



## Rosemont Shared Print Alliance Update

*June 2022*

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 Center for Research Libraries, the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust, the Florida Academic Repository, Scholars Trust, and the Western Regional Storage Trust. The following provides an update on work undertaken by the Rosemont Alliance since our last report to PAN in January of 2022.

### Last Known Copies Initiative

In the last PAN Update for the Rosemont Alliance (January 2022), we reported that the project identified 61,538 titles held across the participating Rosemont Alliance programs for which only one copy was reported among U.S. holdings in WorldCat. At least 39 libraries agreed to review the last known copy titles identified as being owned locally and to consider making retention commitments. The efforts to identify and establish a process are completed, but work by libraries to finalize and record those retention commitments will continue. At this time, the Last Known Copy Initiative is in maintenance mode. The Rosemont Alliance will report the retention commitments annually as part of our regular reporting.

### Strategic Directions

At its December 6, 2021 annual meeting, the [Rosemont Executive Committee](#) approved the updated Strategic Directions for 2022-2024. These strategic directions focus on the following:

- **Collection Growth and Security:** Establish milestones for collection growth and retention, including adding new titles and more copies to the collective collection.
- **Shared Policies or Guidelines:** Align operational policies for registration of retention commitments, preservation actions, discovery of, and access to shared print journal collections.
- **Advocacy & Engagement with Other Programs:** Explore potential partnerships with National Libraries, the Partnership for Shared Book Collections, and other programs in the U.S. and Canada, and to work with the Partnership and other programs to develop messaging and outreach activities that emphasize the importance of Shared Print Programs to audiences within libraries and higher education and to external audiences.
- **Infrastructure:** Support the ongoing development of important infrastructure tools that assist in decision-making for our programs and our constituent libraries, including possible deaccessioning decisions by local libraries based on the availability of the Rosemont collective collection.

More details of the Rosemont Alliance's Strategic Directions are available on the [Rosemont website](#).

## Follow-up from the CCH Summit

As reported in the last PAN Update (January 2022), the Rosemont Alliance participated in the initial meeting of the [CCH Summit](#). Since that time, the Rosemont Alliance has continued to participate in the Expressions of Action meetings that came out of the CCH Summit. Along with the initial commitments that the Rosemont Alliance made (outlined in the January 2022 PAN Update), we have reported the following accomplishments, barriers, and future plans:

1. What have you accomplished so far?
  - Increased cross-collaboration with the Partnership, particularly in areas of communication and promotion of shared print in libraries, and begun exploring deeper integration of these organizations
2. What blockers are you encountering?
  - Two primary blockers have affected our efforts: capacity and concreteness of future plans. Rosemont is in a momentary period of assessment necessary for future planning. At the same time, we anticipate some turnover in our core operations participants, and most of the long-serving personnel are stretched thin as demands across our home libraries and organizations compete with an increasing number of collaborative partnerships.
3. What do you plan to do next?
  - We are continuing conversations with the Partnership about deepening the connection between these organizations.

## Other Current Projects

### Ongoing collaboration with the Partnership for Shared Book Collections

Over the last six months, the Rosemont Alliance has continued to work closely with colleagues in various working groups and initiatives of the Partnership for Shared Book Collections, most notably in the development of [Best Practices](#) and the [Joint Communications and Advocacy Working Group](#). The first joint membership meeting between these two shared print programs was held in [February 2022](#). Initial discussions regarding further aligning activities have been fruitful, and a joint task force has been formed to further investigate deeper collaboration. Both groups will continue to explore ways to reduce the duplication of efforts, particularly on topics relating to resource sharing and through investigation of how best to coordinate public-facing tools such as their websites.

### Gap Filling Working Group

After initial work by this group to review and record member program practices for filling known gaps in retained titles, work has continued to: 1) develop best practices for gap filling, 2) compile a list of bigger questions around gap filling for future consideration, and 3) identify schools that might be willing to pilot the guidelines. The task force expects to consider a pilot in the coming year.

### Access Working Group

This working group continues to explore the resource sharing and statistical data collection capabilities for shared print with a focus on better understanding the impact of the lending of items held under retention in shared print collections across programs. In January 2022, this working group participated in a discussion with other Resource Sharing groups from the Partnership for Shared Books, CRL, WEST, EAST, SCEL, and ReCAP to share information. This meeting and subsequent conversations are leading to a discussion with OCLC that may result in the formation of a Rosemont Profiled Group (formerly GAC) to facilitate the gathering of statistics. This working group will continue to work with the Partnership and individual shared print programs to coordinate these efforts and reduce duplication.

## **Storage Partners**

The Storage Partners working group completed its work in March 2022. The initial survey of member libraries indicated that members believed that there is a role for the Rosemont Alliance in coordinating storage. In support of this role, the working group developed two documents: 1) a [Best Practices for Transfer of Retention Commitments](#) and 2) a [list of commercial storage vendors](#). Further work related to the actual coordination of transfers will be moved to the Gap Filling Working Group. The Storage Partners Working Group is now discharged.

*For documentation and additional information, please visit [RosemontSharedPrintAlliance.org](https://RosemontSharedPrintAlliance.org).*

*Submitted by Ben Walker, FLARE, on behalf of the Rosemont Operations Committee.*