IMLS Grant Conference Call—February 11, 2004

1. Rachel Frick reported that an offer has been made and accepted to fill the grant-funded position. Andrew Rouner has worked on the Religion and Democracy project at UVa. He is very close to finishing his dissertation in religion. Mr. or Dr. Rouner (as the case may be) will start June 1.

2. Rachel Frick reported that one reel of microfilm for each of the three newspapers has been sent to Byte Managers for test digitization. We expect to receive results next week. We will conduct the same test of the same reels with Digital Divide.

3. February 5-6 Jim Rettig and Rachel Frick participated in an IMLS assessment workshop in Washington. In the next week or two they expect to receive feedback from the workshop facilitators on the goals and assessment measures they developed during the workshop. After they receive that feedback they will explain the assessment process to the rest of the team and review those provisional goals and measures and work with the team to develop a final set.

4. Jim Rettig reported that while in Washington he and Rachel had a very brief “hello” meeting with Martha Crawley, our program officer. Ms. Crawley noted that we are required to meet with the Colorado and Utah newspaper projects. Greg Crane volunteered to identify the personnel involved with the Utah project and to urge IMLS to organize a two-day conference in Washington that will bring together personnel from these three newspaper projects as well as relevant staff from NSF, NEH, and IMLS.

5. Pat Schoknecht asked about the scheduling and planning for the academic conference that the proposal says Bob Kenzer will organize. Bob says it will be in the 4th quarter of 2004 and will involve fewer than 20 people, few of whom will need to travel by air. He is developing the list of individuals to invite.

6. Jim Gwin and Bob Kenzer reported on identification of supplementary materials to be digitized. Since the January conference call Bob has been looking through the Philadelphia Public Dispatch for ideas about the types of documents that would be complementary. He has a graduate student reading through the Richmond Register.

7. Nancy Woodall reported that the UR repository strategy will not include Greenstone. D-Space and FEDORA are under consideration.

8. Greg Crane reported that the subcontract to Tufts has been found in one of many moving boxes and is working its way through the Tufts approval process.

9. Jim Rettig noted that Natolyn Quash of UR had parsed the budget by years and institutions. If anyone sees anything that requires revision, let Jim know.