Current Collection Status

The shared collection currently includes about 326,600 volumes, representing 8,184 titles. The set hosted at Indiana University has reached its targeted 250,000 volumes, but will continue to increase a bit as gaps in ingested titles are filled. The collection being built at the University of Illinois is on pace, with more than 75,000 volumes ingested.

Recent Activity and Six-Month Plan

Increased communication and collaboration: A working group of librarians closely involved with the project has held monthly web meetings to share information and advance the project. Calls are recorded and available through the myBTAA collaboration site.

Building the collection at Illinois: Throughout 2018, Illinois has continued to add local holdings to the collection housed there. In the coming six months, we anticipate sourcing new ingest candidate lists from Illinois and other sources, including the reference collection described below.

Gap-filling at Indiana: Active ingest of new titles has concluded at the Indiana U host site. Of the 6,322 titles in this collection, 30% are reported complete without gaps. We have begun a single round of coordinated gap fill to complete as many titles as possible. Currently six schools have offered lists for analysis, of which four schools—Chicago, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin—have offered gap volumes for 1,133 titles. Offers from Penn State and Nebraska are still being analyzed. Other libraries are considering the remaining titles, and, where staff time and resources allow, will schedule gap fill after these schools have shipped.

Reference Pilot

The Library Directors approved a pilot shared reference collection at their November 2018 meeting. This pilot will include a limited number of titles that are serial, digitally available, and that include backfile content, to be housed in the high-density service facility at Illinois.

This size-limited collection will be a contained sub-project totaling a maximum of 12,000 volumes within the larger Illinois host site collection, subject to the same collection governance and workflows. The Participants’ Agreement signed by all member universities covers the possibility for reference as a future area of retention. These volumes will contribute to Illinois’ total 250,000-volume SPR holdings and will not require additional space or funds.

In keeping with current SPR practices, retained title commitments will be registered with OCLC and disclosed in common retention disclosure systems (WorldCat, PAPR, JRNL). This collection
would be subject to the resource sharing terms for the larger SPR, which currently make print available for 17-week loan at no fee to BTAA libraries. Affiliate and regional campuses may request loan through the main campus as standard practice dictates. Other libraries may request photocopies.

For more information, please contact Rebecca Crist at rebecca.crist@btaa.org, or visit our website: www.btaa.org.