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# *Digital Libraries in K-12 Education*

ACM DL'98 Workshop  
Pittsburgh - June 27, 1998  
<http://www.ks.com/dl98/>

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## [Workshop Invitation](#)

### [Goals and Themes](#)

### [Organizers and Participants](#)

### [How to Participate](#)

### [Structure of the Workshop](#)

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#### *Workshop Invitation:*

By the end of this century, large-scale digital libraries containing the collective legacy of human knowledge and information will be accessed on-demand over gigabit, broadband and broadcast networks, forcing the democratization of information. In the next century, they will become one of the few - and one of the most important - global cultural institutions. Both as libraries, or repositories of knowledge, and as institutions of global significance, they will exert an enormous impact on education.

While their development raises important issues for many areas of technology and culture, and has been the subject of much research and discussion, their impact on education has not received the attention it deserves. The April 1998 issue of the Communications of the ACM, for example, contains 19 articles on digital libraries, covering a variety of technical and social issues from interoperability to multilingual support. Not one article focuses on the role of digital libraries in K-12 education. It is time to seriously address this gap, and to do so within the context of the larger community of DL researchers.

We propose, with this workshop, to raise awareness of the topic among the education communities, and stimulate support for and encourage research in this area. The workshop will consist of panel discussions and breakout sessions. Position papers will be included in a report that will be published in this website. Please join us in this important effort.

[>Back to the top|](#)

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#### *Goals and Themes:*

This workshop will attempt to explore digital library implications for pedagogy, library science, content, law, policy-making, student access, curriculum, assessment, public involvement, market directions and a diversity of related issues. Participants will be able to identify the needs, advantages, and requirements that will drive digital library research with respect to educational technology.

We expect that this group of workshop participants will become a **working group** that will propose standards,

influence research directions and affect public policy. We hope that this working group will continue to meet and work together, organizing other workshops and participating in other (e.g., education) conferences as appropriate.

Participants to this workshop are invited who share these goals and who can contribute to some of the themes that follow.

### **The Future of Digital Education:**

- Defining the digital learning environment
- Lesson planning with the Digital Library
- Digital curriculum development
- Implications for teacher education
- The home as the smallest school

### **The Evolution of Libraries:**

- Is the Web THE Digital Library?
- Understanding perspective
- Promoting the sharing of content
- Creating educational content for the digital library
- The home as the smallest(?) library

### **Information and Technology Infrastructure:**

- Enabling technologies
- Building digital learning networks
- Establishing a content organization scheme
- Linking teachers and students to resources
- Technologies at home

### **Market Forces and Directions:**

- What role does industry play?
- Understanding where we are being taken
- Deciding where we want to go
- Driving a fair outlook
- Characterizing environments that build digital learning

### **Social Responsibility and Public Policy:**

- Building equity
- Creating a level playing field
- Advocacy and decision making
- Driving forces and leadership motivation
- Adopting a global perspective

### **The world around the Digital Library:**

- Understanding the fundamental purpose
- Understanding the issues
- Understanding the needs
- Intraworld (global) learning processes
- Forms of competition

[>Back to the top|](#)

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### ***Organizers and Participants:***

**Dr. Miriam J. Masullo** is a Research Staff Member at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, New York. She is currently Director of Educational Technology at [NACME, the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering](#), in New York City, on faculty loan from IBM. Dr. Masullo initiated [Project EduPort](#), a pioneering digital library for K-12 education, which was first demonstrated in Nebraska with the support and encouragement of [US Senator Kerrey](#). Dr. Masullo has since been actively working with [UNESCO](#) and other organizations worldwide to bring the concepts of digital libraries in education to developing countries. She is now focused on [equity and home access to educational technologies](#) in the US.

**Contact:** [mmasullo@nacme.org](mailto:mmasullo@nacme.org)

**Linn Marks Collins**, a multimedia designer, is an invited faculty member at the [University of New Mexico-Los Alamos](#) and is writing a book entitled *Patterns in New Media* (MIT Press). Her work in multimedia began at MIT's Project Athena, where she was a visiting associate, and continued at the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, where she was the principal developer of [Project EduPort](#), a digital library for K-12 education. She has presented tutorials on design at several human factors and multimedia conferences, including the ACM's InterCHI 93, [CHI 94](#), Multimedia 95, and [CHI 96](#). Prior to becoming a multimedia designer, she was an English teacher. Her goals are to ensure universal access to new media through cognitive equity in design.

**Contact:** [lcollins@nmstudio.com](mailto:lcollins@nmstudio.com)

**Rafael Ramirez** is the Assistant to the Director of Bilingual Education at the [US Department of Education](#) in Washington D.C. Ray has extensive experience in educational policy, having served [US Senator Bingaman](#) of New Mexico in that capacity. He later worked at [NCREL, the North Central Regional Educational Laboratory in Chicago](#), Illinois, where he continued his work in educational policy and became a very active practitioner in the field of educational technology. Ray is personally focused on educational policy issues as they relate to digital libraries.

**Contact:** [rafael\\_ramirez@ed.gov](mailto:rafael_ramirez@ed.gov)

**Information about participants will be provided as registration progresses.**

[>Back to the top|](#)

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### ***How to Participate:***

This workshop will be held in conjunction with the ACM Digital Libraries '98 Conference, at the Marriott City Center, in Pittsburgh, PA, USA, June 23-26, 1998. More details about the conference can be found at the conference URL above. This workshop will be held on the Saturday following the Conference, June 27th, from 9:00am to 4:00pm.

Please send a memo to [Dr. Masullo](#) if you wish to participate. Indicate the reasons for your interest in participating, including your biosketch and a description of your relevant work. Please include URLs pointing to relevant projects or publications. The names of accepted participants will be published in this website.

There is a Workshop fee of \$50 that includes lunch. Details as to the method of payment are being worked out.

[>Back to the top|](#)

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### ***Structure of the Workshop::***

This workshop will be a full day, 9-4, activity. The morning will be dedicated to general discussion of the issues, driven by keynote statements from selected participants. There will be breakout sessions in the afternoon to develop the issues in more detail, followed by a summary session and identification of the next steps toward our goals. Discussion leaders among the participants will be assigned to guide the breakout sessions. The goal is to create a community of interest and a working group that will continue to advance the role of Digital Libraries in K-12 education.

- All requests for participation must be received by **Friday June 5th**.
- An agenda and list of participants will be published in this website by **Friday June 12th**.

[>Back to the top|](#)

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*Updated May 18, 1998*