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IST-2001-37491

**European Network of Centres of Excellence for
Research and Education in Digital Culture**

Work Package 7

Periodic Progress Report #2

Reporting Period: 01/01/2003 – 15/05/2003

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Abstract Reports on activities in months 7-11 of thematic network (January- 15 May 2003).
Keyword list

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Summary : Overall Assessment of Main Milestones Achieved

E-Culture Net began officially as an one year thematic network on 1 July 2002 with 29 formal members with the purpose of evolving into an Network of Centres of Excellence for Research and Education in Digital Culture in FP6.

The first six months brought focus to our vision and generated enormous interest in E-Culture Net with letters of intent from 65 institutions in Europe, plus interest to join from many more. This led to a more careful definition of criteria for entry and exit. By the 24th of April, 2003, 132 organisations representing 587 researchers had signed up to do specific tasks and a concrete proposal for an FP6 NoE was submitted:


To operationalise the vision (WP1, D1) it was decided to focus on a single goal: to build a tool for sharing content, knowledge and critical methods; with ancillary goals of providing the tool with content and keeping it updated. It was decided further to distinguish clearly between a short-term solution, which begins by integrating existing isolated ingredients, and a long-term solution, which will include a number of new elements.

The results of Expansion to Newly Accessed States (WP2, D1) and Expansion to Mediterranean, Beyond (WP2, D3) helped to define a number of new members for the FP6 proposal.

Following an initial identification of four key Research Topics (WP3, D3) it was decided (WP 3, D8) to focus on the first two within the context of the DEED in the next phase of the NoE (namely, semantic and spatial dimensions). It was decided that the third research topic (collaborative creation) is best addressed at this stage through a content pilot (cf. 4.1.d on p. 17 below); through links with CREATE, led by FHW; through a STREP (FLEX) led by FHW and CINECA, and through closer collaboration with artnouveau. The fourth research topic, personal and collaborative learning, is meanwhile theoretically covered by Pro-KNOWnce (Fraunhofer) and BRICKS (Engineering et al).

The work on Requirements for European Masters (WP4, D5) has led to more detailed Topics for European Masters (WP5, D9) and to agreements to work closely with:

- a) Anna Maria Silvana De Rosa, the founder of the first network of European doctorates in Social Representations and the first Marie Curie Training Network in the humanities;
- b) NEHRN which has created the first Doctor Communitatis Europaeae (DCE) in history
- c) UNESCO's world heritage studies at the Brandenburg Technical University
- d) the new European University of Culture.

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The work to Identify Broadband Pilots (WP5, D6) has led to Defining Broadband Pilots (WP5, D10) which includes a) a series of integrating pilots and b) a specific demonstration using a large Vatican Map shared between supercomputers in Bologna and Madrid, with subsets for various other levels.

The preliminary work on the DEER is leading to:

- 1) a framework (WP6, D11a)
- 2) a demo with over 1.5 million individual items using DACOs (WP6, D11b)
- 3) interface considerations (WP6, 11c).

The first conference in December (WP1, D7) brought together the members for the first time and forged new links between persons in computer science (UzK), cultural organisations (C2RMF), design (Helsinki and art nouveau), e-learning (Oslo), linguistics and terminology (Vienna), and reconstructions (CINECA, FHW). Conference 2 in June (WP, D12) will develop these links.

Problems Encountered and Steps Taken

There have been inevitable yet ultimately non-essential challenges of timing, such as needing to meet an application deadline before a basic deliverable was due, or needing to have a final review the day after the second conference which means that not all the consequences can be explained with the aesthetic distance one might have wished.

The main problems have been through an *embarras de richesse* qua both potential members and contents. It has taken considerable energy and patience to develop a framework that is open to a large number without becoming a) an uncritical collection of players or b) an unmanageable throng. We are optimistic that the new structure overcomes these challenges.

An unexpected problem arose from the EC's own "rules" or at least rumours thereof about persons being able to participate in only one NoE. As a result a certain number of members, faced with a choice between a specialised e-learning NoE and our wider ranging NoE linking e-learning and culture, chose the smaller, more specialised NoE and abandoned us.

As mentioned in Progress Report 1, financial considerations have led the University of Maastricht to decide to close the MMI. The good news is that in general terms their decision has not affected the contractual agreements. Further good news is that a) Laval has agreed to become the co-ordinator for the next year and b) that the new European University of Culture which will be situated on the premises of the European Parliament in Strasbourg has agreed to provide E-Culture Net with a permanent home.

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There is one problem of continuity that looms. The thematic network ends on 30 June 2003. Even if the bid to continue as an NoE is successful it will probably be 1 January 2004 until this begins formally. A means must be found to pay at least one assistant, preferably Alexander Bielowski, to continue his excellent work as a day to day co-ordinator of the project.

Correspondence Between Planned and Actual Accomplishments

With respect to WP1 (vision and structure) we had initially hoped for more co-operation between our network and some of the key players with respect to EoIs, NoEs and IPS. In a number of cases we have had excellent co-operation: e.g. the AMP EoI, Netzspannung.org EoI, the UCL NoE (SIMILAR) and the Fraunhofer IP (Pro-Knownce). In other cases the shifting messages with respect to expectations especially re: IPS led to a climate which would have forced us into purely political moves at the expense of focussing on content.

WP2 (Expansion) went smoothly. Given constraints of time and budget the results have been excellent: we have identified a series of serious individuals in leading institutions with whom to go further.

WP3 (Research Topics) proved slightly frustrating because there was a minimal budget to deal with a subject on which one could spend millions or even billions. Even so we have created some concrete stepping stones to go forward.


WP4 (European Masters) achieved some first concrete steps precisely as foreseen. The new connections with the Sorbonne, European Doctorates, Marie Curie, NEHRN, and UNESCO mean that we are now positioned to go much further than originally foreseen.

WP5 (Broadband Pilots) has led to a larger number of concrete projects than originally planned. Moreover, the CINECA-Complutense supercomputer connection has led to a concrete demonstration using large 200MB images, subsets of which can be used on machines with connectivities ranging from 56Kbps to 100Mbps.

WP6 (DEER) has resulted in a framework paper which confirms that the general vision is practicable and an actual demonstration which has surpassed our original expectations.

WP7 (Management) has confirmed that, notwithstanding the problems identified earlier, the network is manageable. Indeed, the enormous commitment of so many excellent institutions confirms that there is a genuine enthusiasm and desire to develop an NoE along these lines.

