



Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust Update for the January 2024 PAN Forum

The Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST) is the collaborative effort of over 150 academic and research libraries to document, protect, and provide long-term access to their print collections.

Search for a new Program Director

It is with much gratitude that EAST wishes the current Program Director, Susan Stearns, well in her upcoming retirement. The search for her successor is underway. For more information see the [listing on the EAST website](#).

Annual Member Meeting

The annual [EAST member meeting was held October 4, 2023](#) and featured breakout room discussions on EAST nuts and bolts, social justice issues, weeding and resource sharing. As a result of the resource sharing discussions a task force has been formed to address questions raised around communications and efficiencies, particularly in light of the growth of EAST's membership and the changes taking place in the resource sharing ecosystem for libraries.

Collection analysis of 2011-2021 titles

Sixty-seven member libraries are participating in the analysis of titles added to libraries' print collections between 2011-2021 (note: the original EAST retention model only considered titles published through 2010, so this is a follow-up to update retention commitments). Over three million titles from these libraries are currently being analyzed in Gold Rush, and a working group has been formed to help determine a retention model. For the first time, this analysis includes special collections' titles, which will be analyzed in parallel to the circulating collection titles.

Onboarding Consortia

EAST has now fully onboarded the 11 Retention Partners from Virginia's Academic Library Consortium (VIVA), which included creating allocations that took into account a library's willingness to commit a higher percentage of the titles and their call number preferences. This work added over 1 million new monograph retention commitments to EAST.

In the new year, EAST will be working with [PASCAL](#), who brings 17 new Retention Partners and 21 Consortia Supporting Partners. The circulating print collections from the Retention Partners are currently being indexed in Gold Rush for analysis in February. Welcome PASCAL!

New Individual Library Members

EAST is welcoming two new individual Retention Partners, the University of Delaware and Virginia Union University. Collection analysis for both these libraries is in the final stages of planning. EAST is also pleased to announce that two Supporting Partners are stepping up to becoming Retention Partners - Villanova University and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. Many thanks to them.

New Services

Over the past several years, EAST has refined its mechanisms for identifying out of scope material, e.g. textbooks, leisure material, and government documents which would not be candidates for retention. Beginning last fall, those libraries who had joined EAST prior to 2020 had the opportunity to request that EAST reexamine their retentions to identify any of their current retention titles that meet this new, more refined criteria. Twenty-six libraries participated, resulting in the identification of from 1% to 7% of their retentions now being considered out of scope. Libraries are free to remove their retentions on these materials if they so desire, assuming they are not committed to other shared print programs. To further assist EAST libraries identifying out of scope material EAST has produced a [tips document](#) that features keywords, subjects, and other search tactics for libraries to use, both as they agree with their initial commitment, and retrospectively.

In an effort to reduce the barrier to participation in shared print, EAST is exploring engaging existing member expertise in various stages of the shared print lifecycle to assist understaffed libraries. This may range from simple mentorship in tasks associated with the export of metadata or assistance in reviewing retention proposals to exploring paid contract work on an as needed basis.

HBCU Cohort / [IMLS Grant with SCEL](#)

As part of the participation in the IMLS Planning Grant, *Community Strategies to Expand Diversity and Inclusivity in the Collective Collection of Shared Print*, EAST will be working with a group of HBCU libraries to analyze their collections in the late winter/spring of 2024: Virginia Union University, Hampton University, and the 4 members of the Atlanta University Center - Spelman College, Morehouse College, Clark Atlanta University, and the Interdenominational Theological Institute. EAST will also work with colleagues at SCEL to undertake further research to further explore the collections' diversity.