

October 25, 2002

The National Science Digital Library (NSDL) as an Example of Current Research in Information Science

William Y. Arms
Cornell University

10:30-11:00 am
Coffee and Pastries

11:00-12:30 am
Presentation

OCLC Auditorium
6565 Frantz Road
Dublin, OH 43017-3395

You are welcome to attend this presentation.

Registering in advance allows us to plan sufficient refreshments and to alert you if for any reason the lecture needs to be rescheduled.

To RSVP, please email bakerk@oclc.org or call the OCLC Office of Research at (614) 764-6073 indicating your name, affiliation, and telephone number by July 26, 2002.

Advance registration is encouraged, but not required.

Dr. William Arms, Professor of Computer Science and Director of the Information Science Program at Cornell University, will discuss the National Science Digital Library (NSDL) to illustrate current research issues in information science. As a member of the core integration team, Cornell University provides technology, operates core services and integrates the work of diverse partners for the NSDL. Building a comprehensive library with limited resources has required new ways of thinking about digital library services. The underlying theme is scalability: how to build a distributed digital library that can grow to be very large, without employing large numbers of people.

Additionally, Dr. Arms will provide a description of a new Ph.D. program in information science being designed at Cornell University. The intellectual motivation behind this plan is to emphasize long-term, fundamental research that studies digital information from three interwoven perspectives: computer science, human computer interaction, and society. The program will emphasize interdependencies between these perspectives, in particular how problems that appear to be purely technical cannot be addressed without an understanding of the people involved and the economic, social, legal and cultural framework in which they exist.

During his career, Dr. Arms has had broad experience in applying computing to academic activities, notably educational computing, computer networks, and digital libraries. Prior to joining Cornell University in 1991, he held positions at the University of Sussex, Open University, Dartmouth College, Carnegie Mellon University, and the Corporation for National Research Initiatives. He is the former chair of the Educom Board of Trustees and the Publications Board of the Association for Computing Machinery, and past Editor in Chief of D-Lib Magazine. Currently, Dr. Arms is series editor for the MIT Press series in digital libraries and electronic publishing. His book, "Digital Libraries," was published by MIT Press in 2000.

Background information:

William Arms' bibliography:
<http://www.cs.cornell.edu/wya/>

NSDL Web site:
<http://about.nsdlib.org/>

This document is available on line at <http://www.oclc.org/research/dss/arms.pdf>

