

Introduction to Digital Libraries

UCT CSC400/403 – Final Exam – November 2003

This question is based on an article entitled “Jewel in UCT’s crown to be digitised for world’s scholars” which appeared in the Monday Paper, Volume 22, No 7, 31 March – 4 April 2003.

The article describes a project that implies the creation of a digital library (or information management system) for the archiving and dissemination of digital analogues of the Bleek Lloyd Collection. Read the article carefully.

Assume that you have been hired as a consultant on the project to design the system architecture from a technical perspective. Taking into account the principles and best practices of building digital libraries, write a technical proposal for a system (or systems) to meet the needs of the client, the curator(s) of the Bleek Lloyd Collection.

While the bounds of the problem can be gleaned from the article, the requirements and specifications are not fixed. Clearly state your assumptions in this regard and include reasons for design decisions wherever applicable.

Your proposal should approximately follow the following structure:

- Specifications
- Overview of Design
- Detailed System Architecture
- Interoperability and Standards
- Preservation
- ...
- References

(include sections on major issues that you deem important to this project)

You may consult any reference materials (paper or online), but you MAY NOT discuss the problem with any individuals (that includes your classmates and especially the persons associated with the Bleek Lloyd project).

Format your proposal as 12pt Times Roman, 2.54cm margins, single-spacing. Your proposal must not exceed 2500 words and must not number more than 10 pages, including figures and tables.

Submit a printed copy to the lecturer by 12 noon on 14 November 2003. No late handins or handwritten proposals will be accepted.