



## PAN Program Update January 2021

### Participating libraries

Scholars Trust is a partnership among the Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL), the Florida Academic Repository (FLARE), and Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC). The retention agreement is in effect through December 31, 2035. Scholars Trust is a founding partner of the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance.

### Program Growth

- As of January 2021, the total record count for retained titles is **57,337** - an increase of approximately **7,430** titles from the June 2020 update. Approximately 73% of retained titles are unique within the archive (a single holding library); an additional 14% have only a second retention commitment.
- **A publicly accessible list of the titles retained for Scholars Trust** is maintained on the program website so others can easily access the information. [www.scholarstrust.org](http://www.scholarstrust.org).
- A quarterly report of Scholars Trust title records is also shared with the PAPR Registry, a national clearing house of journal retention data hosted by the Center for Research Libraries (CRL). PAPR has also recently developed a combined title listing for five shared print programs in the Rosemont Alliance, available at: <http://papr.crl.edu/program/81/rosemont-shared-print-alliance>.

### Scholars Trust Program Review

The Scholars Trust retention agreement calls for program reviews in 2020 and 2030 to consider whether technology and other changes in the higher education ecosystem continue to warrant this investment of resources and to ensure the arrangement continues to provide value to the participating organizations. To this end, a survey was conducted in early August 2020 in which participating libraries unanimously affirmed that Scholars Trust continues to benefit their library and university.

### Journal Retention and Needs Listing (JRNL)

Scholars Trust libraries [ASERL, FLARE + WRLC] manage their journal retention commitments in the JRNL software designed and hosted by the University of Florida. JRNL allows libraries to expose lists of print journals for which they have made retention commitments; and to express needs (or gaps) in their holdings. The software facilitates communication between library staff among participating institutions to identify holding commitments, gap filling opportunities as well as supporting deselection decisions. An enhancement to the gap-fill functionality to allow batch updating of gap records was implemented in December 2020.

In addition to Scholars Trust, BTAA and WEST also record their retention commitments in JRNL. As of January 2021, these shared print programs have recorded **76,368 retention commitments** in the tool:

- ASERL: 16,280 titles
- BTAA: 8,188 titles
- FLARE: 31,758 titles
- WEST: 10,843 titles
- WRLC : 9,299 titles

### CRL Collection Analysis

33 ASERL Scholars Trust libraries continue to engage in a print journal collection analysis, with the goal to retain a minimum of 4,500 additional print journal titles by 2021. As part of this initiative, the Steering Committee developed a Retention Model (see <https://bit.ly/2xHlk4H>) establishing criteria that will guide the future selection/nomination of retained titles and the program's broader participation in the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance. The analysis has contributed to the unprecedented growth in the program: To date, 17 of the 33 libraries have accepted **4,780** additional titles for retention.

This project has not been without its challenges due to the lack of access to physical collections by staff working remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic. The review of nominated titles is expected to continue well into this new year. On a positive note, this challenge has also proved to be an opportunity for libraries to work on data clean-up activities to correct holdings statements and uniformly format item records as part of work-at-home activities. This work greatly enhances the data quality of Scholars Trust holdings and the registration of our commitments in PAPR.

### Outreach and Communication

- Scholars Trust Governing Council held a virtual meeting, October 22, 2020.
- A Town Hall e-meeting was held on September 16, 2020. Town Hall meetings provide a forum to share the progress on current initiatives and operations and to elicit further feedback from all participating libraries. Two are held each year, and recordings are archived on ASERL website.

### Governance

Scholars Trust is governed by a two-tiered structure to foster the growth of the partnership, create strategic directions, and provide support and management for long-term, efficient, and effective operations. Each participating consortium (ASERL, FLARE, WRLC) has delegations on the Governing Council and the Steering Committee. We extend a well-deserved thank you to Don Gilstrap (U-Alabama) as he transitions off the Governing Council and a warm welcome to Doug Way (U-Kentucky).

WRLC's Scholars Trust Governing Council representative, Stephen Connaghan (Catholic University of America) will also serve as Chair of the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance Executive Committee for 2021.