

I. Began from UW Chamber Singers tour to Baltic area in 1997

- A. Grant by the University of Washington Royalty Research Foundation for travel to collect scores and build relationships with libraries and music schools.
 - 1. Geoffrey Boers and Guntis Smidchens
- B. UW Music Library also received funds from the Kenneth S. Allen Library Endowment to purchase music for the collection
- C. Natural relationship with Baltic region
 - 1. University of Washington is the only university in the United States that offers all three Baltic languages
 - 2. Active and supportive Baltic community in Seattle area.

II. Follow-up visit in June 2005 during UW Chambers Singers Baltic Tour

- A. Strengthened legitimacy of project
- B. Addition of graduate student research assistant
 - 1. Heather MacLaughlin Garbes
 - i. Met with Estonian Composers Union and Estonian Music Information Centre
 - ii. Met with Baltic communities in the Seattle area for information on their music and accessibility of scores

III. Donation of scores

- A. National libraries from Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia contributed to the UW library after visit by Geoffrey Boers, Guntis Smidchens and Heather MacLaughlin Garbes in June 2005
 - 1. UW library sent over books to help those libraries re-build their collections
 - i. Many of the collections were banned or destroyed during the Soviet regime, destroying cultural heritage and national identity
 - 2. From personal collections of the Seattle Baltic community
 - i. Began with approximately 70 items
 - 3. Baltic national libraries have agreed to continue sending the UW copies of historical documents once they have been recovered, for their collection
 - i. Estonian Music Information Center has started working on a database of its composers and repertoire due to the influence of the UW Baltic Choral Library

IV. Establishment of Baltic Choral Library Catalog and Database, 2005-2006

- A. Developed process to allow patrons to search for works that are part of the Baltic Choral Library collection
 - 1. Meetings with Michael Biggins, UW Librarian, Slavic studies
 - i. Sub-sections and search areas needed to assist in designating these works as part of the Baltic Choral Library collection
 - a. Process of each incoming item being marked for the Baltic Choral Library collection, the cataloged through Slavic library section
 - ii. Initial promotion of Baltic Choral Library on UW Choral Music and UW Music Library Web sites in October 2005
 - iii. Approximately 400 pieces in the library at this time

V. Follow-up visits to the Baltic

- A. Meetings with the Latvian and Estonian National Libraries
 - 1. January 2006, July 2006, March 2007
 - 2. Continuing contacts and also presenting the progress on the database and number of pieces in the collection

- i. Ability to show initial collection list online to librarians
3. More than 500 pieces in the library at this time

VI. UW Baltic Choral Library database

- A. Program that allows patron to search easily
 1. Title
 2. Composer
 3. Country of composer
 4. Genre
 - i. Choral, instrumental, vocal
 5. Type
 - i. Book, recording, score
- B. UW Baltic Choral Library Database initiation
 1. January 2007
 - i. Database active and link from Choral Web page activated
 - ii. <http://db.lib.washington.edu/baltscores/default.htm>

VII. Library is developing in to one of the most comprehensive collections of Baltic Choral Music available in North America

- A. Collection is currently more than 700 items
 1. Music scores
 - i. 254 composers represented
 2. Books about Baltic choral music
 3. Sound recordings
- B. Future plans
 1. Composer biographies
 2. Pronunciation assistance
 3. Translation assistance

VIII. Purpose

- A. Documentation and collection of important area of choral music
- B. Promotion of Baltic choral music in North America
- C. Resource for conductors and music educators
 1. Discovery
 2. Score study
 3. New editions
 4. Performance repertoire