

**AAASS Bibliography and Documentation Committee**  
**Subcommittee on Copyright Issues**  
**Report for 40th AAASS Annual Convention**  
**Philadelphia**  
**November 20-23, 2008**

**Purpose.** The Bibliography and Documentation Subcommittee on Copyright Issues is dedicated to education and training in copyright for Slavic and East European material for the benefit of librarians and scholars in the field of Slavic and East European studies.

**Membership.** The current members of the B&D Subcommittee on Copyright Issues are Michael Brewer (University of Arizona) (2008-2010), Janet Crayne (University of Michigan) (2005-2008), Kevin Hawkins (University of Michigan) (2007-2009), Jared Ingersoll (Vanderbilt University) (2007-2009), Janice Pilch (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) (2008-2010), Karen Rondestvedt (Stanford University) (2005-2008). Michael Newcity (Duke University) (2008-2010) serves as the faculty liaison to the subcommittee. The subcommittee is chaired by Janice Pilch.

**Meetings.** The working group formed in April 2003, and became an official subcommittee in June 2005. The group meets annually at AAASS conferences and members communicate by e-mail and telephone at other times during the year.

**Activity.** The group is involved with several projects, directed toward education, current awareness on copyright issues for Slavic and East European materials in the library and academic communities. The subcommittee serves as a resource for copyright information, provides non-legal assistance with copyright questions, and promotes ongoing study of copyright developments. In the past year the range of activity of committee members expanded to include copyright advocacy.

**Website.** The group launched its website in December 2006. The website provides basic guidance on copyright for Slavic and East European material. It contains a statement on copyright for librarians, scholars, and educators; an education and current awareness section, providing links to other resources including the 2005 AAASS roundtable presentation on "Digital Copyright: Practical Approaches"; a copyright assistance section that provides contact information for committee members and invites queries on copyright for Slavic materials; and a section on news and events. Updates were made to the website throughout the year; the site is as an ongoing committee project. Michael Brewer is managing the website at the University of Arizona.

There are plans to expand the site to include a flow chart on approaching copyright for Slavic materials, and a more comprehensive list of resources from among the following categories: websites, organizations, institutions, individuals, conferences, publications, online/subscription databases, electronic discussion groups, and copyright workshops and tutorials. The subcommittee decided last year not to add a section on Copyright FAQs, although this was requested by AAASS members. The subcommittee will discuss this issue again, and will devote most of its meeting on November 22, 2008 in Philadelphia to a concrete discussion of changes and additions to the website. We expect the results to be implemented immediately after the conference. We will also add to the website the presentation materials from the 2008 Digital Resources Workshop on "Copyright in the Research and Academic Environment."

**Copyright queries.** The group continues to play an important role as an ongoing resource for individuals with copyright queries on Slavic and international copyright. As of November 5, 2008

committee members, primarily Janice Pilch, had fielded 242 copyright queries by e-mail, telephone, listserv, and onsite at the University of Illinois, for colleagues in the field as well as library users, scholars, and individuals from the U.S., the U.K., and Russian Federation These included a number of queries from the Slavlibs, SEELANGS, and H-Net Russia listservs, and the American Library Association (ALA) Copyright Advisory Network, which are monitored by committee members. As evidence of the sustained need for such activity, these are the figures for the past four years:

- 34 queries completed from April 2003-November 2004
- 54 queries completed from November 2004-November 2005
- 62 queries completed from November 2005-November 2006
- 59 queries completed from November 2006-November 2007
- 33 queries completed from November 2007-November 2008

The time involved in replying to copyright queries varies from .5 hours to 3 hours. The average time is 1.5 hours.

**2008 AAASS Program.** The subcommittee organized a session for the 2008 Faculty Digital Resources Workshop. The 45-minute session on "Copyright in the Research and Academic Environment" is being held on November 20, 2008 at Van Pelt Library, University of Pennsylvania. Led by Michael Newcity and Janice Pilch, the session will introduce researchers to the basics of copyright and introduce specific applications, with examples in both print and digital contexts. Emphasis will be on works created in Slavic and East European countries. It will cover:

- General principles of copyright
- Dispelling notions of the pre-1973 public domain for Soviet works: copyright restoration for foreign works
- Determining the copyright status of Slavic, East European and Eurasian works
- Application of U.S. law to uses of foreign works
- Exclusive rights in U.S. law
- Limitations and exceptions for research and educational use
- Performing due diligence: a real-life scenario

**2009 AAASS Program.** The group will propose a panel for the 2009 AAASS conference on international copyright issues, including legal protection of the traditional cultural expression of indigenous peoples.

