PRESS RELEASE

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AUA DIGITAL LIBRARY GROUP PRESENTS DATABASE OF MUSEUM PIECES

New software was presented at the American University of Armenia which enables museums to improve the management and preservation of collection items. The project was completed with assistance from the World Bank and implemented by AUA's Digital Library's work group (www.digilib.am). This new software is intended to improve museum registration methods, as well as help Armenian cultural institutions to better manage their collections and promote Armenian culture abroad through developing and implementing appropriate software. It is only a part of the Armenian Cultural Heritage Initiative Project launched by Armenia's Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, and the World Bank. Oversight was provided by the "Hayastan" All-Armenia Fund.

Hovhannes Kizoghyan, keynote speaker and head of the project group working on the "Database of Museum Articles" software, introduced the project and demonstrated the main features of the software. He stated that seven Armenian museums including the National Gallery of Armenia, State Museum of History of Armenia, State Folk Art Museum of Armenia, Yeghishe Charents State Museum of Literature and Art, "Metsamor" Historical Archaeological Reserve Museum, National Film Library, and "Erebuni" Archeological Museum, were selected by Armenia's Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport to participate in the implementation of this project. Data regarding collection items from participating museums were classified and included in the database to ease data exchange, and is expected to increase financial potential of the museums making them more viable and effective, in addition to helping facilitate the promotion of Armenia's cultural heritage through innovative technological means of communication.