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In retrospect we were over optimistic about how readily one can build national networks. On the positive side, Spain has used the proposed activities of the NoE (broadband pilots and e-learning) to create a much more coherent national network. Russia has successfully identified a critical mass of key players in the country. A number of other countries now have national representatives who are poised to take things further in the next stage. On the whole it is fair to say that we have achieved more than planned. There are many more potential members and there is much more content already existing than foreseen.

Work Progress Review

Specific Objectives and Achievements

A primary objective is that E-Culture Net evolves from a one-year thematic network (01/07/2002-30/06/2003) into a Network of Centres of Excellence for Research and Education in Digital Culture in the 6th Framework Programme or at least develops clear plans how what began as a general vision can proceed along clear and practical lines.

Progress Report 1 and the first review committee focussed on deliverables 1-7. Progress report 2 focusses on deliverables 8-11 and mentions preparations for deliverable 12 (Conference 2), which will be properly covered in the final report.

1	Define Vision and Structure	Month 5
2	Expansion to Newly Accessed States	“ “ 5
3	Expansion to Mediterranean, Beyond	“ “ 5
4	Research Topics re: Method	“ “ 5
5	Requirements for European Masters	“ “ 5
6	Identify Broadband Content Pilots	“ “ 5
7	Conference 1	“ “ 5
8	Research Topics re: Implications	“ “ 11
9	Topics for European Masters	“ “ 11
10	Define Content Pilots	“ “ 11
11	Foundation for Distributed European Electronic Resource (DEER)	“ “ 11
12	Conference 2	“ “ 12

Figure 1. List of Deliverables for E-Culture Net.

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Progress by Workpackage

WP1: Deliverable 1: Define Vision and Structure

The primary objective is to refine the vision of the network and its structure. A further objective is to explore how these existing specialised networks (in addition to those which are already members) and emerging national networks can best be linked in a Network of Centres of Excellence.


Vision

The preliminary vision was put online in September 2002, discussed and modified after the first conference in mid-December 2002. At the review meeting in February the vision was generally welcomed. Monsieur Pascon requested a more detailed treatment of the State of the Art. This has been added.

There was also a request for greater operationalisation. Benefits of membership, rules for entry and exit of the Network have been identified. Details of the structure have been developed. With respect to integration it was decided to use the vision of a Distributed European Electronic Resource (DEER) as a concrete way of moving towards the longer-term vision of multilingual access to Europe's cultural heritage for all citizens. This means that there is now one fundamental goal: building a tool for sharing, with related goals of providing it with content and keeping it updated.

Given the challenges of timing with respect to the FP6 deadlines it was decided to distinguish clearly between a) the long term vision of a Distributed European Electronic Resource (DEER) for which Suzanne Keene is preparing a framework that will be available at the end of May 2003 and b) a short-term approach to address the requests for pragmatism and operationalisation.

WP 1	1: Build DEED	
1.1	Security	Université Catholique de Louvain
1.2	Legal Arrangements	Universidad Politecnica di Valencia
1.3	Storage	UNESCO-EU DCMC
1.4	Multilingual Terminology	AMP Consortium
1.5	Semantic Mapping	SEMKOS Consortium
1.6	DACOs (Dist. Autonomous Cultural Objects)	Universität zu Köln
1.7	Interfaces	Intermedia, University of Oslo
1.8	Multimodal Interfaces	SIMILAR NoE
1.9	3-D Spatial Access	ORION
1.10	Spatio-Temporal Access (GIS)	Portsmouth Consortium
1.11	Virtual Environments, Agora	CINECA
1.12	Virtual Heritage Centres	CNR-ITABC

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To avoid confusion between the short- and long-term it was decided to name the interim version: Distributed European Electronic Dynamic (DEED) resources. This choice of a new interim term was guided partially by the fact that while the term “Resource” is very positive in English it has much more restricted connotations in French. The word “dynamic” was added to emphasize that we are concerned with something much more than a static database: in addition to providing new access to digital cultural content, the vision is to create new multilingual, examples of dynamic knowledge, and dynamic knowledge creation through collaboration.

For the interim DEED, ten “ingredients” were identified for a preliminary model and two further ingredients were identified for a broadband context (assuming that the gigabit connections promised by GEANT will become an everyday reality within the next decade(s)). These 12 ingredients represent minimal requirements for moving in the direction of a long-term DEER. As such most of these individual topics already have consortia, networks and other groupings of individuals working on them. An integration of these existing groups was thus suggested for the FP6 proposal.


In addition to building a DEED in the short term, there is plan to use networks at the country level to provide content for the DEED and to use research matrices to serve as a technology watch to keep the DEED updated. A series of activities for spreading excellence in the form of European Masters and Doctorates (see WP4), e-learning and e-training have been identified.

Structure

One of the fundamental challenges of a serious Network of Excellence is that it needs to be small enough to be manageable and yet large enough to be representative in some measure of Europe’s unity of diversities.

To address this challenge we have developed a layered approach. The starting point is a co-ordinator, initially Laval Mayenne Technopole, then taken over by the European University of Culture once it is established. As with other Networks the co-ordinator will work with a small number of contractors (6) responsible for administering the financial dimensions with other members.

Beyond this, the basic goals are broken into activities and these into components each of which is led by an already existing group, sometimes a consortium, sometimes an EoI. This has led to 24 main participants, who have attached to them 132 organisations with a total of 537 researchers. In effect, the NoE is a consortium of a number of smaller, specialised NoEs which, in isolation, lack the critical mass to achieve what is now possible.

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National Networks

A more wide ranging representation will be possible through the principle of national networks. Given the resources and time available it was not realistic to develop these for the whole of Europe. Instead, we have used the goal of content pilots (WP5) as a motivation to integrate efforts especially in one European country, Spain. In addition, the case of Russia has been used to outline a future sub-network in the NoE. The increasing connections with the Foundation of the Hellenic World (FHW) will permit their Mediterranean Network (MEDINA) to evolve as another sub-network of the larger European NoE.


National networks, with close links to the policy strands of national governments (e.g. via MINERVA) can address the challenges of subsidiarity and assure that local, regional and national interests become more visible and are fostered through a European E-Culture Net. The national networks can raise awareness of Europe's remarkable unity of diversities as emphasised by Giorgio Ruffolo (European Parliament) and thereby make a fundamental contribution to a new, emerging consciousness of what it means to be a European.

