Subcommittee News:

At the Working Committee meeting it was decided that every two years subcommittee chairs would draft a charge and goals.

ABSEES Subcommittee:

The Collection Development Subcommittee has absorbed this subcommittee. To ensure a smooth transition, two members will join the Collection Development Subcommittee and the Editor will be an ex officio member. Please see Collection Development Subcommittee report below for more information. Subcommittee reports are also available on the B&D Website.

Collection Development Subcommittee:

Joanna Epstein (Harvard) and Kristen Regina (Hillwood Museum) are leaving the Collection Development Subcommittee. Heghine Hakobyan (University of Oregon) and Diana Greene (NYU), former ABSEES Subcommittee members, will be coming on. An update to the Slavic vendor database will be loaded next week and it will be announced on Slavlibs. Collection Development is also examining the applicability of “reasonable access” (as opposed to purely “open” access) and is trying to define it now. It is felt that reasonable, rather than open access is affordable and should be advocated with the editors and scholars involved.

Copyright Subcommittee:

Janice Pilch, Committee Chair, has now been appointed half-time Humanities Librarian and half-time ARL Visiting Program Officer for Copyright at University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Kevin Hawkins will be leaving the committee. The full Copyright report is available online.

Digital Projects Subcommittee:
Alena Aissing (University of Florida) is leaving. Robert H. Davis (Columbia University) and Kirill Topygo (University of North Carolina) are newly appointed members.

**General News:**

Bibliography and Documentation Committee has a new meeting format. As before, the Executive (or working) Meeting is held separately, and is followed by the Membership Meeting. Beginning this year, however, the Subcommittee chairs also attended the Executive Meeting. This was deemed to be a success, and will continue in the future. Concerning B and D Committee memberships, the terms for Angela Cannon and Janet Crayne will expire, and new terms begin for Ksenya Kiebuzinski (University of Toronto) and Kristen Regina (Hillwood Museum). They will serve from 2010 through 2012.

As of this year, the B and D chair is now an ex officio member of AAASS Board, thanks to Miranda Remnek’s groundwork as B&D Chair begun several years ago. The offer to AAASS of Cambridge University press to publish Slavic Review was considered but ultimately rejected by Board. They want to establish a marketing plan to extend revenue. Michael Brewer recommended the involvement of librarians, because of the role that they play as end-users.

The Board agreed and asked that Michael Brewer (or a librarian appointed by the B&D Chair) serve on an ad hoc task force to look at marketing and possible models for delivery of Slavic Review. This should help to raise the visibility of librarians in AAASS and could lead to broader access to Slavic Review.

As of June, 2010 “Bibliography and Documentation Committee” will change its name to “Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies Council on Library and Information Resources (ASEEES CLIR)”. Internally it will be referred to as just “CLIR”. Librarians may refer to it as SEEECLIR outside of AAASS (as agreed to in last year’s survey/poll).

A new website devoted to the Bibliography and Documentation Committee (CLIR) is being discussed. Eric Zitser, a member of the AAASS Communication Committee, asks us to imagine “If we had all the resources available, what would
our website look like?” This would include the ideal functionality. For example interactive and networking functions would be desirable. The desire is to have this site (and our other sites and web resources) hosted centrally by AAASS. It is not yet clear if this will be possible.

AAASS is moving from Boston to the University of Pittsburgh in June. Yolanta Davis is leaving and will be replaced by a new columns coordinator for Newsnet. It is possible that Newsnet (or portions of it) might become a blog or some other web resource. To improve accessibility, the password will be removed from the AAASS website. E. Zitser notes that we need a librarian presence in the publication, no matter what it is. University of Pittsburgh has had a great deal of experience with REESWeb, so the hope is that some of that expertise will be available for the AAASS web presence. The AAASS homepage should have a librarians’ portal, as well as important links, and should provide access to a separate listserv. Nadia Zilper mentioned that another possibility could be provision of access to free databases. Please send all recommendations to Eric Zitser.

The Slavic Review Board discussed generating a revenue stream, which would involve free access to some articles, and paid access to others. Another possibility was to make Newsnet a blog. As noted before, Cambridge University Press offered to publish Slavic Review, but the offer was rejected by the board.

Janet Crayne reported that ICCEES will be held in Stockholm from July 26 to 31, 2010. The deadlines for panels, papers and abstracts have all passed. The panels that have been approved are: History and/or Projected Future of Slavic and East European Collections, Part I and II; Émigré Life Documented: Constructing National Identities; Digitization of Collections: An Update; and Looking East: the Reemergence of Central Asian Studies.

Terri Tickle Miller reported that despite earlier plans to the contrary, the State of Michigan Library will not be closing. Earlier the Library was going to close, with certain functions turned over to Michigan State Library. This is no longer the case.
New Strategies:

B and D spoke about looking at strategies to bring in more faculty, students, etc. to our panels, roundtables and events and to raise the profile of librarians in AAASS. Perhaps it would be a good idea to establish panels and roundtables with librarians as the facilitators and discussants and faculty as the presenters (or at least an equal number of the presenters).

