



United We Stand: A Collaborative Approach to Legacy Print Collections: NELA 2013 Conference Oct. 21, 2013

Nine institutions in Maine have come together to form the Maine Shared Collections Strategy (MSCS), a collaborative effort to manage legacy print collections. The work of MSCS is supported by a grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. We hope that other libraries will learn from our experiences in developing their own strategies to manage legacy print collections.

Although we would do some things differently (if we had the chance), this project has proven that diverse partners can work together in cooperative collection development.

MSCS Partners

- University of Maine
- University of Southern Maine
- Bangor Public Library
- Portland Public Library
- Maine State Library
- Colby
- Bates
- Bowdoin
- Maine InfoNet

Project Goals

- Identify long-term retention commitments from partner libraries
- Implement on-demand services in union catalog
- Define sustainable business model for beyond grant & partners

Data Wrangling

We extracted bibliographic, holdings, and circulation data from our library catalogs for analysis. This required that we first undergo a reclamation process with OCLC to accurately compare different catalogs.

Data Analysis

Sustainable Collection Services (SCS), a collections analysis vendor, provided us with data reports to help us analyze our collection and develop retention criteria for which titles should be committed to retain.

The libraries have agreed to retain

- Copies if any circulation or reserve activity
- "Local Interest" category titles
- Special Collections/Archives copies
- Unique in OCLC (only 0-9 copies in OCLC)

We are also analyzing serials. The data extraction and cleaning for this has been conducted by our System Librarian. The libraries agreed to only consider for retention those titles which are:

- "Local Interest" category titles
- Special Collections/Archives copies
- Not widely held in OCLC (less than 50 in OCLC)

Disclosing Retention Decisions: The Why & How

MSCS libraries are disclosing their retention commitments to enable other libraries to evaluate their own collections based on our commitment to retain the title. The commitments will be disclosed in OCLC WorldCat with a holding symbol, MaineCat (our union catalog) and local catalogs using a MARC 583 Retention note.

Ebook-On-Demand and Print-On-Demand Service Model

MSCS intend to use digital collections such as the HathiTrust and Internet Archive to offer new ways for patrons to access materials. We are

- Developing criteria for relying on digital copies as surrogates
- Integrating 1.6 million HathiTrust Public Domain title records and Google Books links into our union catalog
- Testing a Print-On-Demand request service

Governance and Business Model

MSCS have produced a Memorandum Of Understanding which defines a governance structure and financial model and clearly states the rights and responsibilities of members. We are working on ensuring that MSCS is sustainable beyond the grant period and partners.

Presenters

- Deb Rollins, Head of Collection Service, University of Maine, drollins@maine.edu & 207 581 1659
- Matthew Revitt, Program Manager, Maine Shared Collections Strategy, matthew.revitt@maine.edu & 207 581 1634

To see our presentation slides: <http://www.maineinfonet.net/mscs/about/presentations/>

For more information about Maine Shared Collections Strategy see our website: <http://www.maineinfonet.org/mscs/> and follow us on Twitter @MESharedColls