



## Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust Update for the January 2026 PAN Forum

The Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST) is the collaborative effort of over 190 academic and research libraries to document, protect, and provide long-term access to their print collections.

We would like to welcome four new members to the EAST Board of Directors: Frances Maloy (Union College), Susan Myers (Spartanburg Methodist College), Josh Petrusa (Butler University), and Jennifer Resor-Whicker (Radford University). We would also like to welcome Andrea Boehme (Hanover College) to the Operations Committee. A full list of members on the Board and Operations Committee are available via our [Governance page](#).

### ***Membership Updates***

Twenty-three [PALNI \(Private Academic Library Network of Indiana\)](#) libraries joined EAST in 2025, with 4 of those becoming retention partners. These new partners brought over 200,000 new retentions, with over 60,000 of those being new titles to EAST. We very much appreciate their willingness to retain these titles on behalf of the membership. We also welcomed [Ohio University](#), who joined as a retention partner and will be doing a collection analysis once a weeding project wraps up. Additionally we are pleased to welcome back the University of Massachusetts Chan Medical Library. With these additional members, EAST now has member libraries in 17 states.

### ***Collection Analysis: Serials and Journals***

60 members are participating in a group Serials and Journals collection analysis project. We are grateful to the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) for performing the collection analysis at no cost to members. With the majority of the data collected, we expect analysis and retention commitments and refinements to take place through the first half of the year. This work includes examining existing and potential new retention commitments. A working group is helping think through important topics such as the relationship between the print and digital, and the security of the holdings location of both.

### ***Member Meeting Outcomes and Looking Forward***

EAST held its annual member meeting last October, and with this finalized a [strategic framework for 2026-2031](#). Priorities coming out of this meeting included:

- Planning to secure retention commitments beyond 2031
- Clarifying Scope - specifically in regard to outdated, harmful, and/or offensive materials
- Digitization - Can EAST develop a partnership to assist EAST member libraries?
- Preservation - Interest expressed in an EAST Preservation Community of Interest for older materials

- Prospective Collection Development - exploring tools and potential pilot

Also core to the EAST strategy is the ability to query the collective collection. While EAST has traditionally relied on OCLC for this data, a number of factors are moving us to explore other options, including already existing services where many EAST members have their data such as ExLibris and ReShare. In light of this work, EAST has begun work on a data use agreement, as to date none has been defined. We look forward to exploring these relationships further, and pursuing this need with the larger shared print community.