



Rosemont Shared Print Alliance Update

January 2021

The [Rosemont Shared Print Alliance](#) is a collaboration of regional shared print journal programs that coordinate their efforts on a larger scale to ensure the retention of and access to print journal backfiles. Current participants include the Big Ten Academic Alliance, the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust, the Florida Academic Repository, Scholars Trust, the Western Regional Storage Trust, and our newest member, the Center for Research Libraries.

Welcoming our newest member

The Rosemont Alliance is pleased to welcome the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) as its newest member. CRL has a long history of commitment to the protection and preservation of scholarly content. Joining Rosemont, they bring:

- 44,000 new titles to the Rosemont corpus, 4,000 of which are the only known copy;
- 3,000+ gaps in sparsely held titles to build more complete runs;
- A trusted JSTOR archive.

Over the last few years, CRL has partnered with a number of the Rosemont Alliance member programs on collection assessment and has worked steadily to improve metadata standards and practices for serial and journal collections. CRL engages with the scholarly and shared print communities in a number of ways, not the least of which is the recent collaboration with the California Digital Library and HathiTrust to improve the infrastructure and tools that support shared print, and their ongoing support of the Print Archive Network (PAN) Forum.

Greg Eow, President of CRL, will join the Rosemont Alliance Executive Committee, and both Amy Wood, Head of Metadata & Discovery Enhancement, and Marie Waltz, Head of Access Initiatives, will be on the Operations Committee.

Quick facts and figures

When the Rosemont Alliance was formed in 2015, the then-participating programs set a goal of adding 100,000 new titles by 2021 and, as the bar chart below shows, that goal has been met. As of November, 2020, the Rosemont Alliance had 126,120 total titles, 109,483 of which were added since 2015. Of these total commitments 69,483 are unique titles, a growth of over 12,000 unique titles in the last year.



The addition of CRL to the Rosemont Alliance adds significantly to our shared print journal retention commitments as shown below.



Current projects

Last known copy initiative

The Rosemont Alliance was formed with the vision “To ensure the preservation and availability of print journal literature.” In support of this vision, the Rosemont Executive Committee recently approved a project to identify and retain those print journal titles that appear to have only one copy held in the Rosemont Alliance and for which only one copy was reported in OCLC (U.S. holdings).

This initiative has been spearheaded by the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance Last Known Copy Initiative

Working Group which began by collecting data (including title, OCLC and ISSN numbers, and holdings) on journal titles held by four of the Rosemont Alliance partners: BTAA, EAST, Scholars Trust (ASERL-only) and WEST. The Working Group filtered the data to those 61,538 journal titles for which only one copy was reported in OCLC (U.S. holdings). Data on these titles was ingested into Tableau, allowing those viewing the data to easily filter the titles by various facets. As part of a pilot project, Rosemont is inviting a dozen libraries across the Alliance's programs to join the Working Group in analyzing the data on the last known copies, weighing commitments for their retention, and developing best practices that can be shared as Rosemont expands this project to include other Rosemont Alliance members.

Ongoing collaboration with the Partnership for Shared Book Collections

Throughout the last year, members of the Rosemont Alliance Operations Committee, as well as representatives from individual participating libraries, have worked with colleagues at the [Partnership for Shared Book Collections](#). The primary focus of these collaborative efforts has been to continue the development of best practices for shared print. Over the last year, the following best practices have been developed:

- Best Practice for Transferring Commitments
- Best Practice for Metadata and Records Sharing
- Best Practice for Resource Sharing and Access
- Best Practice for Inventory for Shared Print Programs
- An updated version of the Glossary
- Best Practices for Programmatic Review and Program Assessment

These as well as the earlier best practices documents are available on the Partnership website at <https://sharedprint.org/best-practices/>. In addition to this best practices work, members of the Rosemont Alliance member programs are active participants in both the Partnership Research and Network Level Working Group and the Infrastructure Working Group.

In June of 2020, the Rosemont Alliance worked with the Partnership to jointly develop a video highlighting the importance of shared print collections in libraries as a key component to ensuring ongoing and future access to the scholarly record. The video is available [here](#).

Registration in WorldCat

The new OCLC registration service for shared print was formally released in production in the spring of 2020. Representatives from both EAST and WEST participated in initial testing of the service which allows individual libraries as well as shared print programs to register their shared print commitments in WorldCat and supports synchronizing existing registration data from the PAPER database. We are continuing to test the capabilities of the new registration service and hope that most of the Rosemont Alliance programs will have completed registration of their current serials and journals commitments in the spring of 2021. Working in conjunction with the Partnership, the Rosemont Alliance will be sponsoring a webinar in February of this year to review the registration process and its implications for ongoing library workflows.

Resource sharing/ILL and shared print

As the product offerings for inter-library loan continue to expand, the Rosemont Alliance has focused on working to ensure that both current and future resource sharing services are aware of shared print commitments, understand how they are described in bibliographic metadata, and can surface this information appropriately as part of resource sharing services.

Support for the CDL/CRL/HT project

In early 2020, the California Digital Library, the Center for Research Libraries, and HathiTrust announced a collaboration to define a new phase of shared print based on an open and interconnected infrastructure. This collaboration built on work done by the Rosemont Alliance in previous years that focused on cross-program collection analysis and decision support. As 2020 ended, the 3 partners are close to completion on development of a tool that will allow individual libraries to compare their local serials/journals collections to the PAPER database to understand both overlap and uniqueness. The Rosemont Alliance applauds this “quick win” and looks forward to continued work in support of the project.

Upcoming Work

- Complete the last known copy initiative pilot and determine next steps;
- Complete registration of Rosemont Alliance retention commitments in WorldCat;
- Update the Rosemont Alliance roadmap and task list for work planned beyond 2021;
- Evaluate opportunities to expand equitable access to shared print materials;
- Consider expansion of gap filling across additional Rosemont Alliance participating libraries;
- Continue to develop best, practices and shared policies as well as communication resources together with the Partnership for Shared Book Collections;
- Identify storage partners willing to accession at risk titles; and
- Shared print advocacy, particularly in the areas of continued improvement to the infrastructure supporting shared print and access to shared print resources.

For documentation and additional information, please visit RosemontSharedPrintAlliance.org.

Submitted by Susan Stearns on behalf of the Rosemont Operations Committee.