The following report is an update on the work of the Eastern Academic Scholars’ Trust [EAST]. Over the last six months, EAST has continued to move forward with integrating Cohort 2 libraries via the monograph collection analysis and validation work, and expanding on the serials and journals collection analysis with the Cohort 1 libraries. One of the EAST member libraries served as a pilot library for the OCLC Shared Print Registration Service, and EAST staff was able to provide feedback on the service’s functionality.

The EAST Member Meeting, held in October, provided EAST leadership with several opportunities to discuss possible future scenarios for EAST. Over 55 representatives of EAST member libraries attended the meeting and provided insight on incorporating EAST-related operations into existing library workflows. Attendees also weighed in on the direction EAST should take as it ends its initial grant-funded period in June 2018. Their contributions have helped the Executive Committee and Project Team work towards a future scenario document that outlines the next 12-24 months of work.

- **Cohort 2 Collection Analysis**: In December 2017, EAST’s second cohort, consisting of 12 institutions from New York to Florida, finalized a retention model which was subsequently approved by the Executive Committee. SCS/OCLC is in the process of applying the model and libraries are scheduled to receive their allocations for review in early February. Cohort 2’s model is similar to Cohort 1’s model, and incorporates lessons learned from the Cohort 1 Deeper Dive into Validation Data exercise, which uncovered correlations between an item’s age and its likelihood of not being in suitable condition for lending. The model is as follows:

  - **Retain all holdings for which there are fewer than 40 in WorldCat.** This maximizes the retention of unique and scarcely held materials and is consistent with a similar rule for the Cohort 1 model.

  - **Retain up to 4 copies of materials with aggregate uses of more than 20 and for which there are fewer than 5 copies already held by Cohort 1.** This ensures that there will be greater retention of titles which have had high usage. Since Cohort 2 is more geographically diverse, increasing the likelihood of copies being available over a wider geography is important.

  - **Retain up to 3 copies of titles published before 1900.** This protects much older titles and increases the likelihood that copies will be in a condition good enough to lend.

  - **Retain 1 of everything else that is not already retained by Cohort 1.** This maximizes the retention commitments overall, ensuring that at least 1 copy of relevant scholarly content is retained.

All of the above rules EXCLUDE the ephemera category as Cohort 1 did and all but rule 3.
exclude materials published after 2011, also consistent with Cohort 1. The result is retention of an estimated 2.7 million holdings representing 30% of the total collective collection of EAST Cohort 2. This number brings the collective EAST collection to 8.7 million holdings.

- **Cohort 2 Validation Sample Study:** This cohort’s Validation Sample Study moved smoothly and efficiently, with few libraries reporting problems, and most libraries completing the sample study in significantly less time than the full two months allocated to the process. Results from the study have been shared with the EAST statistician, who will use the information to calculate each library’s rate of missingness. This data will then be used to update the retention model, if necessary. High level results of the sample study indicate 97.8% of the 72,000 items sampled are accounted for, with 7.1% of those items described as being in poor condition. These results can be compared to Cohort 1’s sample study results, which yielded a 97% availability rate (of 240,000 items sampled), 10% of which were in poor condition.

- **Cohort 1 Serials & Journals:** Twenty-one Cohort 1 libraries are participating in the serials and journals collection analysis. These libraries have already agreed on retention rules for serials titles that are held by 4-6 of the participating libraries. The libraries are currently reviewing lists of titles allocated to them for retention prior to finalizing their retention commitments. Many of these libraries will be participating in an optional, self-funded, volume-level validation exercise prior to signing off on these retention commitments. This validation process is expected to end in late January 2018. A representative group of these libraries, the Serials & Journals Working Group, will address retention rules for widely-held titles when the Cohort 2 and other interested Cohort 1 institutions join the second phase of the project. The Center for Research Libraries has submitted a Statement of Work for this next phase and it is under review by the EAST leadership.

- **Rosemont Shared Print Alliance:** In late November, EAST was formally asked to join the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance. EAST will be represented by two appointees each to the Rosemont Executive and Operations Committees.

- **Shared Print Monograph Summit:** As part of the Mellon grant, EAST is pleased to organize and lead a summit on the state and new directions for monograph shared print initiatives in North America. Invitees across the shared print programs and representatives of organizations on the leading edge of research and funding have saved the date for the Summit, set to take place in Boston in April 2018. The Summit will focus on the following questions, and the discussions and outcomes will be summarized in a widely distributed report and conference presentations as appropriate.
  - What are we trying to accomplish through collaboration?
  - What is essential to any organizational structure that could enable collaboration in our efforts to steward this corpus?
  - What are the most critical priority areas such an organizational structure should address?
  - What are the priorities for next steps?

- **BookTraces:** EAST and UVA’s BookTraces are discussing mutual areas of interest and collaboration.