AAASS Advocacy Policy:

B&D will no longer advocate on behalf of AAASS (as we have in the past with the closing of various libraries or on other topics). These issues/requests will instead go through the board and B&D will have representation at that level. We are still encouraged to forward these issues. This reassessment came about after faculty became involved in reestablishing core public services in the NYPL’s Slavonic and Baltic Division which was disbanded in 2008.

Open Access Task Force:

What are publications that we can provide reasonable access to? SEEIR or Solanus? Is moving them feasible? Probably not. If a new journal starts up, it might be. Solanus is starting up again. There is discussion with Solanus to digitize back issues as an archive or help them to put Solanus online under the parameters of “reasonable access.”

Vendor Presentation:

Michael Brewer questioned the efficacy of the vendor presentation and sought feedback from others. Dima Frangulov also recommended discontinuation of these events, because they are a lot of work, and draw little librarian attendance. Wine and cheese certainly isn’t necessary, but visiting the exhibits area is an example of time used wisely. We should give the responsibility to vendors to choose routes of communication to convey information. Nina Shapiro suggested that we have a panel or roundtable session devoted to issues, such as trends in modes of access, shelf-ready books, batch-loaded records, etc. A panel format would also be a possible alternative.
2010 Conference in LA:

The Digital Preconference is now the responsibility of the Digital Projects Subcommittee. We need to talk with Liladhar Pendse or Ruth Wallach to have either a hands-on preconference session, or a preconference on more technical issues. Perhaps at UCLA, USC or at the conference hotel? The increasing number of panels (and earlier start date for panels on Thursday) might stymie our use of the hotel and reduce attendance. Perhaps there could be librarian as well as faculty member presentations. This seemed to be very popular in Philadelphia and might bring in more faculty and increase faculty interest and buy in (resulting in more opportunities for librarians to interact with research and teaching faculty at AAASS). The Digital Project Subcommittee is charged with overseeing it. Please send ideas to Ernest Zitser and volunteers should contact him as well.

Changing Needs of B&D Subcommittees:

B and D needs to reexamine the work of the subcommittees periodically and ensure there are not areas being left out, or where there is significant overlap between subcommittees. One way to do this is to have each subcommittee create and review it’s “charge” and goals every two years. Currently it seems that we have no place for public services (reference, information literacy instruction, teaching with technology, etc.) and are more focused on collections. There was a recommendation that Digital Projects might expand to include education and change its name to something like Subcommittee on Instruction and Technology, thus focusing on the use of digital materials and technology in education. There was an overarching theme of needing to become more successful at engaging faculty through AAASS, not just talking and working with one another. A change in subcommittee focus could help with this.

Nadia Zilper recommended that we should adopt a shared methodology for instruction and establishing a context for that. A new name for Digital Projects Subcommittee was recommended: Instruction and Technology. The Digital Projects Subcommittee will discuss this and will report out.

Library Distinguished Service Award:
This would be given to a librarian who has established high visibility and has had a high impact. Any monetary award would be secondary to recognition. The award would be listed in AAASS publications, and would be presented at the Saturday evening dinner at the National Convention. Although this will be an occasional award, there may be an initial flood of nominations. Next steps are to determine a monetary figure, a procedure, and then submit it to the AAASS Board for approval. June Farris recommended that this award be called “Marianna Tax Choldin Award”, because she founded B and D. In addition she was the only librarian to serve as President of AAASS. Dima Frangulov supported approaching vendors for funding. It was recommended that this be expedited. Michael Brewer promised to finalize the procedures with B&D and try to get it approved by early Spring.

**Slavic and East European Section of ACRL:**

Jon Guillian announced that the Sunday program sponsored by SEES at the 2010 ALA National Convention will be “Future of Area Studies in a Globalized ?” It has been ten years since the last such program. Participants include Dan Hazen, Head of Collections at Harvard, James Neal, Director of Columbia University Library, Maria Carlson, Professor and former Director of the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Kansas.

A task force has been created to look into the merger of WESS and SEES. Terri Miller and Sara Wentzel are cochairs. The ideal would be a merged section. The impetus for this is a small participating membership and difficulty filling positions. There is concern that SEES might be “swallowed up” if it merged. ALA is also encouraging virtual meetings and this might have a positive effect on low participation. Please give feedback to either Jon or Terri.

Sandra Levy will be chair next year.

Concerning the SEES Newsletter, Terri announced that after 2010 ACRL won’t support print newsletters. So she is the last Editor [in Chief] and Allan Urbanic will be the last Managing Editor for the print publication. Discussion concerning
online free publishing of the newsletter is ongoing. Many ACRL sections have already move to electronic only publications.

