**Archiving Status**

The Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST) is well into its second three-year implementation phase (2013 - 2016) with the support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. WEST libraries have planned for two archiving cycles (Cycles 4 and 5) during this phase which will include 120,000 validated Silver and Gold volumes and additional Bronze titles, as identified through semi-automated collections analysis.

WEST Phase 1 (3 archive cycles complete)

* 213,000 Bronze volumes archived (digitally available titles, some also digitally preserved)
* 140,000 Silver and Gold volumes validated and archived (print only titles)

WEST Phase 2 (2 archive cycles planned, 2013-2016)

* 120,000 Silver and Gold volumes planned, 51,000 validated and archived to date
* Bronze volumes as identified through analyses, 30,000 archived to date

Archive Holders are making their final disclosures for Archive Cycle 4 and the WEST Collections Working Group has completed the analysis and prepared proposals for Cycle 5, which Archive Holders will review this summer to kick off the next cycle. While WEST continues to archive digitally available and digitally preserved titles, as identified through analyses, WEST is increasingly focusing on print only backfiles with lower to moderate overlap (higher risk titles.)

**Infrastructure**

WEST Archive Holders continue to disclosure archived titles in the PAPR Registry, a valuable resource for public discovery of retention commitments across the network of shared print journal programs.

WEST has completed systems development to improve additional capabilities including capabilities to support regional selection and archiving decisions and to enable gap filling.

* **AGUA, WEST’s information and decision-support center.** Systems development has been completed. AGUA provides a graphical user interface which supports group selection decisions about “what to archive next?”; it receives MARC holdings records from WEST members, normalizes and compares them. It now allows an analyst to review regional print journal holdings and iterate regional selection criteria. The system is aware of other print archive programs’ retention commitments. It can also balance proposals by selecting the next deepest backfile. Once titles are analyzed and selected, AGUA proposes title lists to more than 30 Archive Holders for local review and confirmation in the system. WEST libraries can also download custom collection comparison reports to compare local holdings against regional archives. The AGUA information center uses the PAPR collections analysis capability to analyze *unarchived* titles and produce reports.
* **JRNL, Journal Retention and Needs Listing.** WEST will implement JRNL this summer (2015) to expose gaps in *archived* titles and facilitate gap filling. WEST has completed development of file exports from AGUA of archived holdings and gaps; Archive Holders will use these files to readily upload and expose gaps in JRNL and facilitate staff-to-staff communications about “offers” to fill gaps. JRNL is developed and managed by University of Florida Smathers Libraries and is used by several shared print programs (e.g. ScholarsTrust, FLARE, WEST)
* **Disclosure in OCLC.** WEST Archive Holders disclose holdings in both the PAPR Registry and OCLC WorldCat. While disclosure rates in the Registry are quite good, as an outcome of WEST recent program assessment, WEST has begun to study its disclosure rates in OCLC and to opportunities for improving disclosure rates there. This emerged through the recent program assessment as a high priority for WEST members. WEST members highly value disclosure in OCLC and PAPR according to the OCLC metadata standards for shared print.

**Program Plans**

During this phase (2013-2016), WEST will transition from a partially grant-funded program to a fully member-supported program. As part of that transition, WEST members and governance committees have conducted a program assessment and developed a strategic plan for the next phase. WEST will make several adjustments to the program to reduce costs and raise member fees. A key objective is to achieve sustainability in 2016. WEST continues to be committed to distributed print archiving and regular archiving cycles to ensure the pace of archiving over the years. WEST members continue to support the core mission and focus on print journals and distributed print archiving.

Changes planned for the future include

* increased focus on higher risk print only titles, lower to moderate overlap (e.g. Gold archives)
* selection of the next deepest backfile to balance archiving responsibilities amongst 6 Archive Builders (storage facilities)
* adjustments to the cost sharing model including implementation of member fee tiers based on total library expenditures
* differentiation of services for members including introduction of “Full” and “Supporting” member types
* a reduction in archive creation budget (the number of backfiles actively built and validated, Silver and Gold titles)
* a reduction in frequency of files ingest for collections analysis to every two years; with proposals for two years’ worth of archiving
* a reduction in the number of files ingested for analysis

**Membership changes**

The WEST Executive Committee is developing criteria for adding new members, including consortial members. WEST plans to invite new members to join in 2015 and 2016.

More members have become Archive Holders in WEST in the past year. WEST now has more than 30 Archive Holders.

The Orbis Cascade Alliance’s consortial members (30 institutions) have terminated a consortium membership in WEST and have entered a 365 day termination period. The retention commitments made to WEST, including DPR and archive cycle commitments, survive termination. Other obligations will be addressed during the termination period. Both the Alliance and WEST regret that the Alliance consortium members are unable to continue in WEST as a group. Individual libraries will be invited to rejoin WEST in 2015. This event does *not* affect the 7 Orbis Cascade Alliance institutions that participate in WEST as Direct Members.

WEST program: http://www.cdlib.org/west

PAPR registry: <http://papr.crl.edu/>

JRNL: <http://guides.uflib.ufl.edu/JRNL>

AGUA information center: <https://agua.cdlib.org/west/login>

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