



asis&t SIG III

Special Interest Group in International Information Issues

<http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>

SIG III is a Special Interest Group in International Information Issues. Its mission is

- to promote better awareness among ASIST members and information professionals of the importance of international cooperation;
- to facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction among ASIST members and their foreign colleagues on information issues;
- to develop an international network of digital scholars and experts on digital libraries and information technology in developing countries; and
- to provide a forum for exploring and discussing international information issues and problems. SIG III membership includes most non-U.S. ASIST members and a true cross-section of U.S. ASIST members.

SIG III members and officers have been working really hard to fulfill its mission by sponsoring and organizing an array of programs that benefit many people.

- The **International Paper Contest** is one of the most successful programs SIG III runs each year. The papers submitted represent important developments in information science, and they serve to advance the information profession worldwide. Since 2000, this contest has attracted over 283 information professionals from over 50 countries to participate. More than 230 papers have been received for this contest.
- The **InfoShare Program** grants one- or two-year memberships to information professionals in developing countries for whom the cost of membership would be a financial burden. The program is funded by the generous donations of ASIST individual members, Chapters and SIGs, as well as fundraising at the International Reception at the ASIST Meeting.
- The **International Reception** is a fun social event for all ASIST members. At the event, you will meet winners of the International Paper contest, participate in a silent auction and raffle, and have a great time.
- SIG III has contributed some exciting sessions to the Annual Meeting. These SIG III-sponsored or co-sponsored sessions bring a unique global perspective. Here is a sample of this year's sessions:
 - Re-visiting the Neutrality of Technology (SIGs III, IFP, HFIS)
 - International Standards Developments (SIGs III, LT)
 - Cross-Cultural Analysis of Virtual Reference (SIGs III, DL, USE)
 - Cross-Cultural Issues in User Learning and the Design of Digital Interfaces (SIGs III, USE, HCI)
 - Multilingual Digital Libraries: Research and Practice (SIGs III, DL)

To subscribe to SIG III listserv or view prior postings, visit the page <http://mail.asis.org/mailman/listinfo/sigiii-l>.

SIG III website: <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>

A Message to Potential SIG III Members



EVER WONDERED WHAT MAKES SIG/III THE HOTTEST SIG AROUND?

Welcome to SIG/III, the special interest group on International Information Issues of ASIST. Since its inception, SIG/III has won the SIG-of-the-Year Award eight times and has made history by winning this award three times in a row!

What makes SIG/III so successful?

- 1) Its **members**: SIG/III has about 160 members, including most non-U.S. ASIST members as well as a true cross-section of U.S. ASIST members.
- 2) Its **officers**: the SIG/III officers have affiliations both with the academic and professional worlds, and are actively involved in international research and work. They are also members of various other SIGs and professional associations, thus enabling cross-fertilization, multidisciplinary perspectives and collaboration.
- 3) Its **mission statement**: the purposes of SIG/III are a) to promote better awareness among ASIST members and information professionals of the importance of international cooperation; b) to facilitate and enhance better communication and interaction among ASIST members and their foreign colleagues on information issues; and c) to provide a forum for exploring and discussing international information issues and problems.

Beyond the benefits that one gets as an ASIST member (e.g., subscriptions to the Bulletin, the Journal of the American Society for Information Science and Technology (JASIST) and JobLine, ASIST's regular listing of career opportunities in the information professions), SIG-III members have access to a large network of international colleagues and experts, along with the opportunity to raise their concerns, and have a voice about information issues in an increasingly globalized world. And... they are also more likely to meet someone who speaks their language, and knows about and enjoys their music and food at the International Reception.

So join the SIG/III family: become a member if you are not one already; tell your friends, colleagues and students about SIG/III; and, more importantly, get involved!

For more information, check our webpage at: <http://www.asis.org/SIG/SIGIII/>