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# Workshop on U.S.-Hungarian Research Collaboration to Address IT Challenges for 21st Century Society

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**Final Report for Period:** 09/2003 - 08/2005**Submitted on:** 08/31/2005**Principal Investigator:** Stefanidis, Anthony .**Award ID:** 0341915**Organization:** University of Maine**Submitted By:****Title:**

Workshop on US-Hungarian Research Collaboration to Address IT Challenges for 21st Century Society

**Project Participants****Senior Personnel****Name:** Stefanidis, Anthony**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** Yes**Contribution to Project:****Post-doc****Graduate Student****Undergraduate Student****Technician, Programmer****Other Participant****Name:** Adam, Nabil**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Name:** Bajcsy, Ruzena**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Name:** Byrne, Bill**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Name:** Cruz, Isabel**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Name:** Delcambre, Lois**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Name:** Fortes, Jose**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No

**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Name:** Jaynes, Christopher

**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No

**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Name:** Labrinidis, Alexandros

**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No

**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Name:** Mostafa, Javed

**Worked for more than 160 Hours:** No

**Contribution to Project:**

Participated in the workshop, and contributed in the discussions and resulting report.

**Research Experience for Undergraduates****Organizational Partners****University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

Award number 0341928 (PI: Noshir Contractor) was collaborative to this one, supporting the participation of additional experts in this workshop, and supporting the maintenance of the project website.

**Other Collaborators or Contacts**

The workshop allowed us to collaborate with leading experts in Hungary, as described in the workshop website.

**Activities and Findings****Research and Education Activities:**

The objective of the Budapest workshop was:

- ? to provide a forum for leading scientists from the U.S. and Hungary,
- ? to exchange information on research activities that cross geographic boundaries, and
- ? to potentially lead to scientific collaborations among researchers from these two countries.

The thematic emphasis of this workshop was on international e-government: sharing e-resources to solve problems that transcend borders.

The participants addressed five thematic areas:

1. Knowledge networks.
2. Digital society.
3. Cultural heritage.
4. Distributed computing and collaboration applications / Emergency response.
5. Citizen-Government interaction.

Participants addressed international e-government issues related to these five thematic areas, focusing on emerging research issues and collaboration opportunities.

**Findings:**

The findings of the workshop are summarized at the workshop website:

<http://www.spcomm.uiuc.edu/conf/budapest2004/>

The workshop allowed us to recognize common e-government issues between two countries (US and Hungary) that differ substantially in size, social composition, and government practices. A notable example are the common efforts to record and archive spoken-word cultural heritage of minorities (the gypsy minority in Hungary and the native American minority in the US). Another notable example refers to IT acceptance and adoption, and the resulting cultural divides.

### **Training and Development:**

This was a community-building workshop, bringing together experts from the US and Hungary. We can identify two community-building issues:

? Disseminating information across nations (e.g. inventories of digital government research), and

? Fostering international participation through common meetings and international workshops.

The research component of such collaborations addresses:

? The identification of transnational problems as such, and

? Merging and reconfiguring capabilities and processes to address these problems.

### **Outreach Activities:**

The workshop website

<http://www.spcomm.uiuc.edu/conf/budapest2004/>

is the major dissemination outlet for this workshop's activities. We have also had the opportunity to present findings of this workshop in the last two Digital Government workshops.

## **Journal Publications**

## **Books or Other One-time Publications**

## **Web/Internet Site**

### **URL(s):**

<http://www.spcomm.uiuc.edu/conf/budapest2004/>

### **Description:**

This is the workshop site, providing information for the event (e.g. list of participants, venue, and summaries of findings).

## **Other Specific Products**

## **Contributions**

### **Contributions within Discipline:**

By its nature the workshop addressed a variety of disciplines, comprising social science and technical issues. By bringing together diverse experts from these fields and two countries we allowed them to re-examine the state-of-knowledge in their field under considering the view of other experts, and the needs of another country.

### **Contributions to Other Disciplines:**

The previous statement covers this issue as well.

**Contributions to Human Resource Development:**

This community-building workshop supported the establishment of international and multidisciplinary expert networks in the area of international digital government.

**Contributions to Resources for Research and Education:**

Nothing (yet) to report.

**Contributions Beyond Science and Engineering:**

As the focus of this workshop was on international digital government there exists the potential for future gains to public welfare that transcend classic science and engineering. Policy making and government organization are expected to be affected in the long term by such collaborations.

**Conference Proceedings**

**Categories for which nothing is reported:**

- Any Journal
- Any Book
- Any Product
- Any Conference