

Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust Update for the 2020 ALA Midwinter PAN Forum

# **Growing the EAST Collection and Membership**

In 2019, EAST began exploring avenues of growth for its collective collection of retention commitments and its membership, including working directly with library consortia. In Summer 2019, EAST signed on six new Florida institutions plus the Florida Academic Repository, which, together with existing EAST member Florida State University, form the "Florida Cohort" and bring EAST membership to a total of 65 libraries. As of December, 2019 the Florida libraries have submitted their holdings data to OCLC for collection analysis with GreenGlass. We anticipate beginning the Florida Cohort's analysis and retention modeling in the first quarter of 2020 and hope to have final retention commitments in place by the summer.

In anticipation of working with the Florida Cohort and other new members, EAST worked with OCLC SCS to combined the Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 data sets. The new combined instance of GreenGlass, which will be used in the retention modeling with the Florida libraries, includes just under 8.5 million title holdings allocated for retention from the over 25.5M title holdings originally analyzed as part of the Cohort 1 and Cohort 2 work.

In addition, as a continued exploration of the most cost-effective way to allow potential new EAST members to perform monograph collection analysis and identify titles that should be retained, EAST began work with the Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries to use the Library Comparator tool built into their Gold Rush software to determine the software's retention modeling capabilities for libraries interested in joining EAST. The EAST Project Team anticipates being able to trial the retention modeling capabilities in early 2020.

EAST is also in conversation with other library consortia as well as individual libraries interested in participating in the shared print program.

#### **Serials and Journals**

EAST is close to completing its retention commitments for its third and final category of titles, those held by 1-3 participating libraries. The vast majority of libraries have submitted their approved lists of titles they are willing to retain in the scarce category. Commitments have been agreed for approximately 7,500 titles and a few thousand more title commitments are expected between now and the end of January.

Most libraries took additional time to carry out shelf checks to verify holdings and condition. In general, the serials and journals work has been a much more time consuming process than originally

envisaged; EAST libraries and their staff are to be commended for their efforts in reviewing and confirming commitments. In looking at titles rejected for retention, many of them are non-circulating (particularly special collections locations), which are currently out of scope for EAST retention. This is something EAST may revisit in the future to ensure that there is a formal commitment to retaining these titles.

The EAST Project Team continue to work with libraries on registering commitments in the Center for Research Libraries' Print Archives and Preservation Registry, with approximately 9,500 titles currently registered, across the 3 categories of titles analyzed. Once this work is complete there will be approximately 25,000 titles collectively retained by EAST members.

EAST continues to be actively involved in the activities of the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance. Peggy Seiden, from Swarthmore College and one of EAST's representatives to Rosemont, served as chair of Rosemont's Executive Committee during 2019. EAST members have also recently approved the Rosemont Last Copy Principles and Guidelines and Guidelines for the Donation/Transfer of Print Journal Titles.

## **Operationalization of EAST**

As the EAST program matures, we have begun to re-visit processes which were established some years ago and are no longer appropriate to accommodate the both the growing number of retention commitments and the evolving workflows within our member libraries. The EAST Project Team re-designed the Reallocations Workflow (carried out bi-annually) to reduce the time spent by the libraries and to provide a mechanism for tracking the reasons for reallocation requests over the years. This process can be found on EAST website at https://eastlibraries.org/reallocation-process.

A familiar topic of conversation in shared print is the need to understand its impact on inter-library loan in libraries. EAST is discussing the issues around collection and analysis of ILL data with our Inter-Library Loan Working Group to determine the ILL systems used by member libraries, the statistics they already collect, and what information they would like to derive from any statistics collected. We anticipate building on the work done by one of our member libraries, the University of Connecticut, and hope to engage with other shared print programs once an effective methodology for collecting and analyzing ILL data has been developed. We continue to work with OCLC (EAST GAC usage) and Rapid (EAST Pod data) on gathering statistics.

### **Collaboration Across Shared Print**

Over the past two years, EAST has worked with representatives from other shared print programs to create a federation that facilitates collaboration between shared print initiatives. As a founding member of the <u>Partnership for Shared Book Collections</u>, EAST is committed to advocating for and participating in the creation of best practices and guidelines to ensure uniformity of and collaboration across the shared print landscape, as well as supporting the creation and operationalization of regional programs.

EAST program staff and five member libraries are actively participating in the testing of the CRL/OCLC Mellon-funded project to register shared print retentions for serials and multi-part monographs as well as sync that data between the PAPR and WorldCat databases. We hope to have the testing completed by spring and to be able to formally register all of the EAST retention commitments.

## **Annual Member Meeting**

The 2019 Annual EAST Member Meeting provided ample opportunity for librarians at member institutions to network and share experiences implementing EAST at their libraries. Presentations from EAST members, as well as from Lorrie McAllister (ASU) on the imperative for thoughtful collection development, Ian Bogus (ReCAP) on the risk assessment project, and Wendy Wilcox (Cornell) on how the EAST validation study helped Cornell address questions about removing turnstiles at Olin Library, supplemented the discussions on ILL in shared print, additional conversations about risk in shared print, and similar topics of interest to the membership.

EAST continues to respond to a growing demand for collaboration across institutions, consortia, and programs. With our membership in the Partnership and the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance, we look forward to contributing to an increasingly robust community of shared print practitioners.