

AAT-Taiwan: Toward a Multilingual Access to Cultural Objects

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This is a research project initiated by the Taiwan e-Learning & Digital Archives Program (TELDAP), collaborating with the world-renowned Getty Research Institute (GRI) to establish a Chinese-language *Art & Architecture Thesaurus* (AAT). The ultimate goal is to provide multilingual access to millions of cultural objects of TELDAP. Experts and scholars participating in the project come from diverse academic backgrounds, including library science, museum studies, computer science and information engineering, lexical semantics, translation studies, art history, architecture and anthropology. At present the project is composed of five Task Forces, which are as follows:

1. Methodology R&D
2. Equivalence Mapping
3. Translation & Contribution
4. Localization & Creation of New Concepts
5. System Development

This talk will discuss the approaches and issues with regard to how the project develops a multilingual thesaurus (English, French, Spanish, Italian, Dutch and German), and showcase the prototype. By integrating into digital archives systems, it can provide multilingual semantic search and browse. Through the collaborative project, GRI also can broaden the inclusion of terms related to Asian art, architecture and material culture in AAT.