



*Dr. Ching-chih Chen* is Professor of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, Boston, USA. A sought-after international consultant and speaker in over 40 countries, she is an author and editor of over 35 books and more than 200 scholarly journal articles. She produced the award winning interactive videodisc and multimedia CD entitled, *The First Emperor of China*. She was the Chief Conference Organizer of a series of 12 *International conferences on New Information Technology (NIT)* from 1986-2001 in different parts of the world. The Proceedings of *NIT 2001*, held at Tsinghua University, Beijing, was published as *Global Digital Library Development in the New Millennium: Fertile Ground for Distributed Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration* by Tsinghua University Press in 2001.

Since 1993, she has been advocating the global digital library concept by linking libraries, museums and archives all over the world together, and this Global Digital Library Initiative has helped the development of digital libraries in numerous countries. Since 2000, she has led two NSF/International Digital Library Projects, *Chinese Memory Net (CMNet)* – expanded to *Global Memory Net* since 2002. She is also the co-PI with Prof. Raj Reddy of the *China-US Million Book Digital Library Project*. She served as a member of the Advisory Committee of DELOS (European Digital Library Network) and co-Chaired the *DELOS/NSF Working Group on Digital Imagery for Significant Historical, Cultural and Heritage Materials*. She has been advocating the need for international consortium in making cultural and heritage digital contents accessible to users. To this end, *Global Memory Net* has served as a model for archiving, content building in specifically image and video areas, as well as international collaboration with collaborators from different part of the world.

A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, she has received many awards and honors, including the *Best Information Science Teacher Award* of the American Society for Information Science, the Library and Information Technology Association's *LITA/Library Hi Tech Award*, the *LITA/Gaylord Award for the Advancement in Library and Information Technology*, and many others. During 1997-2002, she served as a member of the US President's Information Technology Advisory Committee under both President Clinton and President Bush, and was actively involved in many panels, including International, Digital Divide, Digital Libraries, Future of Learning, etc.

A sought after international speaker and consultant, in the last 18 months alone, she was a keynote or invited speaker at the *International Conference on Digital Libraries in Delhi, India*; the *Annual Lecture in Informatics in Bangalore, India*; the meetings at the University of Mysore, India and Hanoi, Vietnam; the *Libraries in the Digital Age (LIDA 2004): International Conference*, Dubrovnik and Mljet, Croatia; the *International Conference on Digital Libraries* in Beijing; the *International Asian Conference on Digital Library* in Shanghai; the 3<sup>rd</sup> *China-US Library Conference* in Shanghai; National Library of China, Palace Museum, Institute of Scientific and Documentation Center, and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences in July 2005. She is scheduled as a keynote and invited speaker at the *International Conference on Universal Digital Library*, Hangzhou, China (Oct. 2005), and the *International Asian Conference on Digital Libraries* in Bangkok (Dec. 2005).