

PRESS RELEASE

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Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awards \$841,000 for Computational Linguistics for Metadata Building (CLiMB-2) Project at the College of Information Studies, University of Maryland, College Park.

Co-principal investigators for CLiMB-2 are Judith L. Klavans, Research Professor in the College of Information Studies (CLIS) and Area Director of Technology Use at the Center for Advanced Study of Language and Marilyn Domas White, Associate Professor at CLIS. Other team members are: Jimmy Lin, Assistant Professor, Eileen G. Abels, Associate Professor, and Dagobert Soergel, Professor, CLIS; Rebecca Passonneau, Consulting Research Scientist, Columbia University; and Angela Giral, former Director, of the Avery Architectural and Fine Arts Library at Columbia University. CLiMB adapts and uses computational linguistic techniques in novel ways to mine metadata from scholarly literature to improve subject access to images. Providing adequate subject access to images is a significant problem in digital libraries and other collections of images.

CLiMB-2 continues CLiMB-1, Columbia University, 2002-2004, and will ensure the effectiveness of CLiMB's Cataloging Toolkit for mining image metadata from structured texts, such as exhibit catalogs, and unstructured texts, such as textbooks and field notes. Moreover, CLiMB-2 will monitor use of the prototype cataloging toolkit in actual work settings by partnering with several institutions, including ArtStor, the vernacular architecture collection at Bryn Mawr College, and the Landscape Architecture Image Resource collection at University of Maryland. This will allow the CLiMB-2 team to establish benchmarks, identify the toolkit's impact on catalogers' work processes, and evaluate the effect of CLiMB-generated index terms on real image searchers browsing and searching.

The results of this research will be disseminated in journal papers, as well as through national and international conferences. For more information on CLiMB, consult the project's website at <http://www.umiacs.umd.edu/~climb/>.

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