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SCHOLARS' TRUST

Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust Update for the January 2022 PAN Forum

General Program Update

The following is a general update on the work of the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST) since the previous PAN report in June of 2021.

Over the last six months, EAST has convened three working groups to address issues of interest to the membership as reflected in the results of the [2020 Program Assessment](#). The Special Collections, Collection Analysis, and Access Working Groups have met approximately monthly to think through ways in which EAST can continue to safeguard and provide access to the scholarly record. In the new year, these working groups will provide frameworks for interested member libraries to retain and share items in special collections locations, consider additional collection analyses focusing on circulating collections, explore availability and use of resource sharing statistics, and update resource sharing and access guidelines for member libraries. In 2022, EAST will reconvene its ILL Working Group to review the EAST [ILL Best Practices](#), and update the document as needed in light of recent advances in resource sharing and the possibility of EAST expanding to include special collection titles.

EAST Project Director Susan Stearns will present on the working groups at the upcoming [PAN Forum](#).

In the Fall of 2021, EAST held elections for new members of the Executive and Operations Committees: Fern Brody (University of Pittsburgh) and Marta Brunner (Skidmore College) have been re-elected and newly appointed, respectively, to the [EAST Executive Committee](#) for a period of three years. R.C. Miessler (second term, Gettysburg College), Alexa Torchynowycz (Davidson College), and Steve Smith (University of Massachusetts - Boston) have been elected to the [Operations Committee](#) for two-year terms.

After a thorough vetting process, EAST will engage web design and development firm [GORGES](#) to migrate the EAST website from Drupal 7 to WordPress and provide a light design refresh. We anticipate this change will improve communication as well as access to program documentation.

As part of regular EAST operations, member libraries are asked to upload updated retentions data to [Gold Rush®](#) (and update their registered commitments in [WorldCat®](#)), to ensure that any future EAST collection analysis is comparing new collections to an updated set of EAST retentions. This, along with the regular request for libraries to send in any retained titles they need to reallocate, helps manage and keep up to date the retained collection. At the close of

2021, EAST used the WorldCat Search API to identify unretained copies of titles requested for reallocation, and shared the results with member libraries.

EAST held its [annual member meeting](#) virtually for the second year in November of 2021. This year's agenda featured an update on the work of EAST to the membership, as well as four short talks from guest speakers: Teri Gallaway, Ian Bogus, Amy Wood, and Genya O'Gara. These presentations provided a broad lens in which to situate the work of the EAST program.

Collective Collection update

Since June 2021, both Lehigh University and the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University have completed their collection analysis and signed off on their retention allocations, bringing the total EAST monograph retained collection to 9,955,250 holdings and 7,402,501 titles. Work with the State Library of Massachusetts and Temple University will continue into Spring 2022. We anticipate exceeding 10 million holdings in the EAST collective collection as the commitments of these two additional members are added.

Serials & Journals

A total of 21 serials and journals retention partners (out of 32) are participating in the [Rosemont Last Known Copy initiative](#). Their holdings in this category range from one title, to over 700 titles. We anticipate libraries will finalize and register their retentions by the end of the Spring 2022, which will add approximately 1,200 titles to the Rosemont collective corpus. Altogether, EAST serials and journals partners have committed to retain 29,423 titles. As part of EAST's participation in the [Rosemont Shared Print Alliance's strategic planning](#) process, the Project Team held an informational meeting in Fall of 2021, where EAST member library staff had an opportunity to learn about and provide feedback on draft Rosemont strategic directions.

National Initiatives

EAST continues to participate in national and continental initiatives such as the [Rosemont Shared Print Alliance](#) (chairing the Operations Committee in 2021) and the [Partnership for Shared Book Collections](#) (chairing or participating in several working groups).

Next Steps for EAST

- Following the 2020 Program Assessment and the 2021 Member Meeting, the EAST Executive Committee is working on a strategic planning process to help guide the work of EAST over the next few years. We anticipate having a small working group to provide recommendations to the membership for feedback and review;
- Share working group recommendations with the membership;
- Finalize the collection analysis and retention commitments for the State Library of Massachusetts and Temple University;
- Migrate and update website;
- Execute any recommendations/operationalize strategic directions as needed;
- Continue collaborating and participating in shared print initiatives at the national and continental levels.
- Continue to follow up and work with libraries and library consortia interested in joining EAST.