

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Topic Issue of *JASIST*: Multilingual Information Systems

The next Special Topics Issue of the *Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (JASIST)* is scheduled to come out in 2005 on the topic of Multilingual Information Systems. The guest editors for this special issue will be Christopher C. Yang and Wai Lam of The Chinese University of Hong Kong.

The information available in languages other than English in the World Wide Web and global information systems is increasing significantly. According to some recent reports, about 50% of Internet users are English speakers. However, it is predicted that there will be only a 60% increase in Internet users among English speakers versus a 150% growth among non-English speakers in the near future. There are many countries in the world using more than one language as their official languages. For example, Chinese and English are official languages in Hong Kong; French and English are official languages in Canada. In the global economy, information systems are no longer utilized by users in a single geographical region but all over the world. Information can be generated, stored, processed, and accessed in several different languages. All of these evidences reveal the importance of the research in multilingual information systems.

Multilingual information systems have been implemented in different applications providing a broad range of services. Handling multiple languages in multilingual information systems does not merely display the output in different languages, but it poses many research challenges. Many of these systems combine advanced techniques from information retrieval, language processing, text mining, machine translation, multilingual information management, multilingual corpora processing, and intelligent user interface. The goal is to allow users to utilize the multilingual information systems as efficient and effective as the monolingual information systems.

This special topic issue solicits high-quality innovative papers addressing significant research questions related to the broad research area of multilingual information systems. Special topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Crosslingual information retrieval
- Multilingual searching and browsing
- Multilingual user interface
- Machine translation
- Parallel and comparable corpora
- Multilingual NLP
- Intelligent systems on multilingual information
- Multilingual database
- Multilingual metadata
- Knowledge management
- Multilingual Web services
- Collaborative multilingual information systems
- Multilingual electronic commerce systems
- Multilingual mobile commerce systems
- Multilingual text indexing

Inquiries can be made to the guest editor(s) at yang@se.cuhk.edu.hk.

Manuscript submissions (four copies of full articles) should be addressed to:

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The deadline for accepting manuscripts for consideration for publication in this special issue is February 29, 2004. All manuscripts will be reviewed by a select panel of referees, and those accepted will be published in a special issue of *JASIST*. Original artwork and a signed copy of the copyright release form will be required for all accepted papers.

A copy of the call for papers will be available on the World Wide Web, as is further information about *JASIST*, at <http://www.asis.org/>.