



COPPUL Shared Print Archive Network Report from SPAN Management Committee June 2017

The summary report outlines the archiving activities of SPAN in the past year. There has been considerable activity at SPAN in recent months, in each of the following areas:

SPAN Coordinator Recruitment

We developed a posting for a new part-time SPAN Coordinator earlier this year and we expect to be able to announce a hire shortly. This new part-time staff member (.2 FTE) will be responsible for overseeing SPAN's print archiving efforts. The Coordinator will work with the COPPUL Executive Director, contacts at member libraries and the SPAN committees to establish, maintain, document and improve on best practices in archiving print materials. SPAN work is very detailed, and we look forward to having someone new on board to better support current initiatives, plan new projects, assist with communication, build expertise in this important area and foster connections with other print archiving initiatives in Canada and beyond.

Monograph Project

In November 2015, SPAN embarked on a monograph project in conjunction with Sustainable Collection Services (SCS) of OCLC. The intent of the project is to assess usage, duplication, and dispersion of holdings across participating libraries, to the fullest extent the collective data can support. There is strong interest in identifying and preserving scarcely-held materials within the group. There is also interest in de-selecting some low-use, widely-held titles. Significant milestones have been achieved in the SPAN Monograph Project in the past year. Project participants reached consensus on a retention model in September and a further modification in January to filter out materials commonly held in CARL libraries. Other consensus decisions reached throughout the fall include: retention period (15 years with review every 5 years); criteria for rejecting commitments (e.g. missing, damaged or out-of-scope items); shelf verification process (sampling methodology is an acceptable proxy), and timeline. The project committee has yet to deliberate the question of designating preservation copies for "COPPUL Canadiana" materials, and a process for reviewing the project every five years. Retention lists were due to be finalized on March 1, 2017 and shelf verification is to be completed by December 31, 2017.

Phase Four Government Documents Project

Statistics Canada print publications are targeted for archiving in this phase with the goal of creating a comprehensive archive of StatsCan print publications among SPAN participants, and creating the opportunity for selective weeding of these holdings. Participants submitted their lists in late 2016, and the analysis and follow-up will be one of the first tasks for the new SPAN Coordinator.

Connections Beyond SPAN

Among academic library groups and scholarly associations, momentum is building around the need to formalize collective, collaborative approaches to preserving both print and electronic records. SPAN continues to monitor developments and participate as opportunities arise.

SPAN was invited to participate in the PAPER Advisory Board. PAPER is bringing together representatives from many of the regional print archiving projects to gather ideas about how to improve upon PAPER's services and metadata. Meetings occur on a quarterly basis.

SPAN was asked to participate in a feasibility study on monographs, commissioned by the UK's National Monograph Steering Group: <http://www.ukrr.ac.uk/news/default.aspx>. We spoke with one of the researchers, discussing current and past projects, challenges and opportunities. We will look forward to the results of this research.

SPAN 5 Year Anniversary

This spring, SPAN is celebrating its 5th anniversary. The SPAN Management Committee will be conducting a review of activities to date, including consultations with stakeholders and recommendations for the future.

Submitted by the SPAN Management Committee 2016-17:

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