Formation of the Partnership for Shared Book Collections

In early December, 2018, the Eastern Academic Scholars’ Trust (EAST) sponsored a second Summit on Monograph Shared Print bringing together 30+ participants from the major monograph shared print initiatives in the U.S. and Canada as well as other experts in print archiving and preservation. The meeting was a follow up to the original Summit last April and focused on reaching consensus on the recommendations of the six Working Groups formed at the April meeting. For more information on both the April and December Summits, including the list of participants, agendas and copies of final notes please see the Summit site at https://sites.google.com/a/blc.org/summit/home.

Through discussions over the two ½ days, we reached agreement on:

- The recommendation that the best organizational structure for our collaboration is through a federation and we agreed to the name “Partnership for Shared Book Collections” at least for the initial organizational planning in 2019
- A vision statement: Ensure the long-term preservation, accessibility and integrity of monographic print resources
- A mission statement: Coordinate collaboration among shared print monograph initiatives and collections in North America to support cost-effective retention and access to shared print monograph collections
- A set of guiding principles for the federated organization
- Continued engagement with interested providers on a possible bridge solution for an open retention data project or tool
- Focusing on those issues of primary importance to monograph shared print without reinventing the wheel, particularly as relates to the good work being done already in areas such as resource sharing for shared print
- The importance of continuing to refine the narratives for shared print for various stakeholder audiences both within and outside the academy
- The need to closely coordinate the work of the Partnership with the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance (focused on serials and journals retention and archiving) to determine if the two organizations should be one, should function under a single umbrella, or otherwise collaborate in support of shared print
- Treating 2019 as a transition year with the following Working Groups either forming or continuing during this transition year:
- A Steering Committee (new) - includes liaisons from each of the other Working Groups as identified by those with an asterisk * next to their names plus Jeff Kosokoff of Duke University and Susan Stearns from EAST
- Services and Business Models Working Group (new) - Kirsten Leonard*, PALNI, as convener
- Governance and Membership Working Group (new) - Matthew Revitt*, Maine, as convener
- Outreach and Engagement Working Group (formerly the Communications Working Group) - Caitlin Tillman*, Downsview, and Galadriel Chilton, Ivy Plus Libraries, as co-conveners
- Risk Analysis Working Group (continuing) - Ian Bogus*, ReCAP, as convener
- Best Practices Working Group (formerly the Standards Working Group) - Heather Weltin*, HathiTrust and Tina Baich*, ALI, as co-conveners
- Open Data Working Group (continuing) - Lizanne Payne*, Consultant, and Sara Amato, EAST, as co-conveners.

Members of the Steering Committee are planning a follow up meeting at ALA Annual in June, 2019 and will be coordinating work across the Working Groups throughout the year. We anticipate posting updates to the PAN list as well as soliciting feedback from PAN members throughout the year.

Those interested in participating in a Working Group should contact Mei Mendez (mmendez@blc.org), EAST Project Manager, who will put them in touch with the appropriate convener/co-conveners.

EAST will continue to provide support and leadership for the Partnership both through the Steering Committee, as participants in various Working Groups and by providing infrastructure and logistical support as needed during this important transitional year.