Specialised Networks

One of the important conceptual innovations of E-Culture Net is to take up afresh the idea of a Network of Networks, which was introduced in 1989 by UNESCO through Culture Link¹ (Network of Networks for Research and Co-operation in Cultural Development) and CIRCLE (Cultural Information and research Centres Liaison in Europe).² Whereas the earlier effort was limited to a loose connection through a website with addresses, E-Culture Net foresees a more systematic co-operation by involving existing specialised in specific elements of the DEED-DEER vision. By joining these smaller networks in a common task, E-Culture Net achieves a new critical mass; at the same time it helps to bring into new light (to valorize, in the language of Brussels) various excellent achievements such as the Inventaire, which were previously often unknown beyond their country of origin. Among the networks formally included to date are NEHRN, SCRAN, ORION. Provisional links with MINERVA have been discussed.

International Networks

In addition, a series of links with UNESCO and with other cultural networks in Canada, China, Japan, Russia and the United States have been established in order to assure that the European efforts are in harmony with efforts elsewhere around the world (cf. WP2).

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WP2: Newly Accessed States (NAS, Mediterranean and beyond)

The objective is to explore how the emerging European network can expand to include the Newly Accessed States (NAS) and link with other networks around the world.

NAS

This report was completed as planned in the first period. A possible update is expected at the second conference on June 16-17.

For the FP6 NoE Professor Budin has identified the following members (cf. proposal 5.7):

Researchers		Position	
Gerhard Budin	M	Associate Professor	Universität Wien (1.4-5, 2.1) AU
Maria Sliwinska	F	Director	ICIMSS, Torun PO
Vojtek Balik	M	Director	National Library, Czech Rep. CZ
Andris Vilks	M	Director	National Library of Latvia LA
Milena Tetrevova	F	Director	Univ. Library, Kosice SLO
Dincho Krastev	M	Director	Central Libr. Bulg. Ac. of Sc. BU
Aleksandra Horvat	F	Director	U. of Zagreb, Dep't Info.Sc. CRO
Alenka Kavcic-Colic	F	Director	National and Univ. Library SLO
Mihkel Reial	M	Director	Nat. Dig. Rep. Proj. Tallinn EST

Mediterranean

Deeper contacts with the Foundation of the Hellenic World (FHW) have led to their agreeing to become a contractor in FP6. This ensures close links with their portal, MEDINA - MEDiterranean by INternet Access.

An NAS/Russian and a Mediterranean component has been integrated into all the major activities of the NoE.

Russia

Nadia Brakker (Centre PIC, Ministry of Culture, Moscow) did further important work in identifying partners for initial participation in the NoE. Formal members for the FP6 NoE proposal now include:

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Russia *Research Institution*

- Ministry of Culture, Centre PIC Nadezhda Brakker
- Programme Systems Inst: Russian Acad. of Sc. Evgeny Patarakin
- Moscow State University of Culture and Arts Olga Shlykova
- Moscow School of Soc. and Econ. Sciences Sergey Zuev
- Saint Petersburg State U. Interdisciplinary C. Nikolay Borisov
- Saint Petersburg State U. Dep. of Phonetics Tatyana Sherstinova
- Saint Petersburg State U. Dep of Comp.Ling. Grigorij Martyanenko
- Saint Petersburg State U. Propp's Centre Svetlana Adonieva
- Siberian State Univ. of Telecom. and Info.Sc. Alexander Markhasin
- Siberian Centre of Mobile IST Alexander Markhasin
- State University Higher School of Economics Leonid Gokhberg

Cultural Organisation

- UNESCO Information for All Programme Evgeny Kuzmin
- Russian Cultural Heritage Network Kirill Nasedkin
- ADIT Alexander Dremailov
- ADIT-PREMIUM Nikolay Selivanov
- Association of Regional Library Consortia Alexander Plemnek
- State Russian Museum Olga Kissel
- National Library of Russia Olga Kulish
- State Tretyakov Gallery Nadezhda Brakker


Industry

- Altsoft Spb, Pskov, Novgorod Tatyana Mersadykova
- ARTINFO Yuri Plastinin
- TIME (Tech. Innov. for Modern. Ed.) Dimitry Rubashkin
- ZAO ProSoft-M Galina Vaslenko

This wide range assures links to some of the most significant research institutions, cultural organisations with content and new media industries in Russia. The membership of the Siberian State University of Telecommunications and their Centre of Mobile IST links us with one of the most important distance learning facilities in Russia. We have carefully avoided a temptation of merely collecting names. Hence, while we have accepted a limited number of individuals directly in the E-Culture NoE, we have also identified a number of others who might potentially be included in a Russian sub-network at a later stage in development. Cf. Appendix 6.

International

At the international level, thanks largely to the activities of Frederic Andres we have commitments from the following:


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UNESCO: Especially Digital Silk Roads Project (DSRP)
Asian Network of Excellence in Digital Silk Roads: (NII, Japan)
Canadian Heritage Information Network (CHIN)
Chinese Digital Culture Heritage Network (CDCHN)
Russian Cultural Heritage Network (RCHN)
Digital Silk Roads Cultural Grid Project / University of Michigan-Dearborn, Wayne State University (linked with the National Science Foundation, United States).

Through the Spanish connections of ANID and the Universidad SEK de Segovia there are links with South America. In addition, we have been contacted by Helena Jank who is Vice Dean and Diretora do Instituto de Artes, Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP) wishing to join E-Culture Net.

Laval's links with the East West Economic Network (EWEN) which might serve to provide further technology transfer between Western and Eastern members of E-Culture Net via EWEN SMEs have not yet been pursued.

As noted in Progress Report 1, there is an EU fund of 600 million Euros to deal with international relations. It is recommended that such funds might serve to create special sub-networks for NAS, Russia, and have links to some of the other international networks and that these possibilities be explored in the next phase.

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WP 3: Research Topics

The objective is to identify/define research topics in different stages of the knowledge life cycle in order to generate new interdisciplinary topics for research.

Progress Report 1 identified two large domains, a) Access (and Preservation) to Existing Cultural Knowledge and Production and b) Preservation of New Cultural Knowledge which entailed four basic research topics:

- 1) semantic access and knowledge organisation
- 2) spatio-temporal access with historical-cultural dimensions
- 3) collaborative creation with multi-modal interfaces
- 4) personal and collaborative e-learning.

The initial idea was to work with colleagues in formulating complementary, integrated projects (IPS). Four such possible IPS were identified:

- i) DILIGEANT (Digital Libraries in a GEANT framework)
- ii) ACE (Augmented Cities and Environments)
- iii) CO-CREATE (Collaborative Creation)
- iv) PACE (Personal and Collaborative E-Learning).

