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SCHOLARS' TRUST

Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust Update for the January 2021 PAN Forum

General Program Update

Over the last calendar year, EAST has expanded to 79 members, and the program continues to receive queries from interested organizations. Our latest annual member meeting, which took place virtually in December, was particularly well attended. [Slides and recordings are available on the EAST website.](#)

In the fall, EAST held elections for its Operations and Executive Committees, as member terms came to an end. The results of those elections will be announced on our website. In addition, EAST embarked on a program assessment (consisting of a comprehensive survey developed with the assistance and support of the Executive Committee) that identified specific areas of continued improvement for the program, and confirmed the need for stronger relationships with other shared print programs via the Partnership for Shared Book Collections and the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance.

An additional area of interest for the membership reflected in the survey responses was a growing interest in understanding how retention commitments coexist with digitization and digital surrogates of print resources. This work is being explored by the University of Connecticut's pilot project, which explores the viability of transferring a print retention commitment to a validated digital surrogate. Both of these topics will be further discussed at the PAN forum.

In addition, the Project Team and Operations Committee are exploring the role of shared print retention commitments for state, local, and quasi government documents, which are less likely to be retained as part of federal or national retention programs.

Collective Collection update

The current EAST retained collection stands at almost 10 million monographs & 27,000 journal title holdings, of which 17,000 are unique. We are currently finalizing the retention commitments from the University of Rhode Island and the USMAI libraries, and expect the number of monographs retentions to grow as we complete the Lehigh University retentions later this year.

Gold Rush Comparison

As previously shared, EAST is offering an option to individual libraries or consortia interested in the collection analysis using the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries' Gold Rush tool. This tool is being used by both the USMAI libraries and Lehigh University to compare their holdings, with existing retentions made as part of previous shared print program participation, and make decisions on what new retentions they will be making as part of EAST.

OCLC Registration

EAST is working with individual member libraries to register their monograph retention commitments and with the Center for Research Libraries to register the serials retention commitments in OCLC. Currently, over 3 million monograph titles retained for EAST have been registered in OCLC.

Serials & Journals

The 33 EAST Serials and Journals retention partners have committed to retain 28,047 serials title holdings through 2031. This information is being recorded in both PAPER and OCLC, as well as in the local ILS. As part of the ongoing operationalization of shared print at member institutions, the EAST project team and Serials and Journals Working Group, are looking at tools, such as JRNL, to facilitate gap filling and deselection based on existing retention commitments.

Through EAST's membership in Rosemont, select Serials and Journals retention partners are participating in the Last Known Copy Initiative, detailed in the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance's PAN update.

National Initiatives

The EAST Project Team continues to be an active member and participant of the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance, where EAST is chairing the Operations Committee for the 2021 calendar year. In addition, EAST also participates in the Partnership for Shared Book Collections. The EAST Data Librarian, Sara Amato, was recently hired as the Program Coordinator for the Partnership.

Next Steps for EAST

- Complete what we have begun
 - WorldCat Registration
 - Work with new members
- Website updates - including resources for de-accessioning
- Continued collaboration with Rosemont and the Partnership
- Focus on access – digitization, discoverability, resource sharing
- Expand membership in a focused manner with the aim of increasing the diversity of the collection
- Be ever cognizant of the impact of EAST's work on the staff at member libraries