

## Biographical Information

### *Prof. Ching-chih Chen*

Dr. Ching-chih Chen, Professor of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, Simmons College, Boston is a consultant and speaker to over 30 countries. The author/editor of more than 35 books and author of over 150 journal articles, in areas of new information technologies -- global digital libraries, multimedia technology, digital imaging, interactive videodisc technology, global information infrastructure, information management, and information resources, etc., she was the founding Editor-in-Chief of *Microcomputers for Information Management* (1984 - 1996), and produced the award winning interactive videodisc and multimedia CD entitled , *The First Emperor of China*. She has served as consultant to many international organizations, including UNESCO, World Health Organization, World Bank, Soros Foundation, USIA. In the last 10 years, 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. Currently she is leading a NSF/International Digital Library Project, *CMNet (Chinese Memory Net): US-Sino Collaborative Research Toward Global Digital Library in Chinese Studies*, and is co-PI with Prof. Raj Reddy of the *China-US Million Book Digital Library Project*. She is a member of the Advisory Committee of DELOS (European Digital Library Network) and the co-Chair of the *DELOS/NSF Working Group on Digital Imagery for Significant Historical, Cultural and Heritage Materials*. She is a consultant of several major digital library projects in the world. She has been advocating the need for international consortium in making cultural and heritage digital contents accessible to users.

A Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, she was appointed by President Clinton in February 1997 as a member of the U.S. President's Information Technology Advisory Committee (PITAC). PITAC was established by a new Presidential Executive Order. Under both Presidents Clinton and Bush during 1997 to December 2001, She co-chaired the *PITAC Subcommittee on International Issues*, and a member of the *PITAC Subcommittees on Next Generation Internet (NGI) and IT\*2 Initiative Review*; and *Panels on Digital Divide, Digital Library, Learning of the Future, and Individual Security*. She also chaired the PITAC's activity on Digital Divide for Smaller Institutions.

During 1987 to 2001, Dr. Chen was Chief Organizer of a series of 12 *International Conferences on New Information Technology (NIT)* in many parts of the world -- Bangkok ('87), Singapore ('89), Guadalajara, Mexico ('90), Budapest ('91), Hong Kong ('92), Puerto Rico ('93), Alexandria, Virginia ('94), Riga, Latvia ('95), Pretoria, South Africa ('96), Hanoi, Vietnam ('98), Taipei ('99) and Beijing (2001). The outcome of *NIT '94* is her groundbreaking book, *Planning Global Information Infrastructure*, and of *NIT '99* and *NIT'2001* are two-volume books related to the development of Global Digital Libraries – *IT and Global Digital Library Development* (1999) and *Global Digital Library Development in the New Millennium: Fertile Ground for Distributed Cross-Disciplinary Collaboration* (2001).

She is a recipient of many major awards, including the American Society of Information Science's *Outstanding Information Science Teacher Award* (1983), the *Distinguished Alumnus Awards* from University of Michigan (1983) and National Taiwan University (1984), the *LITA/Gaylord Award for Achievement in Library and Information Technology* (1990), *LITA/Library Hi Tech Award* (1994), the *Humphry Award* (1996), the first *ALISE Pratt-Severn National Faculty Award* in Library and Information Studies (1997), the *Educator Award* from Case Western Reserve University (1999), as well as the *Ernest A. Lyndon Award for Faculty Professional Service and Academic Outreach* of the American Association of Higher Education (February 2001). She was also elected since 1985 as Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. She served as a Guest Professor of Tsinghua University in Beijing from August 99 to 2002.