

## Preface to this review

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This review has published as an annual report by SHIP project (Social Human and Information Platform Project as one of the Academic Frontier Promoting Programs of Meiji University).

Our SHIP project had an international conference named the 4<sup>th</sup> Joint Symposium on May 2001 at Meiji University in Tokyo.

We had three experiences of similar conferences in previous years from 1999. In the first conference on May 1999 at Meiji University in Tokyo; we had examined and discussed about responsibilities on database service provider; main issues around the legal informatics and so on. In the second conference on December 1999 in Osaka University, we had examined and discussed about some privacy issues relating legal information and citation rules of legal information in digital forms including Web contents. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> conference on May 2000 at Meiji University, we had examined and discussed about some intellectual property issues relating legal databases, and we had reported and previewed some legal information systems by using XML technology.

And, in the 4<sup>th</sup> conference on May 2001 at Meiji University, we had examined and discussed about the social roles of functions of legal information systems with guest speakers who were Prof. Martin (Cornell Law School, USA) and Prof. Greenlief (AustLII, Australia). Also, Prof. Yamamoto (Library Information University, Japan) and Prof. Ibusuki (Kagoshima University, Japan) joined and contributed in this conference.

We discussed several important issues based on different view points. And, we had tried to study on different models for legal database systems by comparative methods.

This annual review includes official records of this 4<sup>th</sup> conference. PDF formatted file of this review will be able to download or read at our Web Site below.

<http://ship.mind.meiji.ac.jp/>

We are now planning to publish more reviews in English including other records of our conferences and relating articles by project members.

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