The past five months have brought a number of insights and adjustments into these initial ideas.

- a) The ideas for DILIGEANT are premature and should be taken up at a later stage. As a first step towards operationalisation it was decided to focus on three aspects of semantic access and knowledge organisation, namely, multilingual terminology (AMP), semantic mapping (SEMKOS) and Digital Autonomous Cultural Objects (DACOS, UzK) as ingredients for DEED within the NoE.
- b) The ACE idea has been scaled down and submitted as a STREP under the title: DEER-Cities. Meanwhile two elements, 3D Spatial Access (ORION) and Spatio-Temporal Access (Portsmouth Consortium) will become ingredients of DEED.
- c) The ideas for CO-CREATE have been developed in one of the Content Pilots under Multidimensional Museums as subproject d: Collaborative Digital art and Artistic Creation. Meanwhile, FHW is already active in CREATE (Constructivist Mixed Reality for Design, education, and Cultural Heritage). FHW and CINECA are submitting a STREP on FleX-VR (Flexible Virtual Reality Exchange

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Platform). All of these are preliminary to the larger vision of CO-CREATE which is also part of the artnouveau network's mandate. To strengthen ties, first artnouveau as a network and then its individual members became members of E-Culture Net.


- d) PACE, as something which E-Culture Net should initiate, was abandoned once it was learned that Fraunhofer was working on Pro-Knownce. An agreement to become users of Pro-KNOWnce ensued. Links have also been established with the BRICKS IP.

In order to operationalise the vision, we have decided to begin by integrating existing technologies to produce a minimal version of our tool for sharing content, research and critical methods. After eighteen months we plan to assess on the best course to proceed, namely, a) whether it makes sense to continue building the tool in a bottom-up fashion; b) whether it is feasible to link with the top-down results of IPS such as Pro-Knownce and BRICKS to arrive at something that is greater than sum of the parts or c) whether a combination of a and b is necessary.

In order further to operationalize the results, Alexander Bielowski, working with two student programmers has created a provisional database for both a macro- and micro-level research matrix. For the detailed research matrix 110 categories have been identified by specialised networks and related organisations. An initial plan was to conscript members of E-Culture Net, who are also members of specialised networks to develop this list and keep it up to date. This process has begun.

Increasingly there is a feeling that these matrices might be led by technological networks such as ERCIM or Fraunhofer with input from E-Culture Net members. The research matrices will a) keep the initial DEED up to date; b) help to guide a technological infrastructure for the DEER, c) lead to a portal within the DEER to address cultural standards, solutions and research trends whereby the DEER remains current.

The Fraunhofer's Netzspannung³ has developed a tool for knowledge discovery and for visualising semantic relations. It is planned that this should become one of the interfaces for the research matrices.

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WP4a: European Masters

The objective is to relate topics of research more closely to post-graduate teaching (first at the Masters and later at the doctoral level) and use this to focus research questions and thus to help generate new research projects and programmes.


For Progress Report 1, Arturo Colorado y Castellary identified two European Masters' courses in development at Valencia and Segovia, while Benedetto Benedetti identified a number of criteria and focal points for emerging European Masters degrees and produced an initial draft for course work and identified three thematic cycles of courses:

- 1) Textual and Visual Databases
- 2) Databases Processing for Conservation Intervention on Monumental Complexes
- 3) Projecting (Planning) of Museum Communication.

In the past months a team of ten individuals has been identified to develop further European Masters Courses in the realm of digital culture. These include representatives from the Politecnico di Milano, Complutense (Madrid), Sorbonne (Paris), UNESCO's World Heritage Studies Programme, and from the Northern European Historical Research Network (NEHRN). In addition, four representatives will reflect Masters Courses in Russia. A next step will be to develop a similar small group to represent the Mediterranean especially with respect to Greek, Hebrew and Arabic.

Researchers		European Masters		
Benedetto Benedetti	M	Dr.	Scuola Normale Superiore	IT
Umberto Parini	M	Dr.	Scuola Normale Superiore	IT
Paolo Paolini	M	Professor	Politecnico di Milano	IT
Allan MacInnis	M	Professor	University of Aberdeen (NEHRN rep)	UK
Liliane Gallet-Blanchard	F	Professor	Université de Paris IV	FR
Marie-Madeleine Martinet	F	Professor	Université de Paris IV	FR
Françoise Deconinck-Brossard	F	Associate member	Université de Paris IV	FR
Marie-Teres Albert	F	Professor	Brandenburgische Tech. Univ. Cottbus UNESCO W. Heritage Studies Programme	DE
Jacques Poulain	M	Professor	European University of Culture rep	FR
Maria Teresa Garcíá Nieto	F	Professor	Universidad Complutense da Madrid	ES

Russian Connection				
Nikolay Borisov	M	Dr,	St-Petersburg State Univ.	RU
Olga Shlykova Vladimovna	F	Professor	Moscow State Univ. Culture and Arts	RU
Lev Y Noll	M	Professor Dr.	ADIT, Russ .State Humanitarian Univ.	RU
Alexey V Lebedev	M	Professor Dr.	ADIT, Moscow Sch. of Soc.and Ec.sci.	RU

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WP4a: European Doctorates


For Progress Report 1 Francesca Bocchi outlined initial thoughts on how Masters and Doctoral Programmes might emerge in light of the Bologna Convention. In the past months a small working team to develop European doctorates representing in a first instance universities in Italy, Germany, Spain and France and Russia. Aside from the obvious importance of Bologna, three factors make this small group considerably more significant than a collection of 11 individuals. The group includes:

- 1) two key persons from the Sapienza who have developed the European Doctorate on Social Representations with a network of Universities throughout Europe and also the only network of Marie Curie Training Centres in the humanities.
- 2) a representative from the Northern European Historical Research Network (NEHRN) which has developed a Doctor Communitatis Europaeae (DCE) which was the first of its kind in the historical field.
- 3) the founder of the new European University of Culture, which has as its specific mandate the development of European Masters and Doctorates and is thus ideally suited to co-ordinate the existing efforts.

