# *Validation sampling as part of a shared print program: EAST*

Susan Stearns, EAST Project Director
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www.eastlibraries.org
sstearns@blc.org

BLC
BOSTON LIBRARY CONSORTIUM

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# The EAST mission

# Securing the scholarly print record in support of teaching, learning and research
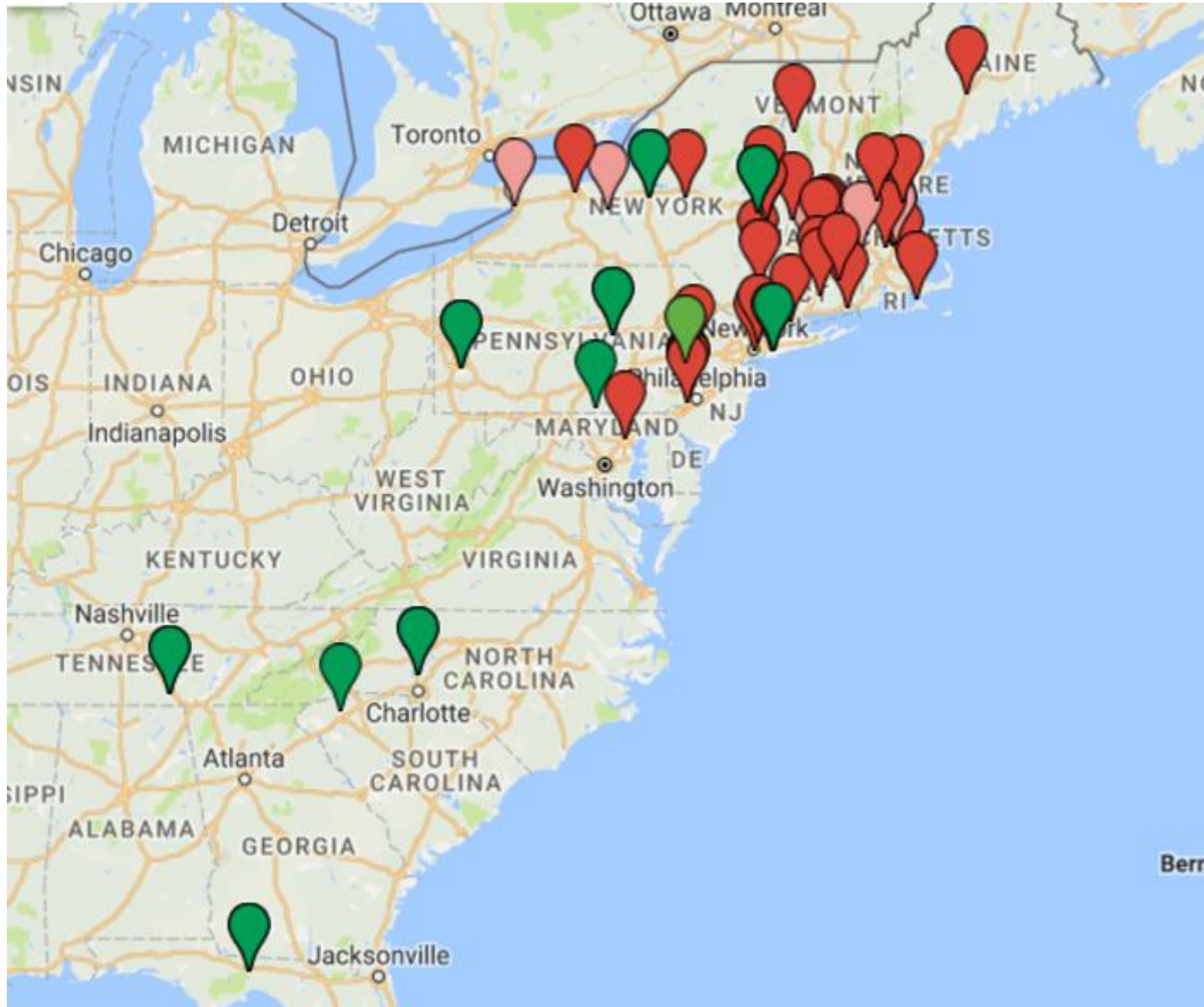
- 59 members from Maine to Florida
- 51 Retention Partners
- 8 Supporting Partners
- Diversity in collection size, research vs. teaching focus and collection philosophy

