

## Preface

This volume contains the papers presented at the 18th International Conference on Asia-Pacific Digital Libraries (ICADL 2016), held during December 7–9, 2016, in Tsukuba, Japan. Since starting in Hong Kong in 1998, ICADL has become a premier international conference for digital library research. The conference series explores digital libraries as a broad foundation for interaction with information and information management in the networked information society.

ICADL 2016 was jointly organized with the Asia-Pacific Forum of Information Schools (APIS) under the umbrella of the International Forum 2016. The theme of the International Forum 2016 was “Knowledge, Information and Data (KID) in Open Access Society.” Open access is widely recognized as a key concept for the progress of the networked information society – open science, open government, open data, etc. This forum is aimed at promoting discussion around novel frameworks, technologies, and services related to the theme and at facilitating human networks for advancing KID research, education, and services. We believe digital libraries and information schools play important roles in the open access society, and we hope this conference provides the platform for exploring these further.

The ICADL series has traditionally been focused on advanced information technologies for the development of digital libraries. In its long history, ICADL 2016 was the first conference to explicitly solicit papers that investigate and discuss social and cultural issues related to the design and development of digital libraries, digital archives, and digital information services. We believe this multi-disciplinary approach is crucial to the development of a truly open access society.

ICADL 2016 presented three keynotes – by Prof. Ronald L. Larsen, Prof. Ee-peng Lim, and Prof. Katsumi Tanaka, and two thematic sessions – one on “The Future of Digital Library Research and iSchools” and another on “Natural Disasters and Information Technologies.” Also unique to ICADL 2016 was the explicit solicitation of not only academic research papers but also practitioner papers. The integration of theory, research, and evidence-based policies and practice is critical to the discussion of research problems and future directions for digital library research. This encourages academics and researchers to more consciously embody our roles as the “critic and conscience” of society by actively engaging with practitioners and in demonstrating that theorization and constructive critiques are situated within meaningful practices. Practitioners, on the other hand, are exposed to new visions and perspectives for the future, driving the evolution of best practices in their environments.

Out of the 80 submissions from 16 countries received, we accepted 18 full papers, 17 work-in-progress papers, and seven practitioner papers. Collectively, these papers cover topics such as community informatics, digital heritage preservation, digital curation, models and guidelines, information retrieval/integration/extraction/recommendation, privacy, education and digital literacy, open access and data, and information access design. We would like to thank all members of the Program Committee for their effort in

assisting us in the timely review of all the submissions. We are especially grateful to Prof. Shigeo Sugimoto of the University of Tsukuba, who is the general-co-chair of the International Forum, for his relentless enthusiasm and effort in connecting all the dots, and to the members of the Organizing Committee, who lent their support in making ICADL 2016 a success. We gratefully acknowledge the University of Tsukuba for hosting the forum and the support of our industrial sponsors. The forum was partially organized by JSPS Kakenhi (#16H01754, #25240012).

December 2016

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Digital Libraries: Knowledge, Information, and Data in  
an Open Access Society

18th International Conference on Asia-Pacific Digital  
Libraries, ICADL 2016, Tsukuba, Japan, December 7-9,  
2016, Proceedings

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2016, XIV, 408 p. 84 illus., Softcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-49303-9