

**AAASS Bibliography and Documentation Committee**  
**Subcommittee on Copyright Issues**  
**Report for 39th AAASS Annual Convention**  
**New Orleans**  
**November 15-18, 2007**

**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) (2005-2007), Steve Corrsin (New York Public Library) (2005-2007), Janet Crayne (University of Michigan) (2007-2008), Kevin Hawkins (University of Michigan) (2007-2009), Jared Ingersoll (Columbia University) (2007-2009), Janice Pilch (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign) (2005-2007), Karen Rondestvedt (Stanford University) (2007-2008). The group 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 is pleased to have launched its website in December 2006, shortly after the AAASS conference. The website provides basic direction 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 Janice's 2005 AAASS roundtable presentation on "Digital Copyright: Practical Approaches;" a copyright assistance section, providing contact information for committee members and inviting 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.

We expect 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. Most importantly we plan to add a section of Copyright FAQs. Committee members began working on this project in early 2007, and we will step up the effort to complete the project within the next year.

**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 12, 2007 committee members, primarily Janice Pilch, had fielded 209 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. and U.K. These included a number of queries from the SEELANGS and H-Net Russia listservs, 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

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

**2007 AAASS Program.** The subcommittee organized a panel on “Copyright and the Changing Arena of Scholarly Communication in Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies,” held on November 15, 2007:

Chair: Janet Crayne (University of Michigan)

Presenters: Newcity, Michael Albert (Duke University)  
"Performing Copyright Due Diligence: How to Analyze Legal Compliance of Projects and Programs"

Janice Pilch (University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign)  
"Copyright in Slavic and East European Texts and Images in Traditional Systems of Publishing"

Hawkins, Kevin Scott (University of Michigan)  
"Copyright Issues in Open Access Publishing for Slavic Studies"

Discussant: Michael Brewer (University of Arizona)

**2008 AAASS Program.** The group will propose a panel for the 2008 AAASS conference on legal protection of traditional knowledge and cultural expression of indigenous cultures. The group will also be able to offer a session on copyright at the Digital Resources Workshop.

***Collaboration with other national copyright committees and contributions toward copyright education and advocacy.*** Members of the subcommittee have been actively involved with the American Library Association (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 ACRL) 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” will be launched officially at the 2008 ALA Midwinter Convention in Philadelphia, and will be distributed by the ALA Office of Information Technology Policy which acknowledges his efforts in creating a new and useful resource for librarians. Michael Brewer has contributed actively to discussions on international copyright listservs such as PIJIP-COPYRIGHT and digital-copyright.

Michael Brewer and Janice Pilch gave presentations for a poster session for the 2007 ALA Annual Conference in Washington, DC. Michael presented on “Section 108 of the U.S. Copyright Act” and Janice presented on “International Copyright.”

Janet Crayne has been involved in copyright assessments and discussions at the University of Michigan, and recently participated in discussions on copyright in the works of Boris Pasternak at an international symposium at Stanford University.

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.

Janice Pilch has been active in the Section 108 Copyright Law Revision process involving an examination of exceptions and limitations available to libraries and archives under Section 108 of the Copyright Act and possible changes to meet the needs of cultural institutions in the digital environment. She participated in the second Section 108 public roundtable held in Chicago on January 31, 2007 as a representative of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and submitted written comments to the Section 108 Study Group on behalf of the University, presenting information on the international dimensions of proposed amendments. She participated in the first roundtable on this issue in Washington, DC on March 16, 2006. Janice also served in a group sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries and the ALA Office for Information Technology Policy that met in June 2006 and in January 2007 to draft white papers concerning Section 108.

Janice Pilch was selected in September 2007 to serve as one of three International Copyright Advocates for ALA and the Library Copyright Alliance (LCA), involving attendance at high-level meetings of international copyright organizations such as WIPO, UNESCO, the WTO, and the World Summit on the Information Society. She attended the WIPO General Assembly Meetings from September 24-October 3 in Geneva as a national NGO representative for the LCA. This represents an opportunity to participate in the development of international copyright law and to shape it to benefit libraries and the public interest.

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 have been educating 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, in order to prepare website materials. Committee members will continue to pursue opportunities for training in copyright to increase their knowledge in the field.

Submitted by:

Janice T. Pilch, Chair

AAASS Bibliography and Documentation Subcommittee on Copyright Issues

November 12, 2007