Researchers		European Doctorates		
Francesco Bocchi	F	Professor	Università di Bologna	IT
Annamaria Silvana de Rosa ⁴	F	Professor	Università di Roma, La Sapienza	IT
Thomas Riis	M	Professor	Universität Kiel (NEHRN rep.)	DE
Marco Gaiani	M	Professor	Politecnico di Milano	IT
Serge Moscovici	M	Professor	Università di Roma, La Sapienza	IT
Paola Barocchi	F	Professor	Scuola Normale Superiore	IT
Arturo Colorado y Castellary	M	Rector	Universidad SEK de Segovia	ES
Jacques Poulain	M	Founder	European University of Culture	FR
Marie Madeleine Martinet	F	Professor	Université La Sorbonne	FR

Russian Connection				
Alexey V Lebedev	M	Professor Dr	Moscow School of Soc.and Ec.Sc.	RU
Alexander Chernych	M	Dr.	Director, Centre PIC	RU

The close links with UNESCO's World Heritage Programme and specifically links with a) Brandenburg and b) the Training Network of the Malta School for Conservation in the context of the EUROMED programme provide an important link between these academic studies and the practical world of cultural conservation and restoration.

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WP 5: Broadband Pilots

The objective is to identify and define broadband pilots using digital content from a) memory institutions and b) virtual/augmented reality (e.g. research results from IST, FET), which can be used for teaching and inspire new research.


In Progress Report 1 Arturo Colorado y Castellary (Madrid, Segovia) and his colleague Isidro Moreño (Madrid) explored pilots to serve as near term inputs for prototypes for the DEER. In the second phase this led to clear ideas for eight content pilots for FP6. Arturo Colorado worked with members of the Spanish network to develop concrete plans for the first three of these topics resulting in a document of over 350 pages.

WP 4	Content Pilots	
4.1	Multidimensional Museums	Universidad Complutense
4.2	Historical European Cities	Università di Bologna
4.3	Cultural Tourism	Tourism-site.org
4.4	Text, Image Databases, Online Slides	UzK
4.5	Greek Culture	FHW
4.6	3-D and Archaeology	ORION
4.7	Virtual Environments, V. Her. Centres	CINECA, CNR-ITABC
4.8	Cultural Diversity	Paris 8

Herein, Multidimensional Museums, as an integrating topic, led to identification of six subprojects:

Multi Dimensional Museums	Subprojects
4.1.a	Virtual Net of Spanish Olive Oil Museums
4.1.b	European Sport Museum
4.1.c	Spanish Museums
4.1.d.	Collaborative Digital Art and Artistic Creation
4.1.e	Vatican Map
4.1.f.	EU Communications portal


Having identified and defined a serious number of content pilots it was decided to focus on one of these, the Vatican Map, to explore real-life challenges and problems of sharing cultural content in a broadband context. Broadband experiments are of course not new. They have been the focal point of specific EU projects such as VISEUM. What is new in our approach is that, in addition to sharing files between supercomputers in Italy

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(CINECA) and Spain (Complutense), we are committed to identifying subsets for persons with a range of connections from 100Mps (typical high level university connection today); through 10Mbps (older ethernet level of universities), 4 Mbps, 2Mbps and 1 Mbps (typical ADSL) to 56 Kbps (typical phone-line connection). Hence instead of simply producing an elite solution as envisaged in the Internet 2 approach of the United States, we are concerned from the outset to developing high level solutions subsets of which are available at all levels.

The Vatican Map was chosen because a) the digital images had already been developed in the context of the NUME project; b) at 200 MB per image they posed precisely the non-trivial challenges for sharing that face the entire cultural community. This content pilot led to a tesi di Laurea by Dottoressa Valeria Cavallari at CINECA and a concrete demonstration, which is the first of its kind in the world:

<http://www.cineca.it/test/ECultureNet/UltimaVersHome.html>.

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WP 6: Distributed European Electronic Resource (DEER)

To lay the foundation for a new Distributed European Electronic Resource (DEER) for research and Higher Education), examining problems of general framework, technology and interfaces.

Initial work on the DEER is proceeding on three lines: framework, technology and interfaces.

Framework

As explained in Progress Report 1, on 16 July 2002, Suzanne Keene produced a first DEER discussion paper, which articulated the long-term view of what the DEER might ultimately become. This discussion paper was discussed at the first Project Meeting and together with comments from that meeting, was the basis for the DEER Scoping Report by Suzanne Keene and Alice Grant. This overview was revisited quite extensively in the December conference. Immediately following the conference a one-page Feedback paper was sent out, which was very precisely worded to accommodate both the long-term vision of cultural material for all and also the working research platform.

The finished framework paper written by Francesca Monti and Suzanne Keene will be available on 31 May. As explained above, this schedule introduced practical problems of timing given the 24 April deadline for the FP6 proposal. As a result the NoE proposal focused on the short-term operationalisation of a DEED, whereas the DEER extends to a longer-term vision.

Technology

As reported in Progress Report 1, Manfred Thaller and his team (Cologne) are working on preliminary technology for a proto-type DEER using Distributed Autonomous Cultural Objects (DACOS). A prototype demonstration with 1,480,000 pages from four distributed resources was demonstrated at the first review meeting four months ahead of schedule. A more advanced demonstration is planned for the second conference meeting (Maastricht, 16 June) and the final review meeting (Luxembourg (18 June)).⁵

Interfaces

A third dimension of the DEER entails interfaces led by Lily Diaz (Helsinki). Her report, which will build on the both the framework (Suzanne Keene) and the technology (Manfred Thaller) and will be available at the conference on 16 June.

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WP 7: Project Management

To manage the project and create a secretariat for the Network

Contractual Issues

For the first nine months, Hannie Spronck proved an excellent administrative assistant in dealing with the considerable paperwork entailed in EU projects. As of 1 April she remains involved with cost statements, effort breakdowns and other mysteries of the European Commission. Day to day tasks have been taken over by Ankie Bosch.

Alexander Bielowski has focussed on contact with members re: specific deliverables. He has co-ordinated the growing number of candidate members and has worked with two student assistants, Ben Torben-Nielsen and Rembrandt Puijker in developing versions of our provisional website. He has worked far beyond the call of duty.

Kim Veltman has focussed on working with colleagues in developing content with respect to vision and structure.

As requested by the project officer, the following management report were produced:

1. October 2002 covering the first three months (July-September 2002)
2. November 2002 covering the last two months (October-November 2002).

Two progress reports were also produced:

1. January 2003 covering the first six months (July-September 2002)
2. May 2003 covering the next 4.5 months (1 January-15 May 2003).


A final report is planned for July covering the last 1.5 months in detail and assessing the entire 12 months of the thematic network.

