



Purpose

The Partnership for Shared Book Collections addresses the need to create a robust information network and supports institutions interested in pursuing a collaborative collection strategy for print resources. The Partnership recognizes the benefits and necessity of an interdependent and networked future, one that enables libraries to intentionally and strategically advance services in support of scholarship.

Supporting shared print programs in the United States and Canada, the Partnership identifies common work that can be done collectively to advance mission-critical services while also saving time and money locally.

“We need to think more coherently and in a more coordinated fashion about how we collectively keep the scholarly record.”

- Wendy P. Lougee
quoted in Lindsay Ellis' Chronicle of Higher Education article:
The Future of Campus Libraries? Sticky Interdependence

About

In December 2017 and again in April 2018, the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST), with funding from the Mellon Foundation, brought together stakeholders from shared print projects in the United States and Canada and organizations interested in library collaboration, including the Center for Research Libraries, HathiTrust, Ithaka S+R, and OCLC, to explore possibilities for supporting shared print monograph preservation. At this meeting, stakeholders developed a vision to coordinate collaboration among shared print monograph initiatives and find efficiencies in efforts to ensure the long-term preservation of, access to, and integrity of these collections. Over the next two years, participants identified an initial set of network-level services and created the Partnership for Shared Book Collections.



Services

Among its first initiatives to support shared print programs the Partnership plans to:

- Create
 - Shared print program marketing and communication templates and strategies
 - Efficiencies to reduce costs for all shared print programs and extend the reach of programs
 - Funding strategies to support shared print programs
 - A shared print program directory to support adding new institutions to shared print programs.
- Investigate
 - Collective answers to the question of how many copies is enough by commissioning and making available research on risk
 - Universal participation and cost reduction for all shared print programs by exploring openly accessible and easily updatable retention data
 - Methods to identify unique materials to support wider preservation efforts (both collections and participants)
 - Options to improve discovery of shared print material and support collection decision-making by individual institutions
- Provide
 - A set of best practices and guidelines, including: shared print efficiencies and communications templates to provide consistent messaging
 - A brokering of services for consortia, and their affiliated libraries unserved by shared print or for shared print programs without sufficient staff
- Support
 - Creation and maintenance of model shared print policies and guidelines including risk and survivability, scoping shared collections, supporting resource sharing, and developing MOUs
 - Development of new shared print programs for collections and in geographic locations that are not yet served

More Information

Visit the Partnership website: <https://sharedprint.org/>

Contact

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