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**Subject:** Livingstone Online updated

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**From:** Adrian S. Wisnicki [REDACTED]

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**To:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Date:** Thursday, May 21, 2015 10:22 AM

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Hi Everyone,

I hope this email finds you well and enjoying the first hints of summer in the air. I'm writing to thank all of you for your work in transcribing for us over the last year. We've had an amazing year and have moved forward by LEAPs and bounds! I'm attaching a spreadsheet that sets this out concretely. As you'll see, we completed six diaries fully, transcribed an additional four, plus reached various stages in the work on 350 pages of the UJ. Moreover, not reflected in this spreadsheet, is that separately we also transcribed Livingstone's 1870 diary in full. That's some 1500-2000 pages of original source materials! In my book, those are amazing totals, and we should all take pride in this achievement.

To put this in some context: since the nineteenth century all these documents have only been available, if at all, in a highly edited/censored /abridged version via the published edition of Livingstone's Last Journals. Our project will make these documents -- Livingstone's final written diaries and journals -- available in rigorous, unabridged critical editions for the first time ever. In our grant, we described these documents as follows: "This is possibly the most comprehensive and diverse surviving collection of manuscript documents related to any single nineteenth-century British expedition to Africa." As for content, you all now know how rich and diverse it is and what a unique light it sheds on Livingstone, imperialism, and this era of African history, so when complete this will be an extraordinary resource.

That said, since the semester just wrapped up for most of us and summer is upon us, I think this might be a good place to take a breath -- for you to recover, for us to catch up on the latter stages of the transcription process (especially Heather, whose plate has been crammed to the full!). As a result, we're officially going to be taking a break from the transcription process for a few months, aiming to resume sometime in August. Moreover, with the launch of the new Livingstone Online now set for June 24, a lot of energy now needs to be focused in that direction and afterwards a certain project director I know will need a little bit of a break :->

So for the near future, as in the next two to three weeks, I kindly ask you all to immerse yourselves in the new Livingstone Online (to which you should all have access) and see what you find, especially in terms of errors, issues, bugs, etc that it would be good to fix before the launch. Anything you find please let me know ASAP. In the meantime, if anyone would like to continue on with the transcription, please let me know in the next day or two -- there are still a few items for which we need proofers before they go to Heather, so we could do one more round to get these done. Also, the manual has now been fully updated, so I attach the newest version along with the updated schema, letter and diary templates, and a brief list of changes. Use this to replace what you previously had and note that the version online is not yet quite up to date but should be soon.

And that's it, I think. I'll keep you all updated on the launch and for those of you in the UK, I look forward to seeing you soon!

With best wishes and much, much gratitude,  
Adrian