SLIS Faculty News

Collaboration with Chinese Researchers - Beijing

A $50,000 supplement to TSEEN (National Science Foundation "NSF" grant) has been awarded to SLIS faculty member Katy Börner and SLIS systems architect Weixia (Bonnie) Huang. TSEEN stands for the Tobacco Surveillance, Epidemiology, and Evaluation Network.

The grant will support an initial pilot collaboration with Chinese researchers at the Research Center for Grid and Service Computing (VEGA Center) at the Institute of Computing Technology (ICT) (pdf) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in Beijing, China. It also provides the resources to bring the Mapping Science Exhibit to China in 2008.

ICT-CAS is NCSA (National Center for Supercomputing Applications) like institution. The proposed initial collaboration comprises three parts: (1) Data exchange of English and Chinese publication data relevant to tobacco, lung cancer, and epidemiology research, (2) Data analysis, visualization, and comparative study of Chinese and English data to ensure that approaches and tools developed in
TSEEN and the NSF funded Network Workbench project can also be applied to data with Chinese character encodings, (3) General exchange of expertise and technical solutions relevant for digital government cyberinfrastructure development. Major results will be reported at the annual conference of the Digital Government Society of North America and other related conferences.

Bonnie has met with Chinese collaboration partners and given a talk about the Network Workbench tool and large scale network analysis and visualization at ICT-CAS in Beijing. In addition, Bonnie met researchers at Library of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and got some Chinese publication data. The data will be folded into Scholarly Database hosted by the Cyberinfrastructure for Network Science Center (CNS) at Indiana University. Katy Börner is the CNS founder and director.

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