**Consortial Reports:**

**Pacific Coast Slavic Consortium (Michael Biggins, University of Washington):**

They had been discussing developing a conspectus of Slavic libraries based on country coverage. This was applied to PACSLAV institutions. This year it will be applied to institutions in CIC+, PACSLAV, and the East Coast Consortium. They will provide information on trends in coverage, ranking based on authoritative sources for specific area. A description of the conspectus will be sent out on Slavlibs.

**Midwest Slavic Consortium:**

Jon Giullian reports that, thanks in large part to Michael Biggins’ communications with providers of the INION database platform, we will continue to subscribe to the database. National exchanges continue among the members.

**East Coast Consortium:**

Jon De Santis has done an excellent job running the Consortium. Chair for the next two years is Ernest Zitser. Wanda Wawro (Cornell) and Edward Kasinec (NYPL) have retired. There is doubt that the Cornell position will be filled. For an update on NYPL’s Slavic specialist, please see earlier minutes.

Cornell University and Columbia University will pool all resources (TCUL). The Slavic specialist at Columbia might be responsible for Cornell Slavic selection.

The intra Consortium book exchange continues. Also the Consortium uses a list of vendors for purchases. The Consortium has agreed on collection assignment, based on their own areas of concentration.

The next meeting will be in spring Durham, NC at Duke University. There has been some discussion of virtual meetings for cost reasons, and of teleconferencing in particular. In this way money would be saved, and a version of “face-to-face” discussion would be retained.
Slavic and East European Information Resources:

Karen Rondestvedt announced that SEEIR needs a co-editor, as well as new articles. She will send out the announcement over slavlibs. Ernest Zitser recommended including the SEES Newsletter in SEEIR.

University of Illinois:

Larry Miller reported on the disbanding of the Slavic Library. This is his report:

"At the University of Illinois Library during the year, the Slavic cataloging and acquisitions units which had been part of the Slavic Library since 1964 were transferred to general technical services. Marek Sroka is now half-time in the Slavic Library along with his half-time appointment as head of Slavic cataloging. Janice Pilch is also in a new position, as was mentioned in the Copyright Issues Subcommittee report. The Slavic Reference Service is flourishing, and the Illinois Summer Research Laboratory will be hosted in our usual location (Room 225 Main Library) this summer. Soon after the Summer Lab, Slavic librarians' offices along with the Slavic Reference Service, print reference collections, current periodicals, and the complete microfiche collections, scanners and microform readers are expected to be moved to the third floor (currently the English Library) adjacent to the Asian Library. In that location Slavic and East European collections and services will be part of a new International and Area Studies Library."

NYPL Statement by Interested Faculty Member:

Susan Smith Peter, a professor and member of AAASS, asked to speak at the meeting and discussed the issue of the Slavonic Division closing. As a result of the closing, there were problems accessing resources for participants in the NEH-funded summer workshop there in 2008. After NYPL had reassigned Mr. Yoo to other duties, he was reassigned as a Slavic specialist. Concerned scholars formed Committee in Support of Slavic and Baltic Scholarship. It recommended in a letter that the Slavonic and Baltic collections be made as accessible as possible. Their included support for Mr. Yoo, requesting that he might continue digitizing the collection; promoted the use of volunteer workers; recommended that queries be sent via email so that Mr. Yoo can collect data on this.
Panel Proposals for 2010 AAASS:

1. Dima Frangulov recommended the making of approval plans for Russian studies. It would include 3-4 vendors and one librarian. This would cover the mechanics of how it is done. Perhaps we can have Russian librarians come here to tell us how they do things. A potential panel could be a Russian publisher, a Russian librarian, an American chair, and an American librarian.

2. Kristen Regina suggested that perhaps there could be a panel based on the 18th Century Study group conference in Hoddesdon, England. It would be a joint librarian/historian panel focusing on relevant 18C studies sources and topics of interest. She is attending the Hoddesdon conference in January.

3. Library of Congress is talking about an agreement with the Yeltsin Library. Grant Harris is coordinator of all the activities shared with the Yeltsin Library. Angela Cannon will follow up with him on a potential panel.

4. Collection Development suggested a panel on Open/Reasonable Access that could include both librarians and authors or journal editors.

5. There was a suggestion that The Subcommittee on Copyright Issues might take a similar approach, with a panel or roundtable on copyright and licensing, bringing in faculty with experience (good or bad) in searching out permissions for use of images or text in their work and maybe a journal editor or publisher to speak about the issues journals or publishers face in getting permissions, or in allowing for fair uses of copyrighted works. We would need to have at least one librarian on the panel in order to answer questions and address questionable assertions about copyright.

6. There was interest by the Digital Projects Subcommittee in having a panel (either separate from or instead of the preconference) on teaching with technology or digitized collections or something like that. It would include both faculty and librarians as well and focus on how faculty can embrace the use of digitized collections or other library resources in their teaching.