

Washington Research Library Consortium

PAN Report January 2017

1. Shared Collections Facility expansion completed

WRLC completed the third module of its Shared Collections Facility (SCF) in 2015. The SCF is a Harvard model high density shelving facility on WRLC's suburban D.C. campus. Originally opened in 1994, the facility was first expanded in 2010. The latest expansion adds 130,454 cubic feet of shelving space to the facility and brings the total capacity to 5 million volumes. It currently holds 2.7 million volumes and 66,000 archival boxes.

2. Shared Copy Policy

In 2008, to conserve space in the Shared Collections Facility, WRLC adopted a Shared Copy Policy limiting holdings to one copy of any bound periodical and two copies of any circulating monograph. Surplus copies received at the facility are to be recycled. A major activity over the past year has been to update data in WRLC's shared Voyager integrated library system to reflect the retention status of both periodical and monographic items.

A. Periodicals

WRLC has recycled 182,537 periodicals since initiating the Shared Copy Policy. This represents 17% of the space available in the recently completed third module of our Shared Collections Facility. Over 430,000 volumes have been designated shared copies. Data in our integrated library system has been updated at the item level to indicate which volumes are shared, and which have been recycled.

B. Monographs

One of the difficulties WRLC encountered in implementing the shared copy policy for monographs was that determining duplication based on MARC records was difficult at best. In 2013, WRLC engaged Sustainable Collections Services to analyze our circulating monograph collections. One of the outcomes of that analysis was better data for identification of duplicates with the WRLC collection.

The WRLC libraries agreed to retain up to two copies of any circulating monographic edition going forward. This agreement was formalized in an MOU signed by the provosts of our member universities. To enable this on a practical basis, WRLC has marked the item level data in our shared integrated library system to indicate which volumes are slated for retention and which items are considered surplus. Over 2.1 million volumes have been selected for retention (out of 5.2 million bibliographic records analyzed). Only copies marked for retention will be added to the Shared Collections Facility. The partner libraries may do whatever they choose for those volumes that do not have a retention commitment.

3. Scholars Trust/Thinking Bigger

WRLC and ASERL formed Scholar's Trust in 2013 to collaborate on journal retention and related activities. WRLC contributed holdings data for our shared periodicals to the JRNL database maintained by the University of Florida as part of this agreement. For recent activities

see the Scholar's Trust update distributed to PAN by Cheryle Cole-Bennett of ASERL. Both Scholar's Trust partners have been participating in the Thinking Bigger meetings (aka the Rosemont Group). Cheryle's update covers these activities as well.

4. Sharing periodical titles with CRL

WRLC is exploring with the Center for Research Libraries the overlap, or lack thereof, between CRL journal title holdings and those at WRLC. This investigation includes both titles currently declared as shared according to our Shared Copy Policy and additional titles which are likely to be so designated in the future.