

The members of the Alliance for Permanent Access (APA) would like to invite you to the APA conference in Helsinki on Monday 22nd November 2010.

The theme of the 2010 annual Conference is Scalable infrastructures for digital preservation

We are moving into a new phase of the APA and for digital preservation in Europe. Important research projects inspired by the APA strategic research plans have been undertaken over the past several years. The APA is recognised as having an important role in bringing communities together, understanding requirements and developing strategic plans. Collectively the APA represents a significant part of the research data and expenditure in research and implementation in Europe.

Now there is a move towards a robust implementation of a science data infrastructure which supports the preservation and, very importantly, the re-use, of our digital intellectual capital. This is a global movement with Europe playing a leading role, illustrated by the European Digital Agenda.

All this is good news for the APA and the implementation of its vision. However we must now shift gear in our efforts to ensure that this infrastructure fulfils the real requirements, that it is widely used, and that the fundamental research underpinning its implementation is carried out. Moreover the infrastructure is just the tip of the iceberg – there is an important job to do to make sure that our digital material is ready to exploit this infrastructure.

This conference will be an opportunity to take stock of where we are and where we will be going in this next phase.

The 2010 conference is organized by CSC- IT centre for science.

We would be grateful if you would register at http://www.csc.fi/english/pages/apa2010/welcome. You are also invited to the conference dinner in the evening.

Dr David Giaretta

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