

**Report of the Digital Projects Subcommittee
to the AAASS Bibliography and Documentation Committee**

**Salt Lake City, UT
November 6, 2005**

It was announced officially on June 5, 2005 that AAASS Executive Board approved the conversion of Working Group on Digital Projects to permanent subcommittee status.

Current membership of the Subcommittee on Digital Projects:

- Miranda Remnek (U. of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign), Co-Chair 2005-2007
- Andrew Spencer (U. of Wisconsin-Madison), Co-Chair 2005-2007
- Michael Brewer (U. of Arizona) 2005-2007
- Kevin Hawkins (U. of Michigan) 2005-2007
- Eileen Llona (U. of Washington) 2005-2006
- Bradley Schaffner (Harvard U.) 2005-2006

We would also like to thank the two previous members of the former Digital Projects Working Group who have now rotated off the Subcommittee following the completion of their terms: Jackie Byrd (Indiana) and Michael Neubert (Library of Congress) for their work in developing the Subcommittee.

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The Digital Projects Subcommittee now has a web-site hosted at UIUC:
<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/spx/BnD/DigPro.htm>

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Eastview journal rankings project:

In mid-January 2005 the Eastview circulated a list of Russian language periodical titles which were candidates for digitization. The Digital Projects Working Group (as it was then still called officially) was asked by Eastview Publications to coordinate a ranking of these periodicals. Rankings were received from seven academic institutions: University of Arizona, University of California-Berkeley, Columbia University, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign, University of Kansas, Stanford University, and University of Wisconsin-Madison.

The survey's result was that the top-ranked (most wanted) journal was *Vestnik Evropy*, while the lowest-ranked (least wanted) is *Slavianovedenie*. The results of the ranking were submitted to Dima Frangulov at Eastview at the end of March 2005.

The full results of the ranking can be found at:

<http://www.library.uiuc.edu/spx/BnD/DigPro.htm#vendors>

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JSTOR

On Tuesday, July 30, 2005 Bradley Schaffner (Harvard) met with two representatives of the JSTOR project, Heidi McGregor, Director of Strategic Planning and John Kiplinger, Director of Production, to discuss the possible inclusion of Slavic publications into JSTOR. One issue that Brad brought up was an idea that B&D had discussed with JSTOR several years ago about having Slavic librarians compile a list of journals for possible inclusion in the JSTOR project. The first type of material that Brad mentioned for possible inclusion were the 19th century thick Russian journals, which are standard research tools for Russian scholars but take up a lot of space on library shelves and are generally poorly indexed. The other type of material that Brad pointed out as under served in digital format is East Central Europe - specifically the non-Cyrillic Slavic language areas such as Polish, Czech, Slovak, Croatian, etc.

Both Ms. McGregor and Mr. Kiplinger indicated to Brad that they are very interested in pursuing this idea. They are particularly interested in getting suggestions for possible titles to be included in a Slavic project. The three of them also talked about some of the challenges of working with Cyrillic alphabet materials, and discussed JSTOR's first, but currently stalled attempt at including a Russian journal in the project.

The B&D Subcommittee on Digital Projects is currently exploring the possibilities for a possible relationship with JSTOR (at least to recommend titles). Brad has also suggested that we work in cooperation with SEES in ACRL.

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Work continues to proceed on the UIUC Digital Projects On-line inventory

[any additional comments from Miranda...]

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Digital related programs in which members of the Digital Projects Subcommittee have participated:

1. Several members of the Digital Projects Subcommittee gave presentations at the *Slavic Digital Text Workshop: Strategies for Humanists & Social Scientists* on July 5–8, 2005 (Workshop organized by Miranda Remnek with presentations by Eileen Llona and Andy Spencer). <http://www.library.uiuc.edu/spx/slw-dtw/Program05.htm>

2. Pre-conference: Digital Resources workshop at AAASS on Nov. 3, 2005 (Salt Lake City) also featured presentations by several members of the Digital Projects Subcommittee (Brewer, Hawkins, Spencer)

3. The Digital Projects Subcommittee submitted Panel 4-22 "Digitization: Practical Issues for Scholars and Librarians", Friday Nov. 4, 2005, AAASS (Salt Lake City). Several members of the Subcommittee (Remnek, Hawkins, Llona, Spencer) served on the Panel as well.