Ching-chih Chen, Professor of the Graduate School of Library and Information science, Simmons College, has advocated the concept of world digital library since 1993. The US NSF/IDLP supported Global Memory Net (GMNet) is her version of such a global digital library.

For more information on GMNet, visit the site at http://www.memorynet.org

For information on how to participate in GMNet and/or to use the i-M-C-S system, contact: Dr. Chen at: gmnet@simmons.edu

The Global Memory Net Collection
An integrated world digital image library and gateway seamlessly links desired image to all relevant multimedia resources — audio, video, text, bibliographical sources, Internet resources, etc. Currently there are over 30 collections with over 15,000 images in GMNet, and the number is growing fast. In addition, over 2400 digital image collections from over 80 countries can also be instantly searched and accessed.

More features
Multi-collection search
Multi-lingual
Geographical access
The world’s resources are here for you.

National Science Foundation
International Digital Library Project

Your World Digital Library and Gateway to Culture and Heritage

GlobalMemoryNet

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SIMMONS
Global Memory Net: A World Digital Image Library and Gateway

- Seamless integration of all types of multimedia resources.
- Instant access to over 30 rich image collections in GMNet as well as over 2400 collections from 80 countries around the world.
- In addition to traditional retrieval by metadata fields, cutting-edge content-based image retrieval (CBIR)* can retrieve images of similar color and shape at an amazing speed.
- “Random” display capability allows one to explore an unfamiliar collection and learn its coverage.
- Chosen image can be easily zoomed, and digital watermark will be generated dynamically to protect the rights of the content-provider.
- Associated descriptive information as well as multimedia files ~ sound, video, and document ~ can be instantly accessed.
- Expanded bibliographical and Internet resources ~ OCLC/WorldCat, Google Scholar, etc. can be utilized at a simple click of the mouse.
- Multi-Collection retrieval enables one to find images of same features globally.
- Multilingual content display and retrieval enhance usability in one’s native language.
- Quick geographical access enables one to focus on area studies.
- Users can create their own projects.
- Users can also be content-contributors.

*Our CBIR technique uses SIMPLIcity developed by James Z. Wang of Penn State University.

With the exciting convergence of content, technology, and global collaboration in this digital era, there are unprecedented potentials as well as challenges for developing digital libraries of all kinds. In the case of Global Memory Net (www.memorynet.org), it’s newly in-house developed interactive Multimedia Content retrieval System (i-M-C-S) has managed to incorporate many innovative functions to meet the challenges of a world digital library.

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