

**NDNP Awardee Interim Performance Report**  
(July 1, 2008–December 31, 2008)

**NEH Award Number:** PJ-50039-08

**NDNP State:** Ohio

**Submitted By:** Eric W. Schnittke, Project Coordinator

**Report Date:** January 31, 2009

**INTERIM PERFORMANCE REPORT NARRATIVE**

1. *Describe any changes that you have made or that you anticipate making in the project work plan or methodology from the award proposal submitted to the competition.*

Aside from a few changes in the project timeline and staff turnaround and change (which NEH and LoC have been notified of), the schedule agreed to for the project remains the same. The only change is that, due to issues that arose in the selection of the sample reel, the delivery of the sample roll to LoC will be towards the end of January, rather than the optimistic end of December that was proposed in the revised production schedule. We do not anticipate further changes to the production schedule.

2. *Please describe any selection or film acquisition/evaluation activities during the performance period.*

During this time period, we selected our initial sample roll for digitization. We went through multiple choices before settling on the *Cincinnati Labor Advocate* from July 17, 1915 – June 30, 1917. The roll has been duplicated and is at our vendor's for digitization. The roll was chosen after research and technical evaluation by OHS staff and was chosen for its multi-cultural background. The Advisory Board approved the selection in its initial meeting.

3. *Describe any specific award activities that have taken place between collaborating institutions in your state.*

To select papers, we have created an advisory board comprised of delegates from many institutions across the state including: Bowling Green State University, the Ohio Genealogical Society, Cleveland State University, the Mahoning Valley Historical Society, the North Canton Heritage Society, the Worthington Library, Wright State University, Ohio University, the Public Library of Cincinnati, the Washington County Public Library, the State Library of Ohio, The Ohio State University, the Columbus Dispatch, INFOhio, and the Ohio Newspaper Association.

Based on the regional structure developed by the Ohio Association of Historical Societies and Museums, each of the ten regions of the state are represented. The ten regional representatives created local committees to recommend the top five newspapers from their regions. The full board will make the final selection on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

4. *Describe specifically your progress in conversion and/or vendor selection (attach documentation as desired).*

For our project, we have chosen iArchives as our digitization vendor and OCLC as our duplication vendor. We issued an RFP for digitization services on September 2 and chose iArchives on October 7. We chose OCLC Online Computer Library Center as our duplication vendor on October 14. On October 29, we had a kickoff meeting with iArchives where we laid out the workflow process and went over details of the project. We have shipped our sample roll to OCLC for duplication at the beginning of November and received the duplicate at the beginning of December. After running quality assurance checks on the duplicate roll, we shipped our hard drives, cases, and the sample roll to iArchives on December 11. They are currently processing the roll and we expect to receive the roll back in January and forward it with a quick turnaround to LoC.

5. *Do you have any questions or comments regarding the use of the tools provided by LC (Digital Viewer Validation)?*

At this time, we do not have any questions or comments about the Digital Viewer Validation, although we would like to note that we have come to favor the command-line interface over the GUI interface. If any should arise in the future, we will contact LoC.

6. *Provide an update on your planned schedule for delivery of digital assets for the award, including samples, to the NDNP repository. Include anticipated number of files to be delivered and planned means of delivery or transfer. (Keep in mind the delivery deadlines noted in the Cooperative Agreement Document, but also take into consideration your own resources and workflow plans. LC requests that you plan to deliver new data monthly, with one batch per hard drive. Batches that have been submitted and require rework should be shipped to LC as soon as fixes are complete (send more than one hard drive at a time, if needed).*

Our schedule for delivery has varied slightly from the initial proposed workplan. Our sample reel will be mailed to LoC by the end of January 2009, rather than the proposed end of December 2008. This is due to unforeseen issues with the selection of the sample roll. We will begin full selection and production at the beginning of February and anticipate monthly deliverables beginning March 2009. Deliveries to LoC will be made via 500 gigabyte hard drives in Pelican cases, with roughly 8,000-10,000 tiffs each month.

7. *State briefly the status of any other digitized newspaper activities in your or collaborating partners' institutions (non-NDNP-funded).*

We are currently working with iArchives to develop a fee-for-service project to offer to other institutions across the state for microfilmed newspaper digitization. The project will focus on newspapers that are unlikely to be selected for NDNP. The project is in the beginning stages and will be developed over the coming months. In addition, OHS is working on a project with the Columbus Jewish Historical Society to make the *Ohio Jewish Chronicle* newspaper (1910-1992) available online through CONTENTdm. This project is strictly access-based, however, and does not include preservation elements.

8. *Please provide copies of or URLs for any public presentations or publications on topics related to your participation in NDNP (or describe future plans for such).*

For this project we have developed a wiki for Advisory Board members to communicate and share information (<http://ohsweb.ohiohistory.org/ondp/>). The Ohio Historical Society has also worked to promote the project through a press release (<http://www.ohiohistory.org/about/pr/072408a.html> and <http://www.ohiomemory.org/ndnp/>).

Promotional efforts also included posts on the Society's *Collections* blog (<http://ohiohistory.wordpress.com/2008/12/25/195/>) and MySpace page (<http://blogs.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=blog.view&friendID=106110342&blogID=466431999>).

9. *Describe any follow-up issues or questions you would like convey to the NDNP program committee as you begin your digital conversion project.*

We currently do not have any other questions and are excited to begin full production of deliverables for the project.