

## Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust Update for the June 2024 PAN Forum

The Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST) is the collaborative effort of over 170 academic and research libraries to document, protect, and provide long-term access to their print collections.

### ***Announcing our new Director, Tina Baich!***

The EAST Board of Directors is pleased to announce the successful conclusion of a national search for the next EAST Director with the appointment of Tina Baich, succeeding Program Director Emerita Susan Stearns. Tina's experience and capabilities reflect the organization's ambition to continue to expand and creatively engage with its members. Scott Warren, President of the EAST Board says: "At this pivotal moment in the history of EAST, preceded by its recent incorporation as an independent organization, I have full confidence in Tina's ability to lead our community forward collaboratively." Tina will join EAST on July 15, 2024. ([See full announcement](#))

### ***Collection analysis of 2011-2021 titles***

The sixty-seven EAST Retention Partners participating in the collection analysis of titles published or acquired from 2011 to 2021 are in the process of reviewing their retention allocations. As part of the allocation process, EAST used both geography and number of previous commitments in determining which libraries would be assigned retentions. EAST also flagged titles that libraries might not be willing to commit to retain based on a [tips list of keywords](#). With over two million proposed retention commitments, their work will significantly broaden the EAST collective collection. Further details will be shared at the upcoming Print Archive Network forum in June for anyone attending ALA Annual or registered online.

### ***PASCAL - Onboarding Consortia***

EAST is currently working with the [PASCAL](#) consortium in South Carolina, which brings 17 new Retention Partners and 21 Consortia Supporting Partners. The libraries are currently in the process of finalizing their retention commitments. Working with the PASCAL central staff has greatly alleviated the burden on EAST staff for onboarding, and their contributions and expertise have been greatly appreciated.

### ***Resource Sharing Task Force***

A Resource Sharing Task Force recently wrapped up their work and made several recommendations to the EAST Board of Directors, including creating a resource sharing community of practice (with a wiki and mailing list); and, most importantly, a "systems agnostic" directory of EAST members and their

resource sharing details, e.g. what platforms do they use, do they participate in Peer to Peer lending, shipping and charging details etc. EAST will begin working on these recommendations this year.

### ***IMLS Planning Grant Update***

As part of the work with our sister consortium, SCELIC, EAST will be completing its work on the IMLS planning grant “Community Strategies for Increasing Diversity and Inclusivity in the Collective Collection of Shared Print” in the coming months. EAST’s work on the grant has included engaging with the Community Council advisory panel as well as outreach to HBCU libraries on the value of participation in shared print. Grant funding has been available to subsidize the membership of our newest HBCU member, Virginia Union University in Richmond, VA, as well as support collection analysis work across a group of HBCU collections. This collection analysis includes the collections of Virginia Union and five other HBCU libraries (Hampton University and the four libraries included in the Atlanta University Center - Spelman College, Morehouse College, Clark Atlanta University, and the Interdenominational Theological Institute). Metadata for the circulating print monograph collections of these libraries have been loaded into Gold Rush and we expect the majority of the analysis work to be completed this summer.

In addition, staff at SCELIC with support from EAST, are using OCLC<sup>®</sup> Choreo Insights to further analyze the collections from a diversity perspective using FAST subject headings. With FAST the research team is able to more accurately identify titles about and by African Americans as well as compare the holdings of African American titles to comparable predominantly white institutions’ collections. As this work proceeds, we are also investigating methodologies for integrating the data into the EAST retention model. Further details will be shared at the upcoming Print Archive Network forum in June for anyone attending ALA Annual. Additional presentations at future conferences as well as public webinars are planned as a part of the dissemination of the planning grant’s results.

### ***Annual Member Meeting - Save the date***

EAST is in the process of planning for its annual virtual member meeting to be held Tuesday, October 22nd 2024, 10am-Noon Eastern. The meeting is free and open to all. [Please register for the meeting to hold the date](#). EAST also holds an informal ‘water cooler’ session the day after the meeting for open discussion.