A Quick Introduction to Cooperative Print Archives (CPAs)

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1. The Characteristics: What are the elements of CPAs?
2. The Models: What possible combinations of CPA Characteristics exist today?
3. Where does PARSSL fit in?
4. Sources of Information: Where can we go to learn more?

Understanding cooperative print archives (CPA) requires understanding both CPAs’ characteristics and the various combinations in which these characteristics manifest in specific programs. As we better understand the nature of CPAs, we can better articulate the needs, wants, and challenges Tennessee faces in regards to creating a shared, statewide, print archive collection.

1. CPA Characteristics

1.A. Three Types of CPA strategies: Libraries use three strategies to organize themselves in cooperative archive endeavors.

1.A.1. Shared Print in Place: Individual participants agree to be the library of record for distributed collections comprised of specific print titles. Individual libraries maintain ownership and stewardship of titles on behalf of the group. Uses a distributed archive model.

1.A.2. Shared Print in Storage: Individual participants agree to relocate specific print titles into central, shared storage facilities. Libraries may or may not maintain ownership of titles. Stewardship rests with the storage facilities. Uses two centralized facility types (below).
1.A.3. Hybrid: Using a combination of these two strategies. Also, libraries may participate in multiple CPAs.

1.B. Two Types of Centralized CPA Facilities: The centralized storage facilities operate under one of two administrative models, Depositories and Repositories. Used primarily in Shared Print Storage collaborations.

1.B.1. Depository: Central storage of materials where the participating libraries retain ownership of the materials. Shared Storage doesn't equal cooperative collections. Some share repositories are shared spaces where each library manages their remote collections independently. They may share a facility and catalog and delivery, they may not share a cooperative collections strategy.

Analogous to an individual bank account. One bank holds your money along with everyone else’s money. You can spend your money whenever you want without impacting anyone else’s balance.

1.B.2. Repository: Central storage of materials where the participating libraries cede ownership to a central organization. Required model for cooperative collection building. Participants agree that some copies will be saved and others discarded.

Analogous to a shared bank account. One bank holds the money that belongs equally to every shared account holder. Deposits and withdrawals are performed in common.

1.B.3. Repositories and Depositories are Libraries: CPAs generate member benefits in terms of collection expenditures, space usage, and collection maintenance. Courant and Nielsen (2010) argue that it costs an over $4 a year for one library to keep one book on public shelves. Keeping that same book in high density storage facility costs only $0.60/year. Still, CPAs are not free. As materials are transferred from the library to the archive, so go the responsibilities. This includes administration, governance, maintenance, discovery, and access.
2. CPA Models

2.A. Shared Facilities with Separate and Individual Collections (Depositories)


2.B. Individual Facilities with Shared Collections. (Distribute Archive)


2.B.2. ASERL Collaborative Journal Retention Program Agreement. ASERL has approved a policy for cooperatively retaining print journals as a means of optimizing collection management across the consortium. The retention agreement is in effect through December 31, 2035. A group of 24 ASERL libraries are retaining titles under this agreement. http://www.aserl.org/programs/j-retain/

2.C. Shared Facility with Shared Collections (Repositories)

2.C.1. Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) Shared Print Repository. CIC participants select journal runs to be held in a central repository. Participants then make retention decisions.

“As part of their mutual commitment to efficient, ongoing access to scholarly information resources, library directors from CIC member universities agreed in July 2011 to fund a shared collection of print journal backfile volumes.
The first phase of this initiative is now underway, with plans for securing some 250,000 volumes over the next five years in a state-of-the-art storage facility located at Indiana University. “http://www.cic.net/projects/library/shared-print-repository/introduction

3. Where does PARSSL Fit?

3.A. Each CPA has its unique context and therefore unique way of mixing and matching CPA characteristics. The vast majority of CPA memberships are comprised of academic libraries. The long-term print archival needs of many public libraries differs significantly from academic. Many public libraries already know how to weed and do not serve as long-term depositories for print serials and monographs. (Clement, p 164) Academic research libraries will take a long term view regarding the retention of print materials. Long term can equal 25 years or 250 years.

3. B. Who is like us? No one, exactly. Who is close? This will take additional time to explore but, for now, our closest analog is the Maine Shared Collection Strategy, a CPA program comprised of academic and public libraries and a library consortia, using the distributed archive model. Eight libraries and Maine’s consortia are funded with an IMLS grant for a 3 year project.

"This Maine Shared Collections Strategy project will develop a state-wide print collection management strategy and POD <Print on Demand> and EOD <Electronic on Demand> service which will include data-driven collaborative models for collection management, collection de-accessioning and collection storage; agreements regarding ownership and management of joint collections; protocols for requesting stored materials; protocols and policies for requesting and delivering print on demand services; and a cost model for delivering POD and EOD" http://www.maineinfonet.net/mscs/wp-content/uploads/MSCSAbstract.pdf"
4. Sources of Information

4.A. Websites

Community of libraries involved in shared archives. PAN
"...promotes opportunities for participating libraries and consortia to share
information, expertise and best practices for the cooperative, strategic
management of major print holdings."

Holds regular meetings in conjunction with ALA midwinter & annual,
occasional webinars, and host listserv. http://www.crl.edu/archiving-
preservation/print-archives/forum

http://archivereg.crl.edu/

Community Forum http://www.crl.edu/archiving-preservation/print-
archives/forum

4.B. Articles

Towards Collaborative Discarding: The Evolution of the Shared Print
Repository, Collection Management, 37:3-4, 153-167, DOI:
10.1080/01462679.2012.685413

4.B.2. Collection Management (special issue on shared print archives)
4#.UjMPsWT0–s0

a Book” The Idea of Order: Transforming Research Collections for 21st