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# Validation is infrequent

- Survey by Terri Koch and Andrew Welch of Drake University in 2016 of 14 shared print programs
  - Mix of serials and monographs
  - 12 either doing no validation or still considering
  - Reasons for NOT validating: Time and Cost
  - Reasons for validating: Ensure access, reassure faculty

- EAST: our funder cared a great deal and provided monies to cover a sampling approach

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# Original Goals for the Validation Sample Study

Develop study methodology

Determine missing rates

Determine factors impacting "missingness"

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# Further Goals Added

Cursory condition evaluation
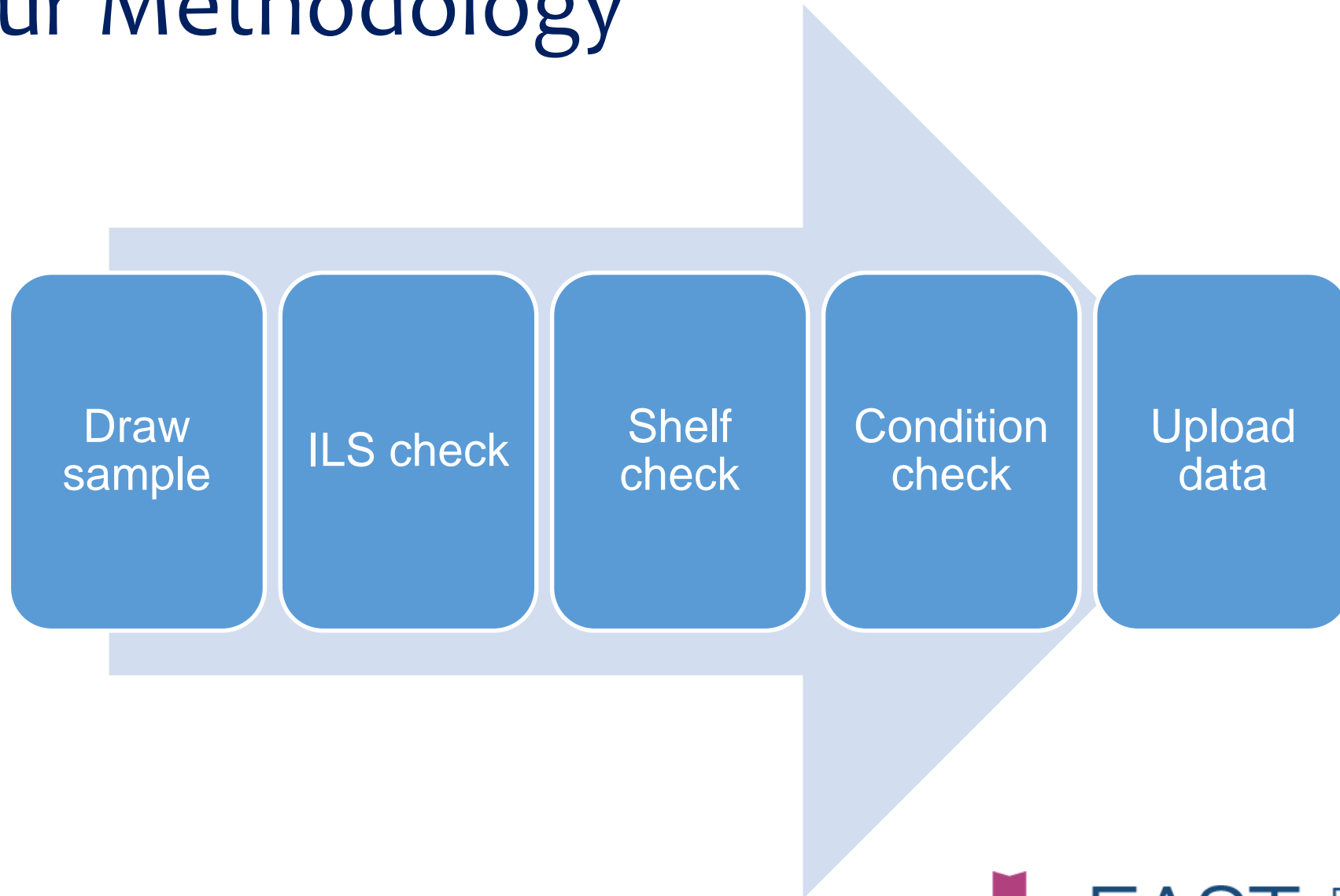
Determine factors correlated with poor condition

Should retention model or allocations be modified?

