



*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 180 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 a NSF/International Digital Library Project, *Chinese Memory Net (CMNet)*. She is also the 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 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, *Chinese Memory Net*, serving as a model for archiving, content building in specifically image and video areas, as well as international collaboration, has grown now to be *Global Memory Net*, 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.

A sought after international speaker, in the last six month alone, she was a keynote speaker at the *International Conference on Digital Libraries in Delhi, India*; the Invited Annual Lecturer of the *Annual Lecture in Informatics in Bangalore, India*; the invited speaker at the University of Mysore, Mysore, India; a keynote speaker at the *Libraries in the Digital Age (LIDA 2004)*: International Conference, Dubrovnik and Mljet, Croatia; and an invited speaker at the ACRL Asian and African Division of American Library Association, and the Chinese American Librarians' Association Meeting in Orlando, Florida.