



## ReCAP Shared Print Report PAN Meeting June 2022

### **Background**

ReCAP is a small consortium jointly owned and operated by Columbia University, Harvard University, The New York Public Library, and Princeton University. While ReCAP was initially formed to provide shared storage, it has expanded to include other collaborative efforts including a large shared print program.

### **Discovery to Delivery**

With longstanding support from the Mellon Foundation, ReCAP and its partners launched its Discovery to Delivery, an innovative shared print program in the fall of 2017. By developing an open-source middleware, named the [Shared Collections Service Bus \(SCSB\)](#), ReCAP Partners can seamlessly discover and request items at the other participating libraries directly from their own discovery layers.

Over the past year, ReCAP has added Harvard University to the Discovery to Delivery program. Harvard contributed over 4 million items from their collections, and has gained access to 13.75 million items from the other participants. Use is still not where it was before the COVID-19 pandemic, but there continue to be signs of growth as life normalizes. ReCAP formed a group to evaluate its own matching algorithm and to make recommendations about how it could work better. We are attempting to do comparisons with other algorithms

### **Other Initiatives**

Partner libraries have turned their attention to collaborative collecting. They have settled a major collecting area, with several other areas nearing completion. These programs leverage SCSB to facilitate the sharing of collaboratively purchased items and allow the libraries to increase their scope by managing duplicate purchases.

### **Program Facts**

- The program includes 17.8 million items that are sharable among the participating institutions. Of the items in the collection, 13.5 million are unique and have permanent retention commitments.
- Use from ReCAP's facility has increased by 30% since the program was launched in 2017.
- Before the pandemic, ReCAP's Partners borrowed almost 5,000 items each month through the Discovery to Delivery Program on top of their use of their own items.
- ReCAP's partners have pledged to preserve items with permanent retention commitments.