The 2016 Joint Conference on Digital Libraries Doctoral Consortium Special Issue

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The Doctoral Consortium (DC) is an integral part of the annual ACM/IEEE Joint Conference on Digital Libraries (JCDL). The DC has a proud tradition of bringing young doctoral researchers in contact with senior established professors, practitioners and researchers to explore their mutual interest the many varied open questions associated with modern digital libraries. The 2016 iteration of the JCDL DC was held in conjunction with the main conference at Rutgers University, Newark, NJ on 19 June, 2016. Like prior JCDL DC meetings, the 2016 event provided a friendly and collegial forum for doctoral student participants to present their research ideas to an audience eager and willing to deliver constructive feedback and thoughtful suggestions for improvement.

Six PhD students participated in the 2016 DC. The students came from such diverse institutions as University of Pittsburgh (USA), University of Southampton (UK), Virginia Tech (USA), and Old Dominion University (USA). Two student participants were from University of KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa). To be considered for the JCDL DC, each student submitted an extended abstract outlining their doctoral thesis research questions, methods, and research plans. The abstracts underwent classic single-blind review by the senior researchers of the DC Mentors group. Those submitters whose work showed clarity of expression, promising research questions and a desire to engage in some depth with fellow DC participants and senior mentors were asked to join the meeting at Newark.

The actual event on 19 June, 2016 was a full working day of student presentations, faculty and student feedback sessions, and roundtable discussions on the topic of developing a successful research project from start to finish. Notes of the meeting, along with links to the presentations can be found at blog posting created by Old Dominion's Sawood Alam (http://ws-dl.blogspot.com/2016/06/2016-06-30-jcdl-2016-doctoral.html). After the DC meeting, each student participant was encouraged to revise their original extended abstracts in response to the feedback of the mentors and fellow students. These revised abstracts were then submitted to the *Bulletin of the IEEE Technical Committee on Digital Libraries* where they underwent a final round of review and revision.

Of the six original abstracts, we now present five as one participant had the opportunity to submit their work to another venue. The topics included in this special issue reflect the wide range of questions being addressed in contemporary digital library research. The included abstracts explore how to build a better understanding of digital archival collections to improve routing and search; how automation is playing a role in Nigerian public libraries; how social media is being used in Nigerian academic libraries; how digital libraries can help social behavioral studies; and how to create a quality assessment model for academic

content on social media. As one can see, the topics are as diverse as the students who are investigating them with such curiosity and passion.

JCDL 2016 Doctoral Consortium Participants

Co-Chairs

Uma Murthy	Amazon Search, USA
J. Stephen Downie	University of Illinois, USA
George Buchanan	University of Melbourne, Australia

Respondents and Mentors

George Buchanan	University of Melbourne, Australia
Sally Jo Cunningham	University of Waikato, New Zealand
J. Stephen Downie	University of Illinois, USA
Richard Furuta	Texas A&M University, USA
Matt Kelly	Old Dominion, University, USA
Martin Klein	Los Alamos Research Laboratory, USA
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