PARTNERSHIP FOR SHARED BOOK COLLECTIONS

Report to the Print Archive Network

January 2020

The Partnership for Shared Book Collections is a newly formed federation of monograph shared print programs in North America. Following two summit meetings sponsored by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and hosted by the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust, some 20+ shared print programs were involved in the initial planning to develop the Partnership (https://sharedprint.org/participants/). Six Working Groups, discussed below, were formed with oversight from a nine-person Steering Committee. These groups met throughout 2019 to formalize the membership, governance, business model, and services planned for the Partnership with the goal of a formal launch in January 2020 at the ALA Midwinter PAN Forum.

Partnership Working Groups
Originally formed during the summit meetings that preceded the formation of the Partnership, the Working Groups listed below worked throughout 2019. Further details, including the members of each of the Working Groups, is available on the Partnership website, https://sharedprint.org/.

- **Services and Business Models –** this group developed the service model for the federation, drafted the initial budget and proposed the current business model and cost-sharing formula.
- **Governance and Membership –** this group was responsible for defining the governance bodies and membership criteria for the Partnership.
- **Best Practices –** among the most active of the Working Groups in 2019, this group has completed draft best practices and guidelines across various shared print activities. These are available at https://sharedprint.org/best-practices/ and are focused on supporting current monograph shared print programs as well as providing guidance to those who may be considering the creation of a program or are in early stages of program planning. This Working Group has also developed a list of best practices they plan to begin work on in 2020 and is seeking additional members with expertise in the requisite functional areas. If you are interested in joining, please contact one of the co-conveners, Heather Weltin (weltin@hathitrust.org) or Tina Baich (cbaich@iupui.edu).
- **Open Data –** this Working Group has been exploring options for openly exposing retention data, including requirements, timetable and costs.
- **Outreach and Engagement –** this group is developing compelling narratives about shared print for various stakeholder audiences. As a first step in their work, they created an entry on Wikipedia for "Collective Collections", which can be viewed at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Collective_collections. This Working

Group will be continuing in 2020 by developing a marketing and communications toolkit that develops strategies for conversations with the various stakeholder audiences involved in shared print. These can be adapted by local programs and individual libraries to tell the story of shared print and why it matters.

- **Risk Analysis –** this Working Group has been involved in defining the types of research that need to be undertaken on what is at risk in shared print endeavors and how we might best address these risks. Expanding on work done with Ithaka S&R on the optimal number of copies needed for print serials and journals, this group has begun work with Dr. Candace Yano of UC Berkeley on developing a model for determining the optimal number of copies of a monograph needed for retention. The Partnership hopes to incubate projects such as this, including research, that are not likely to be undertaken by individual programs or their participating libraries.

The first two Working Groups listed above will be disbanded in the coming months as their work has been completed. We anticipate that the four remaining Working Groups will continue into the future, although possibly under different guises and with slightly different membership.

Membership in the Partnership

Details of how the Partnership works are provided in the Membership section on the website at https://sharedprint.org/membership/. Membership is open to existing and emerging programs in the U.S. and Canada. Note, that as the Partnership is a federation of shared print programs, and not a separate program itself, individual libraries join through their programs. As of January 9, 2020, the following seven monograph shared print programs have joined the Partnership as Founding Members.

- Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries
- ConnectNY
- Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST)
- MCLS/MI-SPI
- Private Academic Library Network of Indiana (PALNI)
- SCELC Shared Print Program
- Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC).

Member programs pay a $3,000 annual membership fee for the initial three years. This funds a part-time Program Coordinator. We encourage interested programs to see more detailed information on membership on the website, https://sharedprint.org, consult with one of the current members, or speak with a member of the Steering Committee (https://sharedprint.org/about/steering/), many of whom will be at the PAN Forum at ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia.

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