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March, 2015

# Maine Shared Collections Strategy's (MSCS) Final Performance Report

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## Performance Report Cover

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## Maine Shared Collections Strategy's (MSCS) Final Performance Report

### Project Partners

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

All nine partner institutions contributed in-kind services of staff salaries and fringe benefits for staff that worked on Maine Shared Collections Strategy (MSCS) related activities.

Representatives from the partner libraries spent time working on MSCS committee related business and will sit on the post-grant boards of the Maine Shared Collections Cooperative (MSCC). The partners all made cash contributions towards collection analysis services, and the University of Maine and Colby College made additional contributions by paying to join the HathiTrust. The partners have also committed to the costs of retaining titles they have been allocated responsibility to retain as part of our collection management, stewardship, and preservation model. This includes ongoing storage and conservation costs and maintaining metadata.

The University of Maine administered the grant funds and was the base of the MSCS program manager. MSCS found that demands placed on host financial staff working at the University of Maine's Fogler Library were greater than anticipated. The University of Maine's Head of Collection Services (Deborah Rollins) joined the directors of Bangor Public Library (Barbara McDade) and Colby College Libraries (Clement Guthro) as the project's co-principal investigators. The University of Maine have agreed to continue to support the work of the Maine Shared Collections Cooperative (MSCC) by creating a new library position that includes managing MSCC amongst its responsibilities. The University of Maine will also continue to administer the e-book-on-demand and print-on-demand services in the statewide catalog MaineCat.

James Jackson Sanborn (Executive Director of Maine InfoNet) had the role of MSCS Technology Director, which involved providing technical oversight of the project. Maine InfoNet will provide ongoing technical support for the e-book-on-demand and print-on-demand services in MaineCat. Maine InfoNet also acts as the fiscal agent for MSCC collection analysis transactions.

## **Overview**

The MSCS partners faced the challenge of housing legacy print collections while at the same time lacking the funding and space to build new stacks. The libraries also felt pressure to responsibly steward sizable historic print collections. The partners saw the growth of large-scale digital collections such as the HathiTrust as an opportunity to rethink the management and delivery of their collections. In this context the partners wanted to develop collaborative approaches to collection management because of our long history of resource sharing within Maine. MSCS planned to define a strategy for jointly managing and preserving legacy print collections, but actually went beyond this goal by agreeing to commit to retain a total of 1.4 million titles for a 15-year period. MSCS has become an important element in the national shared print infrastructure and can serve as a model for other groups.

## **Changes**

- **Personnel:**
  - Valerie Glenn left the role of MSCS Program Manager in June 2012 and was replaced in September 2012 by Matthew Revitt.
- **Budget:**
  - Reallocated the \$104,680 Espresso Book Machine funds to the purchase of collection analysis tools, which facilitated the analysis of collection data. Charles Thomas approved this budget reallocation request on 02/11/2013.
  - One of the MSCS Advisory Board members couldn't accept stipends. Therefore, a total of \$1,500 was reallocated from stipends to out of state travel in Year 2. Charles Thomas approved this budget reallocation request on 02/11/2013.
  - Reallocated \$2,091 programmer funds to cover the anticipated travel and presenting costs of Jeremy York from the HathiTrust presenting at the Maine InfoNet Collection Summit on the subject of the HathiTrust and leading a Q&A session for MSCS library representatives on HathiTrust records. Charles Thomas approved this budget reallocation request on 02/27/2013.
  - MSCS requested permission to use \$10,214 of grant funds to pay for the anticipated costs of foreign travel to Singapore where MSCS Program Manager Matthew Revitt and PI Clement Guthro presented a paper on the work of MSCS at the 2013 IFLA Conference. Charles Thomas approved this travel request and reallocation of funds on 3/12/2013. The funds came from the budget item allocated for travel, which included \$4,000 that was allocated but unspent for WebWise in Year 1, and funds in Years 2 and 3 for travel to professional conferences.
- **Schedule:**
  - The original award dates changed from 12/01/2010 - 11/30/2013 to 12/01/2010 - 05/30/2014. This request was due to delays in hiring a program manager. The six month no-cost extension was approved by Charles Thomas on 3/29/2011.

- o The end date for MSCS was changed from 05/30/2014 to 05/31/2015 to allow for additional project dissemination. The 12 month no-cost extension was approved by Tim Carrigan on 12/05/2013.
- o The end date for MSCS was changed from 05/31/2015 to 03/31/2015 because grants awarded in FY 2010 need to conclude no later than 03/31/2015.

## Activities

### Collection and use analysis of print collection

MSCS set out to conduct a comprehensive collection and use analysis of the partners' print collections (monographs and serials). We met this goal by looking at factors such as usage, duplication, rarity, publication dates, digital availability, and subject. This data was then used to develop retention policies.

