



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with great excitement that I introduce this issue of JSTORNEWS. We have so much to report on so many fronts. Several of us have just returned from London where we announced the establishment of a JSTOR mirror site in the United Kingdom at a reception at the United States Embassy. The U.S. Ambassador, the Hon. Phillip Leder, hosted the event, which included warm remarks not only from the Ambassador, but also from William Bowen, JSTOR's Chairman and President of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and Brian Fender, Chief Executive of the Higher Education Funding Council of England. It was a wonderful evening that provided a concrete example of JSTOR's growing importance in the international scholarly community.

Closer to home, we are pleased to report that usage of the JSTOR database continues to rise at a remarkable rate. February's usage exceeded that of any previous month by 30% and March continued this trend, topping February by 18%. We are encouraged by this growth because we believe these usage levels help to justify the investments of JSTOR participants. That said, we take very seriously our commitment to serve our mission to be of benefit to the scholarly community in other ways. For example, in this newsletter you will find an article summarizing our participation in a usage statistics task force. We are pleased to have been of service in this important area.

We appreciate your many emails, comments and suggestions. I find particularly fascinating the many new and unanticipated ways that JSTOR is being used, not just for research, but for teaching as well. It is wonderful that so many new things are coming out of old stuff!

*Kevin M. Guthrie*

## JSTOR ESTABLISHES MIRROR DATABASE IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

On March 25, 1998, librarians, scholars, publishers and official representatives of the governments of the United States and the United Kingdom gathered at the American Embassy in London to celebrate the launch of an important joint initiative between JSTOR and the Higher Education Funding Councils (HEFC). Oversight of the JSTOR initiative for the HEFC will be carried out by the Joint Information Systems Committee ("the JISC"). The first objective of the JISC/JSTOR collaboration has been to establish a mirror site of the JSTOR database at the University of Manchester, which will enable high quality access to this important scholarly resource for the U.K. higher education community. In addition to creating the JSTOR mirror site, it is hoped that by working closely together the JISC and JSTOR will identify opportunities for further cooperation that will benefit the scholarly communities on both sides of the Atlantic.

Lynne Brindley, Chair of the JISC Committee for Electronic Information and Dean of Information Strategy, Leeds University, said: "This exciting new international collaboration has given a boost to the JISC's electronic collections strategy. In particular, we believe that it will give arts and social science academics and students a very rich, new electronic resource. We are delighted that the U.K. is the first non-U.S. mirror site in the U.K. and believe that our productive partnership with JSTOR has been facilitated by the national networking and information infrastructure supported by the JISC."

Kevin Guthrie, JSTOR President, echoed Ms. Brindley's enthusiasm. "We are pleased to be working with the JISC to serve libraries, publishers, students, and research-

ers by establishing a trusted archive of journal literature," said Guthrie. "Establishing a JSTOR mirror site in the U.K. represents JSTOR's first step toward providing high-quality access to the JSTOR database beyond North America. We regularly receive requests for access from all over the world and are committed to making this important resource available as widely as possible."

"The JSTOR-JISC collaborative relationship is a model for international academic cooperation in electronic information technology. The JISC has been an ideal first partner in this endeavor not only because of the advanced stage of networking infrastructure and the cooperative efforts it has developed, but also because of our organizations' shared commitment to helping the scholarly community take the best advantage of rapidly developing information technologies."

JSTOR will be made available to higher education institutions in the United Kingdom for fees designed to cover the costs of building and maintaining the collection. These distribution efforts are being overseen by Manchester Information Datasets and Associated Services (MIDAS), a national research support service based at the University of Manchester, specializing in online provision of strategic research and teaching datasets, software packages, training and large-scale computing resources for the U.K. academic community.



Gathered at the U.S. Embassy to celebrate the launch of the JSTOR mirror site in the U.K. Left to right: William Bowen, Lynne Brindley, Ira Fuchs, Sarah Sully, Sir John Arbuthnott, Brian Fender, Malcolm Reid, Ambassador Phillip Leder, Reginald Carr, Martin Harris, Kevin Guthrie, Mary Auckland

## FACULTY EXPRESS ENTHUSIASM FOR NEW TEACHING RESOURCE

**F**aculty members in the humanities and social sciences at participating JSTOR institutions have discovered in JSTOR a new teaching resource, and are using the JSTOR database to help them better direct their students to scholarly resources. As students increasingly rely on the Internet to obtain information, both faculty and librarians have noted that while the

quantity of information has increased, the quality of information available online is not always comparable. As a result, issues surrounding information literacy have become increasingly important in an age of electronic information.