Co-operation within the Consortium

On the whole there has been excellent co-operation within the consortium. Predictably, those with large duties have been much more active than those with minimal duties. In addition to the cases described in Project Report 1 there has been much closer co-operation with :

- 1) Laval, which has agreed to become interim co-ordinator of the network
- 2) The emerging European University of Culture, which has offered E-Culture Net a permanent home. This links us with a number of European initiatives.

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- 3) Arnouveau, which has led E-Culture Net to sign reciprocal agreements for co-operation with them.
- 4) FHW, which has led to their becoming a contractor for the next phase. This links us with many integrating initiatives in the Mediterranean area.
- 5) UNESCO, which has led them to join us formally. This has also linked us with their World Heritage Studies in Brandenburg and with via the Euromed initiative at the Malta School for Restoration with their satellite training programmes.
- 6) NII, which has led them to join us formally for FP6 and has led to a commitment to work with us from the US Digital Silk Roads Grid Project which is linked with the national Science Foundation.
- 7) AMP, which has led them join us formally and has brought on board three branches of the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme (Nanterre, Lyon and St Denis) and has linked us with projects such as the Inventaire, Iconclass etc.

Contribution to Clustering, Concertation

Items 3-7 above could all be cited as examples.

Participation in Workshops/and or Conferences

There have been a series of internal meetings usually at the national level. See: <http://www.mmi.unimaas.nl/eculturenet/Meetings.htm>.

Even before E-Culture Net began officially there were a number of lectures including Falun and Beijing (April 2002). The first formal presentation of E-Culture occurred at a keynote and round table during Culturtec 2002 (Madrid, 23 -25 May 2002). In the past six months there have been lectures at summer schools in Maastricht and Aranguez, and conferences in Paris, Barcelona, Catania, the Hague, Mont Tremblant, Feltre, Innsbruck, Moscow and Berlin. There have been four articles in conference proceedings (cf. appendix 5).

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Deviations if Any and Corrective Action


These have been addressed above (p. 4).

Work Planned for the Next Reporting Period

For the final report covering the last 1.5 months (15 May to 30 June) the focus will be on deliverable 12 and a survey of the accomplishments of the one-year thematic network.

Work package completion table:

<i>Work package</i>	<i>% complete current period</i>	<i>% complete previous period</i>
1	100	90
2	100	95
3	100	95
4	100	10
5	100	95
6	90	50
7	90	50

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Appendix 1. Dissemination activities:

One important method of dissemination lies in the website:

<http://www.mmi.unimaas.nl/eculturenet/>.

Because E-Culture Net has been in a planning phase for the past years, publications and formal lectures on the idea go back at least one year. Those without a name are by the co-ordinator.

Sections in Books

COLORADO CASTELLARY, Arturo: "La Culture Digitale dans la Société de la Connaissance", *Culture Europe, Revue de presse internationale des professionnels de l'art et de la médiation culturelle*, N 37, Spécial "Patrimoine et Multimedia", octobre-novembre 2002, pp. 8-9.

COLORADO CASTELLARY, Arturo: "Empleo y patrimonio cultural, promoción económica y nuevas tecnologías en la sociedad de la información y del conocimiento," *Revista de Museología*, N 23, Madrid, diciembre de 2002, pp. 107-109.

"E-Culture Net: European Network of Centres of Excellence for Research and Education in Digital Culture. First steps towards a vision," *EVA Moscow*, /Moscow: Centre PIC of the Ministry of Culture, Russia, 2002, pp. 24-28.

<http://www.mmi.unimaas.nl/eculturenet/publicPDF/EVAMoscow2002.pdf>


"European Networks of Excellence and Japanese/UNESCO Silk Roads," *Tokyo Symposium for Digital Silk Roads, UNESCO, National Institute of Informatics, National Center of Sciences, Tokyo, 11-13 December, 2001*, Tokyo: National Institute for Informatics, 2002. pp. 135-145.

"Challenges of Virtual and Digital Culture," *Congreso Internacional Culturtec 2002, III European Conference: Employment and Cultural Heritage, Economic Development and New Technologies in the Information and Knowledge Society*, Madrid: Universidad Complutense de Madrid, 2002, pp. 1-10 (in press).

"European Networks of Excellence and Global Digital Culture," *EVA-Beijing*, Beijing, April 2002 (in press).

"The Need for a Grid for Culture," *TERENA Networking Conference 2003 and CARNET Users Conference 2003, User Opportunities/ Network Challenges*, 19 May 2003, Zagreb: TERENA, 2003 (in press). Cf.

<http://www.terena.nl/conferences/tnc2003/programme/papers/pp1.pdf>.

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Lectures

Donostia-San Sebastian, “Opening Keynote: Historical Heritage and Future Creativity,” *First International Workshop on ICTs, Arts and Cultural Heritage with Special Emphasis on Applications, Local Development and Local Learning*, 5 May 2003.

Erfurt, “Datenbanken, Wissensorganisation und Visualisierungsprozessen,” *Lehrstuhl 'Vergleichende Literaturwissenschaft mit dem Schwerpunkten Kultur- und Medientheorie, Mediengeschichte,' Universität Erfurt*, 12 May 2003.

Zagreb, “Opening Keynote: The Need for a Grid for Culture,” *TERENA Networking Conference 2003 and CARNet Users Conference 2003, User Opportunities/ Network Challenges*, 19 May 2003.

Budapest, “Panel: On Culture in a Worldwide Information Society,” *World Wide Web Conference, 2003*, Budapest, 22 May 2003.

Paris, “Panel: Enjeux internationaux presents de la diversité culturelle,” *Diversité culturelle, mondialisations et globalization, Université de la Mondialisation*, Paris, Parc de la Villette, 4 June 2003.

Moscow, “E-Culture Net: European Network of Centres of Excellence for Research and Education in Digital Culture. First steps towards a vision,” *EVA Moscow*, Tretyokov Museum, 2 December 2002.

Innsbruck, “Keynote: Standardization, Localization and New Potentials for Education,” *Conference: Pedagogical Models: Creativity and Standarization - a contradiction?*, 30 November 2002. Plus seminar in developments on: “E-culture and e-learning.”

Feltre, “E-Culture, European Masters and European Doctorates in E-Culture,” UNESCO meeting, 12 November 2002.

Mont Tremblant City, “Closing Keynote: Les défis et les exigences de la culture pour les nouvelles technologies: Réflexions sur la cyberculture,” *ASTED 2002*, 9 Nov. 2002.

The Hague, “Envisioning our Digital Future,” *School for Scanning (SfS)* organized by NEDCC, Koninklijke Bibliotheek, 16 October 2002.

