



# PARTNERSHIP FOR SHARED BOOK COLLECTIONS

## Report to the Print Archive Network

*January 2021*

The Partnership for Shared Book Collections (<https://sharedprint.org>) is a federation of monograph shared print programs in North America, formally launched at the Print Archive Network (PAN) Forum in January of 2020. Our vision is to ensure the long-term preservation of, access to, and integrity of monographic print resources.

Over the last six months, the Partnership has increased its membership from 14 to 17 with the addition of the following three programs. The Partnership is very pleased to welcome:

- The Center for Research Libraries (CRL)
- Virginia's Academic Library Consortium (VIVA)
- Council of Prairie and Pacific University Libraries (COPPUL)

See also the [Press Release announcing CRL and VIVA](#). For a full list of participating programs and their member libraries see <https://sharedprint.org/members/>.

Over the past six months the Partnership has also:

- transitioned to a formal governance with an elected Executive Committee, an appointed Operations Committee, and Working Groups for Infrastructure, Research and Network Level activities, Communication and Advocacy, and Best Practices;
- continued work on best practices for shared print;
- supported additional research on risk to shared print;
- continued collaboration with the Rosemont Alliance for Shared Print with a focus on communications and outreach;
- hired a part time program coordinator, Sara Amato.

### **Partnership Governance**

The Executive Committee is chaired by Kirsten Leonard (PALNI) with Daniel Dollar (Yale University) serving as vice chair and Susan Stearns (EAST) as past chair. Members are: Tina Baich (IUPUI University Library), George Machovec (Colorado Alliance of Research Libraries), Steven Mandeville-Gamble (UC Riverside) and Peggy Seiden (Swarthmore College). The Executive Committee also draws on the expertise of its Advisory Committee: Ivy Anderson (WEST), Mike Furlough (HathiTrust), Robert Kieft (Shared Print Consultant), Jake Nadal (Library of Congress), and Roger Schonfeld (Ithaka S+R). More information on the governance structure can be found on [sharedprint.org](https://sharedprint.org).

The Executive Committee is currently focused on the following four areas:

- Advocacy and Publicity to Shared Print Stakeholders and Funders
- Controlled Digital Lending and Shared Print Collections
- Loss/Change of library leadership and influence as financial pressures increase
- Diversity, Inclusion and Equity of preserved and accessible collections

### **Initial Services**

The Executive and Operations Committees have outlined a set of preliminary services of the Partnership to support both existing and emerging shared print monograph programs. These include best practices, advocacy, resource sharing, program support and infrastructure. These services take into account where external groups are already engaged in similar work and could be partnered with to encourage development to address the needs of the shared print community. The full list of services can be found at <https://sharedprint.org/about/services/>.

### **Partnership Working Groups**

The work of the Partnership is completed by four working groups, composed of over forty volunteers from the shared print community.

#### **Best Practices:**

The Best Practices Working Group, chaired by Heather Weltin (HathiTrust) and Tony Fonseca (Elms College) has finalized nine best practices documents on areas ranging from metadata and digital surrogates to storage environment and transferring commitments. These have been loaded to the [Partnership's website](#). Currently, the group is working on [nine new best practices](#), which will be finalized over the course of 2021. The group has also produced a [Glossary of terms](#) related to the best practices documents, which was developed in conjunction with the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance Operations Committee.

#### **Communications and Advocacy (Joint Working Group with the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance):**

This newly formed joint working group is tasked with developing an advocacy and communications toolkit to address Members' communication needs related to shared print.

#### **Infrastructure:**

The Infrastructure Working Group of the Partnership was established to develop an understanding of shared print program data needs, to explore the existing infrastructure capabilities (e.g. for resource sharing), and to define recommendations and advocate for improvements. To facilitate those aims, the following Task Forces listed below have been created. This group includes members of the CRL/CDL/HathiTrust collaboration and will work closely with them to avoid duplicative efforts and to support their work.

*Unique Materials:* Facilitate a process to analyze library monograph collections and identify unique or scarcely held materials so they may be preserved within Member programs.

*Discovery/Metadata*: Investigate feasible approaches to integrating retention commitments within a program or across programs for discovery by individual participating libraries.

#### Research & Network Level:

The Research & Network Level Working Group investigates at scale activities including research, funding, and expanding shared print. The group currently has three active task forces described below, and is also beginning to investigate the impact of shared print on resource sharing.

*The Cost and Value of Shared Print Task Force* is investigating the costs involved in shared print, the value of participation, and the risks and costs associated with not participating. Their work includes conducting a review of existing literature, developing a methodology for capturing costs, and creating a tool for libraries to use to estimate the cost of shared print participation currently and over time.

*The Shared Print Toolkit Task Force* is creating a toolkit for new and established shared print programs. As a first activity they are conducting focus groups with new and emerging programs to determine what elements these programs would find useful in a toolkit.

*The Risk Task Force*, which has been in existence since the early days of the Partnership, is starting to wrap up its work. It has compiled the results of its study on Bibliographic Accuracy and is drafting a paper to disseminate the results. The group has also been working with Dr. Candace Yano (UC Berkeley) to develop a model that predicts the likelihood that at least one usable copy is available after a designated horizon.

#### Collaborations

The Partnership continues to work collaboratively with others in the shared print environment. As noted above the Partnership shares a communications working group with the Rosemont Alliance and continues to explore synergies with that group.

The Partnership is looking forward to working closely with the CDL/CRL/HathiTrust infrastructure project and offering whatever support it can provide to them.

#### Upcoming Events

##### **Registering Shared Print Commitments in OCLC**

Sponsored by the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance and the Partnership  
Friday February 12, 10 a.m. Pacific / 1 p.m Eastern

##### **Working with Shared Print Commitments in OCLC**

Sponsored by the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance and the Partnership  
Friday February 19, 10 a.m. Pacific / 1 p.m. Eastern

##### **Best Practices Webinar**

Thursday, May 6, Noon Pacific / 3 p.m. Eastern

Announcements and registration for these events will be posted to the PAN listserv.