Michigan Shared Print Initiative (MI-SPI)
Report for PAN Meeting June 2018

Background

In 2011, the libraries at seven of Michigan's publicly-supported universities collaborated to create a shared print monograph collection, and agreed to retain for 15 years commonly-held, but little-used titles. With the assistance of the Midwest Collaborative for Library Services (MCLS) and Sustainable Collection Services, the initial project was completed in 2012. The retained titles remained within the partners' individual collections rather than being aggregated in a single storage facility. In 2015, Phase Two of the project added more publicly-supported university libraries to the collective collection, refreshed the dataset, and rebalanced the retention assignments. Two original partners did not participate in the refresh of data, but remained committed to the project and their retention assignments.   The results of the analysis and retention decisions resulted in significant repurposing of library space for most of the MI-SPI members.

Current activities

In February/March, representatives from the Academic Libraries of Indiana and MI-SPI held conference calls to discuss similarities and differences that could open or impede pathways for collaboration between the two groups. This is currently on hiatus.

MI-SPI delegates participated in the EAST Shared Print Monograph Summit in Boston in April. The discussions were thought-provoking and challenging. Several workgroups were formed to pursue further action on shared print issues identified during the summit. A MI-SPI delegate is a member of the resource sharing and retention work group headed by Doug Brigham from COPPUL SPAN.

Also in April, MCLS hired a consultant/coordinator to focus efforts on MI-SPI governance and infrastructure, collaborative initiatives with other regional shared print groups, and preparing for Phase Three of the Initiative. This includes broadening the scope of membership for MI-SPI beyond publicly-supported university libraries, and preparing for a significant increase in the dataset and in the retention assignment algorithm.

Preparation for Phase Three begins in early autumn. Lively discussion and some decisions about MI-SPI's action on these shared print issues are expected:

- validation of retention items;
- handling multi-edition works;
- documenting retention statements in the statewide union catalog MeLCAT and in OCLC;
- transferring retention commitments
- connecting and collaborating with other shared print projects to further preserve the scholarly record.

Respectfully submitted,

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