Faculty members at JSTOR sites have found that JSTOR is a reliable resource, and are making use of the database for teaching in a variety of ways. Some use JSTOR to direct their students to scholarly information and as an aid in developing information literacy in their fields. Others are investigating with their students new possibilities for interdisciplinary research. Mark Fernandez, an Assistant Professor of History at Loyola University - New Orleans, teaches courses on early America, the South, economic history, and the American hero. He initially started using JSTOR for his own research writing a biography, and was pleasantly surprised to find many more references to his subject than he had imagined existed. "This is simply a tool we have never had before," Fernandez explained. "In my classes on early America," Fernandez said, "I tell my students that JSTOR is the best way to get to old editions of the William and Mary Quarterly. They contain all kinds of interesting documents, not just scholarly articles. Seeing the facsimile presentation of these documents is important for students. I think it will encourage them to become more engaged with historical documents and sources."

A Professor in the English Department at Maryville College in Tennessee, Steve Soud uses JSTOR in teaching a course on seventeenth-century English literature. Although JSTOR's literature titles are still in production, Soud nevertheless requires his students to make use of JSTOR for his class. "I want my students to understand that literature doesn't happen in a vacuum; it is created in a cultural matrix, which has political, philosophical, historical, and economic aspects," said Soud. "One focus of my course centers around ideas about monarchical power and authority. I am interested in getting students to think about how these ideas are reflected in the literature of the era, which was one of revolution. In my course, I frame the debate with texts of Robert Filmer, a defender of hereditary monarchy, and John Locke, an advocate of natural rights and government by consent, and then we read texts like *King Lear*, Dryden's *Conquest of Granada*, and Aphra Behn's *Oroonoko*." Soud requires that students consult secondary sources for a final research paper, and he and librarian Roger Meyers work together with students to help them use JSTOR and other resources available in their library. A search for Robert Filmer in the JSTOR database produces 37 hits, and a search for Locke and Filmer together nets 23 articles, including a reprint of a section from Locke's *Two Treatises of Civil Government*, his most important contribution to political theory. Numerous articles about Aphra Behn, Dryden and Shakespeare can also be found quickly and easily. Soud noted that having access to JSTOR is "especially exciting for students at Maryville because we didn't have access to the long back runs of scholarly journals before."

## WEB STATISTICS TASK FORCE ESTABLISHES GUIDELINES FOR ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

At the JSTOR Participants' Meeting during the 1997 ALA Midwinter Meeting, attendees mentioned their desire for usage statistics from JSTOR. These comments grew into a discussion about the need for meaningful usage statistics for electronic resources and spawned the Web Statistics Task Force, a group of volunteers interested in defining a core set of data elements and standards for measuring and evaluating web-based resources. The group agreed that a core set of standard measurements is vital for the solid management of library collections, services, and budgets, and that standardization of the type of statistics supplied by service providers is essential. The specific charge of the Task Force was to identify units of measurement, explore the capability of vendors and systems for Web-based products to record and measure use, and devise analytical models and reports formats for evaluating and applying use measurements.

Chaired by David Farrell of the University of California at Berkeley, the Task Force established guidelines to serve as a helpful tool for providers of both bibliographic and full-text web resources. The JSTOR Usage Statistics Request Form, in development over the past several months, served as a model for the application of the guidelines. Task force members – Jim Mullins (Villanova), Kimberly Parker (Yale), Dave Perkins (CSU-Northridge), Sue Phillips (UTexas), Camille Wanat (Berkeley) and Kristen Garlock (JSTOR) – provided feedback throughout the development process and tested the form prototype.

Kristen Garlock, JSTOR User Services Coordinator and member of the Task Force said, "Participation in the Task Force was invaluable in helping us to define what statistics users would like from JSTOR. We are very pleased to have provided technical support and proud to have been able to participate in the development of meaningful web statistics guidelines for the library community."

The Task Force initially presented their guidelines to information providers and other colleagues for suggestions, and has made the guidelines publicly available at <http://www.co.calstate.edu/irt/seir/usge.stat.req.html>. Their next steps will be to contact additional web-based resource providers and to urge libraries to take these guidelines into account in their negotiations with resource providers.

### THE JSTOR USAGE STATISTICS FORM

Over the past few months, JSTOR staff members have been working to develop an accurate and efficient mechanism for producing aggregate JSTOR usage data and individual site usage reports from raw data. The result of these efforts is the JSTOR Usage Statistics Request Form. Site contacts may now use the form to request a tailored usage statistics report.

The logfiles produced by the JSTOR servers at the end of each day contain valuable usage information; however, the server stores the numbers in a raw format, which is not suit-

able for presentation or analysis. These raw files must be processed with computer software in order to be useful. JSTOR Systems Research Programmer, Ken Alexander, and User Services Coordinator, Kristen Garlock, worked closely with the Web Statistics Task Force to develop an interactive report form.

The statistics server verifies the IP address of the requestor's machine, determines site affiliation, and returns statistical data for the specific institution. Data available through the web form include number of articles viewed, number of articles printed, and number of searches performed.

The data may be broken down by journal title, various time periods, and subdomains (where available). Graphs of aggregate usage and selected site data may also be requested.