Catania, “Lo stato della arte e l'evoluzione delle tecnologie multimediali per la comunicazione del patrimonio culturale,” *Master (Recupero e valorizzazione dei BBCC) della Scuola Superiore di Catania*, 23 September, 2002.

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Barcelona, “Keynote: Cross Cultural Problems of Europe in a Global Context,” European Association of Directory and Database Publishers (*EADP*), Rey Juan Carlos Hotel, 19 September, 2002.

Aranguez, "Los Retos del Arte Digital," *Experimentaciones y Emergencias en las Artes Visuales, su Producción y Distribución* (*Experimentations and Emerging Visual Arts, its production and distribution*), Casa del Gobernador, 1 August 2002.

Maastricht, “Keynote: Virtual Museums: From Buildings to Environments,” *Amsterdam Maastricht Summer University*, Maastricht McLuhan Insitute, 11-14 July, 2002.

Paris, “Internet Domain Names and Classification Systems: Combining Past Experience with the Future,” The First Annual European Internet Domain Name Summit, Chambre de Commerce et d’Industrie de Paris, 2 rue de Viarmes, Paris 1er, 4 July 2002

Madrid, “Opening Keynote: Challenges of Virtual and Digital Culture;” Chair: Round Table on Euro E-CultureNet, Culturtec 2002, 23-25 May 2002.

Beijing, “European Networks of Excellence and Global Digital Culture,” EVA 2002 Beijing Electronic Imaging & the Visual Arts, 12-14 April, 2002.

<http://www.eurochina2002.com/bandeau3.htm>

Falun, “Keynote: Frontiers in Digital Interpretation,” and “Visions of Networked Culture,” Digital Interpretation: To See the Unseen History, 7-9 April 2002.

Rotterdam, Chair: Tafelgesprekken: Ontsluiting, *Expert meeting copyright en digitale cultuur*, V2, Rotterdam, 13 March 2002. www.virtueelplatform.nl

Luxembourg, “E-Content in the Next Five Years”, European Commission, 31 January 2001.

Vienna, “Keynote: Augmented Digital Culture and ITS-Network of Centres of Excellence in Europe,” *CultH-2 The Future of Digitized Cultural Heritage*, MuseumsQuartier Wien, Museum of Modern Art, Foundation Ludwig, 15 January 2002.

Tokyo, “European Networks of Excellence and Japanese Silk Roads,” *Tokyo Symposium for Digital Silk Roads*, UNESCO, National Institute of Informatics, National Center of Sciences, Tokyo, 13 December, 2001. Variant given at the Hitachi Laboratory, Yokohama, 14 December 2001.

Brussels, "Die Möglichkeiten einer neuer Vernetzung der Kultur," *Jahrestagung ICOM-Deutschland 2001*, Koninklijke Armeemuseum, 8 December, 2001.

Vienna, "Keynote: Medien, Sprachen und Integration von Kommunikations-prozessen," *Vielsprachigkeit. Transnationalität, Kulturwissenschaften, Research Institute for*

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Austrian and International Literature and Cultural Studies (INST), Vienna, 7 December 2001. <http://www.inst.at/termine/saverne.htm>

Moscow, "Cultural Networks: Europe and the World," *EVA Moscow 2001*, 3 December 2001.

Utrecht, "Dutch Networks of Excellence and The European Research Area," *OGC/OSL Symposium, The State of the Art. Geesteswetenschappen en ICT*, Utrecht, 9 November, 2001.

Copenhagen, "Workshop Speaker: Digital Communication of Cultural heritage and International Project Cooperation," Nordic Interactive Conference (NIC, 2001), Bella Conference Centre, 3 November 2001. See: <http://www.nordic-interactive.org/nic2001/>.

Kathmandu, "Culture and the Future of the Internet," Computer Association of Nepal, Russian Cultural Centre, 19 October 2001

Adelaide, "Art in the Age of Computers: How can Culture Survive Global Connectivity?" The Art Link Annual Public Lecture on Contemporary Art, Mercury Cinema, Adelaide, 7 October 2001.

Singapore, "Panel: Realising the Broadband Vision. Repositioning New Media and the Internet," *The 32nd Annual Conference of the International Institute of Communications: Governance and Cyberspace: The Substance after the Sizzle*, 1-4 October 2001.

Cortona, Seven Lectures, *Digital Systems for Publishing and Cultural Heritage Communications Course*, Cortona, 24-25 September 2001.

The Hague, "The Need for a Cultural Grid," *Eerste Nederlandse ICT-Kenniscongres*, 7 September 2001.

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Appendix 2 : Further Russian Candidates which could form basis of a Russian Sub-network. Those in **blue** are already members of the E-Culture NoE. There are an additional 38 male and 40 female members who could potentially form a Russian subnetwork of the E-Culture NoE.

Research Institutions

<i>Program Systems Institute of Russian Academy of Science</i>		
Evgeny D.Patarakin	M	Dr.
Larisa L. Travina	F	Dr.
Evgenia R. Lozhkina	F	Dr.
Valery P. Rubenko	M	
Boris V. Yakubov	M	
Galina V. Guzilova	F	
Iris A. Belisheva	F	


All registered: 20% matrix; 60% DEER; 20% masters

<i>Moscow State University of Culture and Arts</i>		
Kiseleva Tatiana Grigorieva	F	Prof. Dr.
Bolochagina Valentina Vasilieva	F	
Sliadneva Natalia Andrianovna	F	
Kapterev Andrey Ignorevic	M	
Samarina Natalia Gurievna	F	
Mezenseva Olga Petrovna	F	
Katz Gottfried	M	Dr.
Kondrashevski Gleb	M	
Katz Gottfried	M	Dr.
Shlykova Olga Vladimirovna	F	

All for masters

<i>Moscow School of Social and Economic Sc.-Faculty of Culture Management</i>		
Alexey V. Lebedev	M	Prof. Dr.
Sergey E. Zuev	M	Dr.
Alexander A. Artamonov	M	MA
Irina M Muzalevskaya	F	

All for masters

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<i>Inst. for St. of Info. Economy (State University Higher School of Economics - HSE)</i>		
Leonid Gokhberg	M	Dr. (Matrix and Masters)
Alexander Sokolov	M	Dr. (Matrix and DEER)
Irina Gaslikova	F	Dr.
Anna Pikalova	F	
Irina Bazileva	F	