### Print/digital management model

We successfully integrated a large-scale scale digital collection into our union collection database, MaineCat. Specifically the MSCS systems librarian loaded approximately 1.4 million MARC records for the HathiTrust public domain titles and Google Books links (where available) into MaineCat.

With Sustainable Collection Services' (SCS) support, we also compared MSCS partner print holdings (including item-level data) against the digital holdings of the HathiTrust and Internet Archives and discovered a surprisingly low 6% overlap for public domain titles and a 37% overlap for in-copyright titles. We came to the conclusion that, unlike serials and journals, digital copies of monographs are not currently an adequate replacement for print. Libraries were not comfortable with relying on HathiTrust's digital copies of titles that met our retention criteria.

### Service delivery model

As set out in our proposal, we developed a service delivery model within MaineCat for print-on-demand and e-book-on-demand titles to complement the physical delivery service. Upon request, public domain titles are printed locally and delivered to patrons.

### Collection management, stewardship, and preservation model

MSCS set out to *develop a workable strategy* for the stewardship of the major print collections in Maine, but we actually exceeded this goal by *implementing a model* for managing legacy print collections statewide, across multi-type, public and private institutions.

### Website

MSCS met its goal in Year 1 of developing a website with content which is freely available to the library community. The MSCS website includes: meeting summaries, procedures and policies, reports, our Memorandum of Understanding, presentations, project updates, and supporting material.

### **Operational planning**

MSCS went beyond developing a set of operational plans to be implemented at the end of the grant and actually implemented a shared stewardship/preservation model within the grant period.

### **Business model**

MSCS have developed an ongoing financial model for the post-grant period of the Maine Shared Collections Cooperative (MSCC) whereby new member libraries pay a fee for collection analysis services.

The grant timeline indicated that governance would be discussed during Year 3. However, the Project Team (at the recommendation of our Advisory Board) decided to move it into Year 2 as they began investigating business and financial models for print-on-demand and distributed storage. As intended in the proposal, the governance structure and business model of MSCC has been developed and documented in our Memorandum of Understanding, which all members are expected to sign upon joining.<sup>1</sup>

## **Project Results**

### **Data cleaning**

Prior to the collection and use analysis, the partners completed an OCLC reclamation project, which was not part of the original project plan. It quickly became clear that in order to accurately compare holding and circulation data among the partners and to WorldCat that a reclamation was necessary. A total of 3,855,827 records were sent by MSCS to OCLC's BatchLoad service for reconciliation.

The first 12 months of the project were spent working on the reclamation; unfortunately OCLC was not always as responsive and timely in processing records as we would have hoped. However, when OCLC eventually addressed our issues they were very helpful. The MSCS systems librarian oversaw the reclamation process and coordinated it with the technical services staff from the respective libraries and library system vendors. This coordination was vital because it ensured the process was carried out in a consistent manner across all partner libraries. Although OCLC didn't charge a fee for the reclamation, significant local staff time was spent working on the project, particularly evaluating records returned as 'unresolved', i.e. unmatched, by OCLC.

The reclamation resulted in 260,757 MARC 001 fields being updated in local catalogs, holdings synthesized, and holdings removed for materials that were no longer locally held. This work was important not only for the matching required in collection analysis, but also for facilitating the batch loading of retention commitment statements into catalogs, which relied on the OCLC control number.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.maineinfonet.net/mscs/wp-content/uploads/Maine-Shared-Collections-Cooperative-MOU.pdf>

The consensus of project participants is that the cleaning of catalog records was long overdue and, as such, the benefits of the reclamation went beyond the goals of MSCS as the process surfaced some long-term cataloging anomalies. For Colby, Bates, and Bowdoin colleges it was very useful to go through the cleaning process prior to the implementation of their merged catalog.

### **Collection analysis**

During the collection analysis, MSCS looked at factors such usage, duplication, rarity, publication dates, digital availability, and subject to develop retention policy. The longer than anticipated reclamation meant that it was only in Year 2 that we could begin analyzing cleaned collection data. The level of collection analysis that MSCS was undertaking required the support of a tool that could ingest local bibliographic, item, and usage data from multiple systems and return synthesized results.

We originally intended to build an in-house collection analysis database. However, after researching existing collection analysis products, taking stock of the current environment, and contemplating the uncertainty of future development resources, the Project Team decided against this. Instead, in Year 1, a group subscription to OCLC's WorldCat Collection Analysis (WCA) was chosen as an initial solution. The Project Team began discussions with OCLC regarding the development of a new analytics collection analysis product. However, after delays in development continued we decided in Year 2 to not renew our WCA subscription and investigated other collection analysis tools and services.

