THE SIG VIS NEWS

Volume 1, Number 4

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

This is the last issue for Volume 1 of the SIG VIS Newsletter. The first issue of Volume 2 will come out after the ASIS Annual Meeting in October. I have enjoyed my position as communications officer for SIG VIS enormously and will happily continue in this capacity provided: (a) No one else wants to try their hand, and (b) I'm not elected to serve on the ASIS Board of Directors.

In this issue we take a look back at the mid-year meeting, and look forward to the upcoming annual meeting. The recent ACM special interest group on information retrieval (SIGIR) conference is also covered from the VIS perspective.

CALL FOR OFFICERS

SIG VIS is still taking nominations and volunteers to run for SIG office next year. Fringe benefits are outstanding - PLUS you get to decide where to hold the networking dinners! VIS is a strong SIG with lots of potential. This could be the opportunity you've been waiting for. ACT NOW! **NEWS FROM THE WWW**

A volunteer to steer the VIS web page in exciting new directions is actively being sought. APPLY NOW!! Don't miss this opportunity to foist your design agenda on an unsuspecting public.

Several URLS' of interest to VIS members submitted by Richard Wright of the BBC Video Archives:

- http://eratosthenes.informatik.uni-mannheim.de/informatik/
- http://vision.ucsd.edu/
- http://www.inf.ethz.ch/department/IS/ISOverview.html

ASIS ANNUAL MEETING

"Global Complexity: Information Chaos and Control" will be the theme of the ASIS 1996

Annual Meeting to be held October 19-24 at the Renaissance Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland. VIS is sponsoring or co-sponsoring a whopping FIVE sessions!

On Tuesday, October 22:
"Digital Imagery: Photographs and Art"
"Icons and the Web: Communicating Classificatory Structure Through Graphics"

On Wednesday, October 23:
"Visual Access to Retrieved Objects, Part I"
"Visual Access to Retrieved Objects Part II"
"Navigating Complexity: New Interfaces for the World Wide Web and Data Visualization"

Please join VIS at these sessions as well as at the SIG planning meeting, SIG Rush and the VIS Networking Dinner (times and places to be announced)

ASIS MIDYEAR MEETING

The 1996 ASIS Midyear Meeting in San Diego offered several programs of interest to VIS members. VIS members presented at the conference, and the VIS sponsored program was well received. Also popular was the SIG VIS Networking Dinner which was held at the Padres baseball game. Eight people went along and had a great time in spite of the Padres losing to Philly (I understand that not all in attendance were upset.)

SIGIR

There were many papers, posters and demonstrations of interest to VIS members presented at the 19th Annual ACM SIGIR Conference held in Zurich last month. Listed here are papers dealing with visualization of information or multimedia IR.

- "Visualizing search results: Some alternatives to query-document similarity" by Nowell, L., France, R., Hix, D., Heath, L., & Fox, E.
- "Reexamining the cluster hypothesis: Scatter/Gather on retrieval results" by Hearst, M. & Pedersen, J.
- "Evaluation of a tool for visualization of information retrieval results" by Veerasamy, A., & Belkin, N.
- "Image organization and retrieval with automatically constructed feature vectors" by Han, K., & Myaeng, S.
- "Phonetic string matching: Lessons from information retrieval" by Zobel, J., & Dart, P.

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