



EAST EASTERN ACADEMIC SCHOLARS' TRUST

The Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST) is a shared print initiative involving over 60+ academic and research libraries in 11 states from Maine to Florida. EAST is focused on retaining unique, scarcely held and frequently used scholarly monographs and serials in support of scholarship, research and teaching. To learn more, please visit our website at www.eastlibraries.org

Monographs

OCLC Registration

As shared during the last update, the EAST Executive Committee recommended that member libraries not disclose their retention commitments in the OCLC Registration tool, as there were significant issues regarding recording multi-part monographs. The only exception were the WMS libraries, which up to that point, had not had an automated and time-effective way of recording retentions in their local WMS catalogs. Six EAST Member Libraries worked with OCLC to record their retentions in an ongoing process that identified a number of opportunities for the libraries and the EAST Project Team to provide feedback and offer basic functionality suggestions (such as uniform program name options and the need to reassign or delete commitments). The Project Team continues to meet regularly with OCLC staff to review progress and provide general feedback on the OCLC registration process.

Serials & Journals

Collection Analysis and Retention Decisions

Thirty-two of the EAST libraries are Serials and Journals Retention Partners. The first phase of EAST's serials and journal project completed during 2017 and early 2018 (described in previous reports) involved the development of a retention model for what we labelled "medium rare" titles - those held by 4-6 EAST Serial & Journal Retention Partners.

In October 2018, working again with collection comparison reports provided by the Center for Research Libraries (CRL), a second cohort of 11 EAST libraries agreed a retention model for "medium rare" titles held across the collections of Serials and Journals Retention Partners. This model closely resembled the phase 1 model, with one major difference: that titles already committed by our fellow Rosemont partners would not be considered for EAST retention. We were able to make this decision because libraries knew that a title committed locally by a Rosemont member program is automatically made accessible via the Alliance's Access Principles. EAST is the first Rosemont member to factor in other programs' commitments in this way. Participating libraries are currently reviewing the retention proposals produced by CRL for the "medium rare" titles. EAST expects 4,000 additional titles will be retained building upon the 5,000 titles already committed in phase 1.

In December 2018, EAST libraries agreed a retention model for more widely-held titles, those held by between 7 and 28 EAST Serial and Journal Retention Partners. EAST again agreed to exclude Rosemont committed titles from consideration and to allocate retention responsibility to the 3 libraries with the deepest runs of titles. There are approximately 700 titles that meet this criteria which EAST libraries will be committing to retain on behalf of the program. CRL will be allocating commitments for these titles over the next month.

Finally, the EAST Serials and Journals Working Group has recently moved on to considering retention rules for scarcely-held titles, those held by 3 or fewer EAST Serial & Journal Retention Partners. There are over 95,000 titles in this category, so the Working Group has first been considering ways to break this large number of titles into more manageable chunks and identify “retention worthy” titles. As has become EAST practice, data librarian Sara Amato developed a series of Tableau visualizations which have allowed us in real time to consider factors like holding levels in OCLC WorldCat, number of commitments in PAPR, Rosemont commitments, publication date, LC class, and language. From discussions had so far it appears unlikely that there will be one universal retention model. Instead we are exploring different options including that libraries will use Tableau to identify the titles they are willing to volunteer commitments to retain.

PAPR Updates

Currently the EAST Project Team is mediating submission of retained holdings to PAPR. To date over 5,000 titles representing more than 11,000 title holdings have been committed.

EAST Summit

In early December, 2018, 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. Details on the Summit and the formation of the Partnership for Shared Book Collections can be found in the separate report submitted to the PAN list.

Next Steps

Over the next six months EAST will continue its work on serials and journals, finalizing commitments for the large number of scarcely-held titles across the membership. We anticipate continuing to work actively with our colleagues in the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance to further the roadmap the Rosemont Executive Committee agreed to in their meeting last October. And we anticipate working with CRL to ensure the EAST serials & journals retention commitments are reflected in the PAPR database.

As the last of the Mellon no-cost extension funds is expended in March (this last extension having been used to support the December Summit referenced above), EAST will continue as a self-sufficient entity based on membership dues.

Members of the EAST Project Team will continue to be active in Working Groups for the Partnership for Shared Book Collections (see separate report on this topic) and EAST will continue to provide infrastructure and logistical support as well as leadership of the Partnership as it moves through this important transitional year.

Finally, we are in discussion with both individual libraries and library consortia in the region concerning expanding the EAST membership and - even more important - the EAST collective collection.