Preface

This proceedings volume contains the keynote papers and technical papers selected for the 2000 Kyoto International Conference on Digital Libraries: Research and Practice, which was held from November 13th to 16th, 2000, at Kyoto University Library. The conference consisted of English and Japanese sessions. This volume contains papers that appeared at English sessions. Japanese papers are included in a separate volume.

At this conference, librarians and technical researchers from many countries met together and had formal and informal exchanges of their views and opinions. The total number of the participants was 244. They were 27 researchers from USA, 8 librarians and researchers from UK, 9 researchers from Austria, 9 researchers from Korea, 178 people from Japan, and other guests were from China, Germany, Taiwan, Philippines, Israel, Italy, and Australia. Conference papers are 21 from Japan, 17 from USA, 8 from Austria, 4 from UK, 2 from Italy, 2 from Taiwan, 1 from Korea, 1 from Germany, 1 from Israel, and 1 from Australia. These numbers are far beyond our first expectation, which indicate the value of having this interchange.

We had five keynote speakers at the conference. They were Dr. Makoto Nagao (President, Kyoto University), Professor Gio Wiederhold (Stanford University), Mr. John Ashworth (the British Library), Dr. Michael Lesk (National Science Foundation (NSF), USA), and Dr. Erich J. Neuhold (GMD-IPSI, Germany). They gave leading views on digital libraries, and we would like to express our sincere gratitude to them.

The most important output from this conference was “Kyoto Communiqué on Digital Libraries,” which was resulted from a discussion by 30 library directors and major researchers.

Finally, we deem it a great honor to have had this interdisciplinary conference in Kyoto with generous support from Kyoto University, the British Library, and NSF. Especially, President Makoto Nagao proposed the conference; Professor Ikeda Katsuo of Kyoto University and Dr. Michael Lesk co-chaired the conference; Professor Johei Sasaki, who is the Director of Kyoto University Library, and Mr. Richard Roman of the British Library made important contributions to promote this conference. We would also like to acknowledge the support by the Austrian Science Fund for participants' travel. We would like to thank Mr. Yusuke Yokota, Ms. Hitomi Takada, Ms. Eri Tsunokawa, and librarians of Kyoto University Library for their help to the conference management.

Yahiko Kambayashi, Gio Wiederhold, Judith Klavans, Werner Winiwarter, Hiroyuki Tarumi

(PC Co-Chairs)
(Speakers Chairs)
(Publication Chair)