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# Our Methodology

**Draw sample** → **ILS check** → **Shelf check** → **Condition check** → **Upload data**

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# EAST Data Collection Tool

**CHECK SHELVES**

Check the shelves to verify the presence of an item.
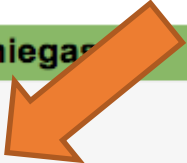
12 Items In Process (Clear)

Fix Data Entry Error

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Enter Your Initials:

Location: ba

How many? 10

Continue

---

**AC75 .A7 2**     [Articles] por German Arciniegas     **bcf**

31796004562050     Present ◯   Not On Shelf ◯

Condition: (?)

✓ Select
Excellent
Acceptable/Good
Poor

**AC75 .R67**     [Articles] / por Joaquin Roy.

31796101408595     Present ◯   Not On Shelf ◯

Condition: (?)

Select

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https://github.com/samato88/EastValidationTool

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# Summary Statistics and Distribution on Missing Monographs
## (all estimates accurate to 1%)

|  | mean | std | Min | 5th pctl | 25th pctl | 50th pctl | 75th pctl | 95th pctl | max |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Rate** | 3.0% | 2.1% | .3% | .6% | 1.3% | 2.8% | 4.2% | 7.4% | 9.7% |

= 97% average availability metric

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# Summary Statistics and Distribution on Condition of Monographs (all estimates accurate to 2%):

|  | mean | std | Min | 5th pctl | 25th pctl | 50th pctl | 75th pctl | 95th pctl | max |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Poor | 10.7% | 9.8% | 1.1% | 1.3% | 3.0% | 8.2% | 15.2% | 29.3% | 44.2% |
| Acceptable | 55.7% | 17.3% | 34.8% | 34.8% | 45.5% | 54.1% | 65.9% | 88.1% | 91.1% |
| Excellent | 36.6% | 17.7% | 6.8% | 7.8% | 20.7% | 33.6% | 43.3% | 70.5% | 78.8% |

= almost 90% in good or excellent condition

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# Conclusions – Likelihood of Being Missing

- Missing rates at most participating libraries were very low. Only two libraries had rates greater than 7.4%, and no library had a rate greater than 10%

- Factors significantly affecting likelihood of being missing were small

- No factor appeared important enough to suggest a modification to the current EAST retention plan

# Conclusions – Likelihood of Being in Poor Condition

- Poor condition rates at some participating libraries were large enough to merit attention. A quarter of the libraries had rates greater than 15% and two libraries had rates greater than 25%

- Certain factors affecting likelihood of being in poor condition are large enough to recommend changes to retention plans

- Retention plan might keep extra copies of older monographs, monographs frequently circulated, and monographs in subject area of painting

# Deeper Dive into the Data

- Statistical analysis to model likelihood of item being missing or in poor condition

- Identified 7,800 items with statistically higher likelihood of being missing

- Identified 72,700 items with statistically higher likelihood of being in poor condition – over half are pre-1900 imprints

- Total represents less than .01% of collective collection

- Proposed a mitigation strategy to retain an additional copy

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# Current Status

- Libraries taking on additional retention commitments based on the "deeper dive"

- Push retention commitments to Cohort 2 when possible

- Replicate the sample study with 12 Cohort 2 libraries – including 2 with collection sizes of more than 3 million

- Refinement of documentation and training for Cohort 2 libraries

- Determine if results should impact retention model or allocation
  - Should we retain additional copies of older materials?
  - Should we avoid allocation to libraries with low availability?

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# Thank you.

## sstearns@blc.org

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