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Digital Humanities and Computer-Mediated Instruction in Slavic Studies

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DIGITAL HUMANITIES AND COMPUTER-MEDIATED INSTRUCTION IN SLAVIC STUDIES

Cornerstone 3 Interdisciplinary Programs, Including Informatics

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The proposed project is designed in terms of digital humanities, and it is intended to develop a computer-mediated and interconnected environment for a series of interdisciplinary and major courses fulfilling requirements in both the History and the Modern Languages and Cultures degree programs (Russian and Slavic Studies track).

The original goals of the project are the following:

(i) **Development of a secure, pass-protected website** with the following two sections: (a) **preparation of searchable text resources**: scanning, converting PDF-files into Word format and vice versa, of primary and secondary sources, excerpts from historical records, chronicle, etc.; search and integration of linked data; (b) **digitalization of images**: slides, scanned pictures, personal or copyright protected photos of cultural artifacts, geographical places, etc.

(ii) **Creation of a digital** (interactive) **atlas**, and

(iii) **Creation of the Assessment Toolkit.**

What has been done:

Necessary equipment (two computers and a scanner) was purchased. With the ITS collaboration and the assistance of two students working intermittently on the interactive map, the director, Dr. Andriy Danylenko, completed the following: (1) held meetings with the student aide on a weekly basis; (2) wrote 10 essays (uploaded and linked with the corresponding geographical names) (ca 50 pages); (3) searched for and digitalized

images to be included in the essays and the map itself; (4) selected fonts and extra characters; (5) compiled indices (personal names, geographical names, peoples, polities, written records); (6) made copies and scanned several excerpts from the historical documents (from orphan publications)

During the second part of the project:

(1) assisted by Raju Pokiya, **the director** will continue working on the digital map (including textual and visual materials); chronological layers to be added;

(2) **the co-investigator** will prepare a series of essays and work on developing the assessment toolkit (techniques), among them computer-generated and scored tests and quizzes, including practice tests and self-quizzes.

The map is expected to be published in late December 2011 (Dr. A. Danylenko)

The assessment toolkit will be ready by late December 2011 (D. R. Frank)