The statistics server processes requests immediately and returns results within seconds. In accordance with the Web Statistics Task Force guidelines, the report presents individual site data compared to average data for all sites in the same JSTOR classification and aggregate data for all JSTOR sites. Since data is added to logfiles at the end of each day, the report data is always up-to-date. Reports may be printed, saved as HTML files, or displayed in a plain text format to facilitate importing of the data into a spreadsheet program. Context-sensitive help files contain detailed explanations of the form options and report results.

**Statistics for All Time**  
Accesses from Your Site

	looking	viewing	printing
articles	792	1027	489
pages	76	1817	211
searches	74	12	109
total	943	1856	809

The 117 pages viewed were from 1207 articles, an average of 1.8 pages per article.

**Usage Summary**  
Including average of "Very Small" sites like yours

	looking	viewing	printing
articles	39	394	76
pages	62	711	207
searches	30	11	4
total	161	1116	287

**Accesses by Journal**

	looking	viewing	printing	total
Asian Studies	32	11	0	43
Journal of American Studies	1	0	0	1
For Eastern Countries	3	0	0	3

## JSTOR REPORTS LARGEST RELEASE: 250,000 NEW PAGES ADDED IN FEBRUARY

In February 1998, JSTOR announced its largest release to date, expanding the collection by more than 250,000 pages. JSTOR production staff added the complete back-runs of five scholarly journals and content updates for several titles already in the database. Growth continued in March as three additional titles increased the size of the database even further. A direct result of the hard work of the JSTOR production staff, the large February release represented an increase of the size of the database of 10%. Since this time last year the number of titles available online has increased nearly 150%.

The JSTOR Production team has 21 members who ensure that the addition of new material continues in a timely and accurate fashion. Production staff members work diligently in all facets of the production process, from the preparation of materials to be scanned to quality checks performed after the digitization of journals. Their attention and focus on these details help to make JSTOR unique in its completeness and accuracy.

Eileen Fenton, JSTOR Production Coordinator, says of her staff, "I am continually impressed with the care and attention our Production Technicians give to their work. They have a real vision for the importance of the JSTOR database for the research of current and future scholars, and this vision comes through in

the quality of their day-to-day work."

The productivity of Fenton's staff highlights JSTOR's commitment to provide the complete runs of a minimum of 100 important journal titles in a variety of fields by the year 2000. Thirteen new titles have already been released in the first three months of this year, and others are in progress. 48 titles are currently available online, and with signed agreements from the publishers of 76 journals, JSTOR is ahead of its original projections for making these important materials available online. JSTOR will continue to add new disciplines to those already included as well as adding other important titles to fields already present. Current titles will be updated with yearly additions of content.

Titles added in the February and March releases were:

- *The Journal of Economic History*, v. 1-52, 1941-1992
- *SIAM Journal on Applied Mathematics*, v. 1-52, 1953-1992
- *Philosophy and Phenomenological Research*, v. 1-52, 1940-1992
- *American Journal of Political Science*, v. 1-38, 1957-1994
- *The Journal of Politics*, v. 1-56, 1939-1994
- *International Family Planning Perspectives*, v. 1-21, 1975-1995
- *Population: An English Selection*, v. 44, 1989; v. 1-33, 1960-1992
- *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, v. 1-33, 1960-1992

A complete list of titles that are currently available, as well as a list of those that are in the production process, may be found at <http://www.jstor.org/about/>.

<http://www.jstor.org>

## COMMENTS FROM JSTOR USERS

I just wanted to say that you have a wonderful service. And you are updating your sociological section so fast. Your service is invaluable. I am so amazed that I am lost for words. All I can say is thank you and please keep this service available. I'm a graduate student at the University of Texas at Arlington and find this just totally amazing. Thanks again.

*La Dorna Goff, Graduate student, The University of Texas at Arlington*

Hey, I wanted to thank all of you for the help you provided today – your service is exceptional. Most of all, I really appreciate "new content" updates. Thanks.

*Laura Hudson, Alden Library Reference Department, Ohio University Libraries*

Just wanted to send a short note to thank you for having this service available on the 'net. It's nice not to have to go to the library for every article I need. Keep up the terrific work, and again, thanks!

*Marie Tiller, Student, SUNY Buffalo*

I want to thank you again for your very good response to my message, and also for being a part of the JSTOR enterprise, which is the forerunner of academic publication for the foreseeable future.

*Jerry Green, Professor, Harvard Business School*

## JSTOR FACTS

1998 Statistics  
January - March

Total Accesses:	938,130
Searches Performed:	238,553
Articles Searched:	169,406
Articles Printed:	77,417
Pages viewed:	350,652

Total issues currently available:	13,810
Total full-length articles available:	138,264
Total articles (incl. letters, etc.):	381,824
Total pages currently available:	2,281,115

Number of participating institutions:	263
Number of participating journals:	76
Number of participating publishers:	44