Our investigations resulted in contracting with Sustainable Collection Services (SCS) who, at the time of writing, are the only vendor that provides a combination of data reporting for group analysis and in-depth consulting support to facilitate the difficult decision-making process required in groups making retention decisions. The support of SCS was vital; SCS through their work with similar projects had developed services and a pricing structure which met our needs.

We decided to analyze and take action on titles published or added to a library's collection pre-2003 since this would better reflect long-term use patterns. This resulted in a count of approximately 3 million monograph titles for analysis. In practice, we found that acquisition dates were complicated because different partner libraries may have purchased the same title in different years. We also decided to exclude from the scope of analysis government documents, as the University of Maine already has a commitment to retain these as part of the Federal Depository Library Program.

SCS assisted us with monographs only, so we worked with our systems librarian to compile serial and journal data for analysis. We made the decision to not duplicate existing digitization or preservation efforts, so titles in PORTICO, JSTOR, ProQuest, and American Antiquarian Society Historical Periodicals 1-5 were taken out of consideration for retention. Finally, the



systems librarian compared the remaining titles with OCLC WorldCat holdings to identify titles where there were fewer than 50 holding libraries in OCLC WorldCat.

### **Retention policy development**

MSCS libraries agreed to commit to retain holdings/items if any of the following criteria were met:

- Any circulation, internal, or reserve use
- “Local interest” category (content of local and regional value)
- Special Collections/Archives items
- Specific edition is held in fewer than 10 libraries in the U.S. (according to OCLC)

MSCS agreed to retain committed to titles for a 15-year period. In Year 3, we collectively committed to retain a total of 1,422,342 monograph, serial, and journal titles. For monograph titles alone, MSCS libraries have collectively committed to 48% of their analyzed collections.

<b>Partner Library</b>	<b>Title Commitments</b>
Bangor Public Library	159,253
Bates College	183,639
Bowdoin College	218,505
Colby College	265,246
Maine State Library	62,025
Portland Public Library	95,520
University of Maine	311,230
University of Southern Maine	126,624
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,422,342</b>

Using risk management principles, MSCS Libraries made retention decisions at scale including deciding how many copies should be retained across the group. We agreed on a retention policy for titles we would collectively commit to retain and those that libraries would be free to withdraw.

Although the libraries have made significant storage commitments, they will also, over time, be able to make cost savings by weeding and freeing up storage space of items that other MSCS libraries have committed to retain. Some of the partner libraries have already begun withdrawing items they are not required to retain and have reported that their weeding workflow has been made more efficient by MSCS, because there are fewer criteria to check before withdrawing. Non-partner libraries can also make collection management decisions based on our retention commitments. SCS have reported to us that one of their clients has asked to compare their holdings against our retention commitments.



MSCS found that when making retention decisions at scale there are going to be titles which, if one conducted title-by-title reviews, would probably not be committed to retain or flagged as a withdrawal candidate. After the initial stage of analysis, the partner libraries were given the opportunity to perform a general review and spot checks to find broad categories that should have not received a commitment, since it's not practical to do item-by-item reversals. This review not only identified some errors and anomalies in the retention list, but also resulted in a list of publishers whose material we agreed did not warrant a commitment to retain. The types of material removed were: outdated and superseded textbooks, manuals, test preparation guides, and some paperback versions of popular fiction. This work went a long way to address concerns some of the participants had about titles their libraries were expected to retain. While feedback from project participants indicates that most believe that MSCS committed to a correct amount of titles, some participants feel that the 1-use rule was too conservative (particularly for public libraries), meaning that libraries not only have to retain a number of titles they otherwise would have weeded, but also replace them if damaged or lost, which has serious practical implications for the libraries.

To address ongoing issues with commitments, we have produced a Policy on Retention Commitment Changes that includes situations when it is appropriate on a limited title-by-title basis (i.e., not in large batches) for a retention commitment to be transferred or reversed.<sup>2</sup> We also have supporting procedures for library staff to follow when making changes to retention commitments.<sup>3</sup> But in some cases there will be limited withdrawals. The existing mutual trust among the MSCS partner libraries in the professional discretion of staff will prove critical, because the retention policy and procedure documents don't call for review by other partners or the group.

### **Preservation**

The Maine State Library and University of Maine used MSCS data on rare titles with circulating copies to identify items that needed to be moved to closed stacks. The Maine State Library and Bangor Public identified items which not only match their digital priorities, but also are rare in OCLC WorldCat, and aren't available in HathiTrust. With this data, individual items have been selected to be digitized and added to digital repositories. In the case of the Maine State Library, digitized items will soon be accessible via the Digital Public Library of America. Data from Bangor Public Library showed that some neglected print items are popular in digital form.

