

2006 RESCUE Next Generation Search Series
Faceted Metadata in Search User Interfaces



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Dr. Marti Hearst is an associate professor in the School of Information at UC Berkeley, with an affiliate appointment in the Computer Science Division. Her primary research interests are user interfaces and visualization for information retrieval, empirical computational linguistics, and text data mining. She received BA, MS, and PhD degrees in Computer Science from the University of California at Berkeley, and she was a Member of the Research Staff at Xerox PARC from 1994 to 1997. Prof. Hearst is on the editorial boards of ACM Transactions on the Web and ACM Transactions on Computer-Human Interaction and was formerly on the boards of Computational Linguistics, ACM Transactions on Information Systems, and was the program co-chair of HLT-NAACL '03 and SIGIR '99. She has received an NSF CAREER award, an IBM Faculty Award, an Okawa Foundation Fellowship, and two student-initiated Excellence in Teaching awards.

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Refreshments at 9:15 am; talk begins at 9:30 am

Calit2 Room 3008

Sponsored by Professor Ramesh Jain

In the debate about how to improve search, the flexible use of metadata has been winning advocates. In this talk I will describe the advantages and pitfalls of using faceted metadata for integrated browsing and search of large information collections. This approach, instantiated in a system called Flamenco, has achieved strong positive results in usability studies and is becoming widely adopted in e-commerce websites. It also is applicable to collections of images, citations, and digital libraries generally. I will also touch on our recent efforts to automatically generate facet hierarchies.