***Collaboration with other national copyright committees and contributions toward copyright education and advocacy.*** Members of the subcommittee have been actively involved with the ALA Washington Office, Office of Information Technology Policy Copyright Advisory Subcommittee, which implemented a national Copyright Advisory Network in 2004 to expand knowledge and discussion of library copyright issues. Janice Pilch and Michael Brewer serve on the ALA subcommittee. Members of ALA subcommittee advance copyright education through projects and programs at ALA conferences, and they actively participate in the national Copyright Advisory Network. The liaison work between B&D and ALA contributes to the ALA effort and enhances the role of the AAASS committee.

Several committee members have made substantial contributions to national copyright advocacy and education programs this year. It is important to emphasize that the work being done by members of the B&D subcommittee on Slavic and East European copyright issues, and by

extension to the field of international copyright, has been acknowledged by members of other organizations (ALA and the Association of Research Libraries) as being unique and valuable. There are no other such committees within international studies organizations doing similar work. The perspective that this committee brings to international copyright issues is very highly regarded.

Michael Brewer designed and crafted an innovative tool for convenient reference to U.S. copyright terms. His Copyright Slider was launched officially at the 2008 ALA Midwinter Convention in Philadelphia, was an instant success, and is being distributed by the ALA Office of Information Technology Policy, which acknowledges his efforts in creating a new and useful resource for librarians. In addition Michael was given special recognition at the ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim for his work on the digital version of the slider. The Digital Copyright Slider, an interactive tool for guidance on copyright terms, was also an immediate success nationwide, and Michael was presented a trophy in Anaheim for his outstanding contribution to ALA copyright education efforts. The Digital Copyright Slider is available at <http://librarycopyright.net/digitalslider/>. Michael has also contributed actively to discussions on international copyright listservs such as PIJIP-COPYRIGHT and digital-copyright.

Janice Pilch was selected in September 2007 to serve as one of three International Copyright Advocates for ALA and the Library Copyright Alliance (LCA) at high-level meetings of international organizations including WIPO, UNESCO, the WTO, and the World Summit on the Information Society. She participated in the WIPO General Assembly Meetings in Geneva in 2007 and 2008, and in the 2008 meetings of the WIPO Committee on Development and Intellectual Property as a national NGO representative for the LCA; and also follows the work of the Standing Committee on Copyright and Related Rights and the Intergovernmental Committee on Intellectual Property and Genetic Resources, Traditional Knowledge and Folklore. As an advocate, she represents the interests of American libraries, writes position statements to advance fair and equitable access to information, and delivers statements on the floor of the WIPO assembly. Her assistance on copyright issues, including the laws of Slavic and East European nations, was acknowledged in the newly released WIPO Study on Copyright Limitations and Exceptions for Libraries and Archives, WIPO document no. SCCR/17/2, available at [http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc\\_details.jsp?doc\\_id=109192](http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/doc_details.jsp?doc_id=109192).

Michael Brewer and Janice Pilch gave presentations for a poster session for the 2008 ALA Annual Conference in Anaheim. Michael presented on “Section 108 of the U.S. Copyright Act” and Janice presented on “International Copyright.” Janice also presented on a panel entitled “Copyright Top Ten” to field questions from an audience of 150 people on copyright issues in libraries and education. Janice presented on international copyright developments at the Ball State Digital Policy Institute’s Digital Policy Conference in October 2008.

Kevin Hawkins has contributed actively to discussions on international copyright listservs such as PIJIP-COPYRIGHT and digital-copyright. Kevin has acquired substantial expertise in copyright and scholarly communications, and is a resource for information on digital copyright issues. Kevin has done extensive work this year on the subcommittee website, and his revisions will soon be reflected in the online version.

Janet Crayne has also contributed extensively this year to the revision of the subcommittee website, and her work will soon be reflected in the online version.

Karen Rondestvedt, as editor of the *Slavic and East European Information Resources*, regularly handles copyright issues in connection with submissions to the journal.

***Ongoing training in copyright issues.*** Members of the subcommittee continue to educate themselves on copyright issues to gain the necessary expertise to carry out the group's efforts. Members have spent significant time has been spent this year researching and learning more about international and U.S. copyright law. Committee members will continue to pursue opportunities for training in copyright to increase their knowledge and expertise.

Submitted by:

Janice T. Pilch, Chair  
AAASS Bibliography and Documentation Subcommittee on Copyright Issues  
November 5, 2008