

Preface

The *Future of Information Sciences (INFuture)* is a series of conferences that will be held every two years aimed at researchers, professionals, businessmen and project managers from the broad field of information sciences and related professions. The objective of the conference is to provide a platform for discussing theoretical and practical issues in the field of information sciences through networking of researchers and professionals from academy, government institutions, agencies, companies and research centres from Croatia, Europe and other parts of the world.

As the Department of Information Sciences at the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences is celebrating its 30th anniversary in the year 2007, the conference was an opportunity for reconsidering of the achieved results and for self-evaluation in comparison with others in order to redefine the way to the future (IN Future).

INFuture explores the role of information sciences and related sciences through technological and educational aspects, research studies, organisational, cultural, communication and business aspects evolved from technological development, market needs, European policies and strategies, educational and research work and the current situation in Croatia.

The conference “**Digital Information and Heritage**” is the first one in the series of INFuture conferences, this year Department of Information Sciences, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences in Zagreb co-organising with the Central State Administrative Office for *e-Croatia*. In the book more than 50 papers are presented, elaborating on relevant standards, business applications and development strategies through the multidisciplinary approaches of technology and heritage.

The book is divided in seven chapters. After the introduction, the invited papers are presented followed by topics digitisation, identity in electronic environment and its preservation, document management in business applications and e-government, e-heritage and preservation, e-infrastructure, and information science education.

In the chapter of *invited papers* the following topics have been elaborated: e-Croatia and development of information society, development of information sciences as a social science, curriculum changes in information science education, information search in the virtual world, the need for building of common language resources and technology infrastructure and digital memory preservation challenges in Europe.

In the chapter addressing to *digitisation* the papers related to the following issues have been presented: archival records as cultural goods, national project of digitisation of the Croatian cultural heritage, informatisation of the Croatian archival service, audiovisual archive on Croatian television, data reliability on

optic media, corpus digitisation of old Croatian texts in the Institute of Croatian Language, and repository in school libraries. Strategies related to building of thematic collections, architecture for editing complex digital documents, digital edition of the biographical lexicon, Croatian music heritage and digitisation of sound recordings, collaborative tagging, digitisation of the scientific journal and digital archiving in children's library. Then, new solutions in cultural heritage reconstruction (3D visualization, modelling etc.) are presented.

In the chapter related to *identity in electronic environment and its preservation* the papers related to the following issues have been presented: online identity, cultural transfer through a corpus-based study, sentence alignment as the basis for translation memory database, retrieving information in Croatian and word sense disambiguation. Further, the issues of mathematical models relating to correlation, information and causality and decomposition of relational scheme are presented. Practical solutions have been presented for digitisation of newspaper-based archive (HINA), depositing system for web publications (NSK) and digital archive of network resources in Croatia (HIDRA).

The chapter *document management in business applications and e-government* is closely related to digitisation of cultural heritage, dealing with improved project management practices, managing knowledge in Croatian power industry, and the issues of strategic dissemination of information in Croatian tourism. The chapter related to *e-heritage and preservation* deals with importance of usability in development of digital libraries, use of search engines for locating information on cultural heritage, virtual worlds, use of social software of cultural heritage and visual identity as a form of communication.

The chapter on *e-infrastructure* deals with biometrics identification process and the importance of script languages for administration of operating systems.

In the chapter *information science education* the following issues have been considered: the status of information and communication technology in national curriculum for compulsory education, electronic content in education, multimedia software and principles for designing educative multimedia content, programs of teaching information literacy in school libraries, simulation models in information science education, service learning and new paradigm of development.

We believe that the results of this conference and the papers presented here will serve as a sign-post for reconsideration of the future of information sciences. We also hope that the results will be used for the development of the society in general, but also for the preservation of cultural heritage in the European context. We see the future and forthcoming results through our contribution and cooperation in the development of digital preservation in the cultural heritage sector which has been already offering its intellectual and material capital for the progress of our civilisation.

Editors