<i>St. Petersburg State University Dept. of Comput.Ling., Philol.Faculty</i>		
Grigorij Martynenko	M	(Matrices and DEER)
Alexander Grebennikov	M	D.S. (Matrices and DEER)
Anna Medvedeva	F	Dr. (Matrices and DEER)
<i>St. Petersburg State University Dept. of Phonetics, Philological Faculty</i>		
Lija Bondarko	F	D.S (Matrix and Masters)
Pavel Skrelin	M	(Deer)
Tatiana Sherstinova	F	Dr (Matrix and DEER)
Svetlana Tananajko	F	Dr (Matrix and DEER)
Olga Bolotova	F	Dr (DEER and Masters)
<i>St. Petersburg State University Interdiscipl.Cent.for Advanced Prof.Ed.</i>		
Nikolay Borisov	M	Dr. (Matrix, DEER and Masters)
Victor Kapustin	M	Dr. (Matrix, DEER and Masters)
Andrew Chugunov	M	Dr. (DEER)
Vladimir Pankratov	M	Dr (Matrix and DEER)
Paul Tscherbakov	M	Dr (Matrix)
Valentina Zakharkina	F	Dr (DEER)
Elena Feofanova	F	Dr (DEER)
Vitaly Khodobakhshov	M	Dr (Matrix)
Elena Kapustina	F	Dr (Matrix and DEER)
<i>St. Petersburg State University The Propp's Centre</i>		
Adonjeva Svetlana Borisovna	F	Dr (All)
Gerasimova Natalia Michajlovna	F	Dr (All)
Kadikina Olga Alekseevna	F	Dr (All)
Veselova Inna Sergeevna	F	Dr (All)
Ponomareva Marina Valerjevne	F	(Matrix and DEER)
Rogova Natalia Igorevna	F	(Matrix and DEER)
Kuchumova Anna Andreevna	F	(Matrix and DEER)

Cultural Organisations

<i>Russian Cultural Heritage Network</i>		
Kirill Nasedkin	M	Director

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Anna Mikhailovskaya	F	
Dmitry Olshansky	M	
Olga Puchnina	F	
Vladimir Tsvetkov	M	
Roman Savin	M	
Tatiana Koloshina	F	
Maria Smaznova	F	
Jana Malkova	F	
Jaroslav Konoplya	M	
Tatiana Sokolova	F	
Darya Deryuzhinskaya	F	
Elena Krasnova	F	
Svetlana Konuhova	F	
Alexandra Vasina	F	

<i>UNESCO Information for All Programme</i>			
Eugeny Kuzmin	M	Dr.	(All)
Irina Bogdanovskaya	F	Dr.	(Matrix and DEER)
Alexey Demidov	M	Dr.	(All)

<i>Centre PIC Ministry of Culture</i>			
Nadezhda Brakker	F		(Matrix and DEER)
Leonid Kujbyshev	M		(DEER and Masters)
Dr. Alexander Chernych	M	Dr.	(Matrix and Masters)
Natalia Mikhailova	F		(DEER)
Nina Chernetskaya	F		(DEER)

<i>National Library of Russia</i>			
Vladimir R Firsov	M	Dr.	
Elena D. Zabko	F	Dr.	
Natalia F. Verbina	F	Dr.	

<i>The State Tretyakov Gallery</i>			
Galina Borisovna Andreeva	F	Dr.	(All)
Tatyana Vladimirovna Yudenkova	F	Dr.	(All)
Sofya Olegovna Petrikova-Agafonova	F	Dr.	(All)
Natalia Vladimirovna Tolstaya	F	Dr.	(All)
Elena Vitalijevna Zaytseva	F	Dr.	(All)

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<i>Association of Regional Library Consortia</i>		
Yakov Shraiberg	M	Prof. Dr.
Felix S. Voroiisky	M	Dr.
Alexander I. Plemnek	M	Dr.
Vladimir L. Baranov	M	Dr.
Natalia V. Sokolova	F	Dr.
Victor A. Glykhov	M	Dr.
Nicolay E. Kalenov	M	Prof. Dr.
Alexander V. Fronkin	M	Dr.
Mikhail V. Goncharov	M	Dr.
Oleg L. Zhizhimov	M	Dr.
Nikolay A Mazov	M	Dr.
Sergei R. Bazhenov	M	Dr.

<i>ADIT (Automation Directions in Museums and Information Technologies)</i>		
Victoria V. Chernenko		Dr.
F		
Alexander S. Dricker	M	Dr.
Kirill A. Meerov	M	Mr.
Tatyana Bogozomova	F	Dr.
Alexander V Dremailov	F	Mr.
Alexey V Lebedev	F	Dr.
Lev Y Noll	F	Dr.

<i>Culture Heritage in Digital Technologies ADIT-PREMIUM</i>		
Nikolay Selivanov	M	
Tatyana Selivanova	F	Dr.
Viktor Kostin	M	
Marina Pavlova	F	
Natalia Kniazeva	F	
Marija Taresevich	F	

Industry (Companies)

<i>Altsoft</i>		
Tatyana E. Mersadykova	F	
Petr A Grinfeld	M	
Leonid V. Petrov	M	
Filipp S. Gorbachev	M	
Yuriy M. Loshak	M	

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Elena L. Kosheeva	F	
Mark L. Starets	M	
Boris S. Raikhel	M	
Alexander Zabolotin	M	

<i>Art Info</i>		
Yuri Plastinin	M	Dr.
Rodion Alukhanov	M	

<i>TIME - Technological Innovations for Modern Education</i>			
Dmitry D. Rubashkin	M	Dr.	(Matrix and DEER)
Irina N. Kondratieva	F	Dr.	(Matrix)
Alexey V. Sigalov	M	Dr.	(Matrix and DEER)
Marina M. Matushkina	F	Dr.	(Matrix and DEER)
Alexander V. Kobak	M	Dr.	(Matrix and DEER)
Larisa G. Melikhova	F	Dr.	(Matrix and DEER)

<i>ZAO ProSoft-M JSC</i>		
Vadim Chebanov	M	
Viktor Tumarkin	M	
Galina Vasilenko	F	

Notes

¹ <http://www.culturelink.org/>

² <http://www.circle-network.org/>

³ www.netzspannung.org

⁴ cf. <http://www.europhd.psi.uniroma1.it:8080/main/main.htm>

⁵ Thaller's method assumes that local, regional and national variants can remain intact in a distributed system and thus offers a first step towards a technological solution for the political challenges that Ruffolo and others have identified: the need to create a unity of diversities by including the local, regional and national on their own terms in an expanding European context.