The Rosemont Shared Print Alliance is a collaboration of regional shared print journal programs that have come together to ensure the preservation and availability of the print journal literature in the United States. Current participants include the Big Ten Academic Alliance (BTAA), the Eastern Academic Scholar’s Trust (EAST), the Florida Academic Repository (FLARE), Scholars Trust and the Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST).

The Rosemont Alliance continues to make progress towards advancing our vision and mission by pursuing the following strategic directions through 2021.

Collection Growth
The Rosemont Shared Print Alliance has set a goal of adding 100,000 titles to our collective collections by 2021. Since its founding in May 2017, the Rosemont Alliance has added more than 30,000 journal titles to our collective collections for a current total of over 93,000 retained titles. Each program has identified targets for planned growth that are expected to add at least 24,000 additional titles by 2022. (Please note that these totals are pending the implementation of the recent decision by the Rosemont Alliance Executive Committee, discussed below, to count up to three copies as “new titles.”)

Shared Policies and Guidelines
The Rosemont Shared Print Alliance has focused its recent attention on determining how to identify, select, expose, and track new titles across our shared print programs.

The Executive Committee recently agreed that we need to achieve an appropriate balance between the breadth of our retained collections versus redundancy. Three copies of each print journal title, ideally geographically distributed, will serve as our goal to ensure redundant backfiles. This figure will be assessed in five years. The Executive Committee also agreed that we will count a “new title” as any title with an added retention commitment until there are three copies of the same title within the Rosemont Alliance.

All participants in the Rosemont Alliance have agreed that all holdings retained within their respective programs are also retained on behalf of the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance and, by definition, subject to the Rosemont Alliance shared policies or guidelines, including the Access Principles. Under those principles, participants agree to make Rosemont Alliance archived materials available to other members in the Alliance. Archived material is eligible for lending to institutions outside of the Alliance per the holding library’s lending relationships and policies. Rosemont Alliance archived holdings will be distinctly identified in an agreed-upon system of record to facilitate resource sharing and statistics gathering. Lending and borrowing activity will be subject to established local practices, systems, workflows, and policies. The Rosemont Alliance Operations Committee is investigating options for lending and tracking usage of retained titles between member programs.
Engagement with other programs
The Rosemont Alliance is committed to engaging with other well-established shared print journal programs composed of predominantly academic/research libraries to explore a collaboration or partnership. Participants must be able to contribute journal retention commitments to the Rosemont Alliance and commit to the Rosemont Alliance policies and principles. A shared print program interested in joining the Rosemont Alliance should submit a letter expressing their interest to the Chair of the Rosemont Operations Committee. Full details will be found at: https://rosemontsharedprintalliance.org/shared-print-programs.

Many of the Rosemont Alliance participants are also involved in the Partnership for Shared Book Collections. Both groups recognize that there are areas of mutual interest and expertise that will benefit both communities. The Rosemont Alliance and the Partnership recently penned a joint response to Dan Cohen’s recent article in The Atlantic: The Books of College Libraries Are Turning Into Wallpaper. We explained that through thoughtful coordination and collaborations like shared print programs, we will preserve the print record at appropriate levels, keeping it usable and available across networks of libraries now and into the future.

Investigate decision support tools
The Rosemont Alliance is monitoring the development of, and advocating for, improved infrastructure for shared print programs. We are currently developing functional requirements and potential workflows for a Rosemont analysis/decision support processes, including existing capabilities, such as AGUA, JRNL and PAPR. We will also ensure that the Rosemont Alliance maintains input on future decision support developments.