



ReCAP Shared Print Report PAN Meeting June 2019

Background

The Research Collections and Preservation Consortium (ReCAP) was created in 2000 to support its members' goals of preserving and making accessible their library collections. Located on Princeton's Forrestal Campus, ReCAP provides a preservation repository and resource sharing services to its partner libraries. ReCAP is jointly owned and operated by Columbia University, The New York Public Library, Princeton University, and, more recently, Harvard University. The nearly sixteen million items currently in ReCAP's care are used to fulfill approximately 250,000 requests annually from its partners and from libraries around the world.

Discovery to Delivery

With longstanding support from the Mellon Foundation, ReCAP and its partners launched an innovative discovery to delivery and shared print program in the fall of 2017. The open source middleware, named the Shared Collections Service Bus (SCSB), allows partners to seamlessly discover and request items by participating libraries.

Partners are engaged in a Phase III grant from the Mellon Foundation to strengthen the program. The main goals are to analyze and fortify SCSB to ensure reliable and optimal performance, and to make it extensible for ReCAP and further adoption by other consortia. The partnership is reviewing a thorough systems review of SCSB and planning for the next phase of its development. ReCAP is preparing to integrate the Harvard Library into the program and to ensure that the code is generalized, concise, and well structured.

Other Initiatives

ReCAP is completing a serials reclamation project with CRL to understand how best to integrate and manage serial holdings, including matching holdings at the item level. Conversations are starting surrounding collaborative collecting and the effects of duplication on storage capacity.

Program Facts

- As of June 2019, over 12.7 million items are sharable among the participating institutions. Of the items in the collection, 9.4 million are unique and have retention commitments.
- Use from ReCAP's facility has increased by 30%, amounting to almost 5,000 items borrowed among ReCAP's partners monthly. We are expecting additional increases when Harvard is fully integrated into the program.
- ReCAP's partners have pledged to preserve items with retention commitments permanently.
- Since its launch, almost 5,000 items are shared monthly among ReCAP's partners in addition to each partner's use of their own items.