Since reporting at Annual, SCELC has moved toward implementation of its shared monograph agreement with fourteen of its member libraries: Azusa Pacific University, California Lutheran University, California Institute of Technology, Claremont University Consortium, Holy Names University, Loyola Marymount University, Mount St. Mary's University, Occidental College, Pepperdine University, Saint Mary's College of California, University of Redlands, University of San Diego, University of San Francisco, and University of Southern California.

Using a formula that shares costs between SCELC and participating libraries, these fourteen libraries submitted their bibliographic, item, and circulation data to SCS in the fall of 2016 with the expectation that analyzed collection data will be ready early in 2017 for review. The other important activity in the fall was the establishment of a Shared Print Operating Group (SPOG), whose members will lead the implementation of the shared print agreement. Chaired by Rebecca Lubas, Claremont University Consortium, membership includes John de La Fontaine (Occidental), John Juricek (USC), Hannah Thomas (Holy Names University), and Laura Turner (University of San Diego); they are joined by Ruth Fischer, SCS Senior Project Manager at OCLC, two staff from OCLC, and Bob Kieft, consultant. In addition to communication about the project with participant libraries and the general responsibilities involved in implementing, maintaining, assessing, and developing a project like this one, SPOG’s two most important early tasks are defining the external groups of libraries against which the SCELC combined collection will be compared, and working with SCS’s GreenGlass Model Builder to test and choose among various retention scenarios.

In addition to the standard comparator groups SCS uses, SPOG has chosen six custom groups: all SCELC members other than the 14 participant libraries; members of Link+, a resource-sharing group, again excluding any of the participating libraries that are members; the ten University of California libraries and their RLFs; the 23 California State University libraries; GWLA, of which two participant libraries are members; and neighboring West Coast consortium Orbis Cascade Alliance. These six create maximum reach and flexibility for arriving at retention scenarios and for laying a foundation for potential discussion with other consortia because of existing relationships SCELC members have, discussions that have taken place among them about the collective California collection using OCLC Research’s megaregions model, and the strategic importance of these groups for any eventual collaboration in the state and west of the Mississippi.

SPOG has begun the process of retention scenario development, and all participating libraries will meet in late February to consider retention scenarios. The project schedule calls for retention commitments to be declared and recorded in SCS in June. SPOG and the participating libraries have yet to decide on where otherwise to express these commitments.

Finally, SCELC is beginning to research with key publishers the establishment of a shared ebook collection reflecting shared print retention holdings (yet to be determined by the group). Previous analysis from the initial SCELC pilot project with Intota identified the top four publishers held
by the pilot libraries. Negotiations are underway to determine terms, conditions and associated costs to build a shared parallel ebook collection as a by-product of the shared print program. The long term strategic goal is to link shared print to the shared collections, and possible future collaborations in the area of shared collection development.

News and documentation about the project may be found at http://scelc.org/libraries/shared-print

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