Current Collection Status

The Big Ten Academic Alliance SPR retains backfile print serial volumes in two centralized locations on behalf of the 15 members of the project. Items are physically validated, retained in closed, environmentally controlled facilities, and serviced primarily through electronic delivery. These titles are popularly held and generally available electronically, reducing service loads while maximizing space reclamation.

The SPR currently holds more than 420,000 volumes, comprising more than 10,500 titles. The Phase II collection has surpassed 154,000 volumes. Schools had begun filling gaps in those titles in January 2020, though the physical closure of libraries during the pandemic has halted pulling and shipping for that project; the subsequent financial impacts may limit the number of student and staff workers available for such work in the future. In the near term, we will continue analyzing holdings to identify where candidate volumes exist, to attempt to scope the number of volumes that may potentially be sourced; we will likely also turn to new titles that may be added from the collection at Illinois and potentially elsewhere.

In the coming months:

- We will continue to fill gaps in titles held at Illinois, and identify additional titles as needed to meet the 250,000-volume cap.
- As Indiana winds down collaborative collecting, we will prepare a final inventory of collection at IU.
- We will be working with the host sites to determine workflows for registering retention commitments under the new OCLC registration program.
- A committee will be convened to conduct the mandated periodic program review. Results will be available for the November deans/directors’ meeting.

Current Collection Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection</th>
<th>Titles</th>
<th>Volumes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>at Indiana</td>
<td>6,520</td>
<td>266,544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at Illinois</td>
<td>4,087</td>
<td>154,130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>10,607</td>
<td>420,674</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Collection Usage

Usage requests continue to be very light, with fewer than 50 requests for physical items and fewer than 1,000 requests for article scans in the lifetime of the project.

Retention commitments for the SPR are registered in OCLC/WorldCat, JRNL, PAPR, and are distributed to member libraries through the myBTAA shared space. Representatives from member libraries meet monthly via teleconference.

Other Recent SPR Activity

- In the past year, the University of Chicago sent a sizeable pool of gap-fill content to Indiana. Indiana has finished processing these volumes and updated holdings are available to members through myBTAA.org.
- Branching out from academic journals, we approved a set serials reference titles, reserving a print copy of several large, shelf-space consuming works.
- The SPR has participated in a number of national partnerships and has participated in advising on major serials initiatives, including the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance, the OCLC Shared Print Advisory Group, the Partnership for Shared Book Collections, JRNL, and HathiTrust Shared Print.
- Benchmarking the collection against the BTAA’s collected bound print serials and against other shared print collections has begun. For the 13 libraries who submitted holdings data in 2017, we have retained approximately 25% of known bound print serials holdings held by 6 or more schools. Many of the remaining high-overlap titles are out of scope (general interest magazines, proceedings, government documents); in-scope titles will be one source for new candidate titles as we fill the Illinois site.

Shared Print Repository Members

University of Chicago • University of Illinois • Indiana University • University of Iowa • University of Maryland
University of Michigan • Michigan State University • University of Minnesota • University of Nebraska–Lincoln
Northwestern University • Ohio State University • Pennsylvania State University • Purdue University
Rutgers University • University of Wisconsin–Madison

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