### **Storage**

MSCS have successfully implemented a distributed storage model whereby the items will be retained and continue to be owned *in situ* by the library. We came to this decision mainly because there was not the political will or financing for a centralized facility. In addition, MSCS libraries want to continue to lend materials as before, and the logistics of a centralized facility

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<sup>2</sup> <http://www.maineinfonet.org/mscs/policy-on-retention-commitment-changes/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.maineinfonet.org/mscs/procedure-for-the-external-transfer-of-retention-commitments/>



would have held up processing requests. Retained materials will continue to be subject to the circulation and Interlibrary Loan policies of the retaining library.

### Documenting retention decisions

We followed the recommendations of the OCLC Print Archives Disclosure Pilot Final Report (2012) and used separate OCLC institution symbols to identify items selected for retention.<sup>4</sup> Recommendations include holdings-level data in MARC Holdings records (OCLC Local Holdings Records, LHRs) and using the MARC 583 Action Note to describe specific action(s) for each set of holdings. In Year 3, MSCS became the first shared print program to go through the process of adding commitments for monograph titles in OCLC WorldCat and since then we have received a number of enquiries from other programs that want to follow our lead.

One obstacle we faced when it came to the display of retention commitments in OCLC was the ILL fees that OCLC charge for using the symbol in both ILLiad and WorldCat Resource Sharing, which the MSCS library directors were opposed to paying. MSCS decided that, until a more practical model is developed, we will use two symbols for each holding in OCLC: both the main symbol, which will remain requestable, and the Shared Print Symbol, which will be a non-supplier. Another issue we have faced is that if the holding library is not a subscriber to OCLC FirstSearch and OCLC WorldCat is being accessed from an IP address which is not associated with a FirstSearch subscription, the Shared Print holding will not show in WorldCat.

Example of Shared Print Symbol display in OCLC WorldCat:

Library	
1.	 <b>University of Maine at Orono</b> <b>Raymond H. Fogler Library</b> Orono, ME 04469 United States
2.	 <b>University of Maine Shared Collections</b> Orono, ME 04469 United States

<sup>4</sup> <https://oclc.org/content/dam/oclc/productworks/OCLCPrintArchivesDisclosurePilotFinalReport.pdf>

Example of retention statement in an OCLC Local Holding Record:

Local Holdings Record: Allen hex-socket screw handbook /

OCCLC 13506959 Dates 1979

Summary Local holdings available.

Leader nu aun

007 tu

008 1310290u 8 0001uueng0131029

561 1 MEU

583 1 committed to retain \$c 20130701 \$d June 30, 2028 \$f Maine SC \$u [\\$5 MeU](http://www.maineinfonet.net/mscs/about/retention-copies)

852 MEUSP \$b MEUA

Most libraries in Maine are not OCLC members, so it made sense to display retention commitments in both local catalogs and the union catalog MaineCat, where they will be visible to other Maine libraries.

Example of a local catalog retention statement:

i10532535 Last Updated: 10-07-2013 Created: 07-06-1988 Revisions: 27

ICODE2	- NOT CODED	IN LOC	0	STATUS	o LIBR USE ON
I TYPE	1 book	# RENEWALS	0	INTL USE	0
PRICE	\$0.00	# OVERDUE	0	COPY USE	0
OUT DATE	- - :	ODUE DATE	- -	IMESSAGE	- NOT CODED
OUT LOC	0	RECAL DATE	- -	OPACMSG	m MSCC
DUE DATE	- -	TOT CHKOUT	0	YTDCIRC	0
PATRON#	0	TOT RENEW	0	LYRCIRC	0
LPATRON	0	LOUTDATE	- - :		

c 090 |qRef.laTJ1338|b.A43 1979

y 561 1 MEU

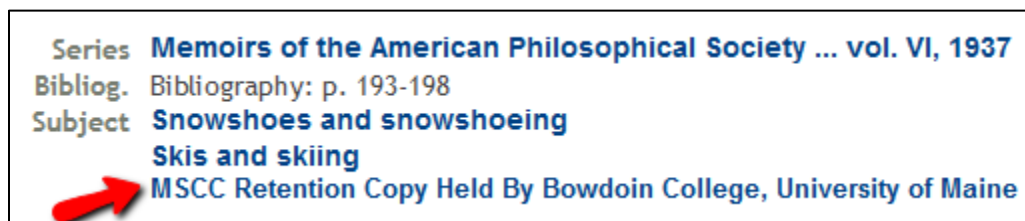
y 583 1 committed to retain|c20130701|dJune 30, 2028|fMaine SC|u <http://www.maineinfonet.net/mscs/about/retention-copies>|5MeU

y 852 MEUSP|bMEUA

b 37550000314683

MSCS have encountered issues with the display and transfer of MARC 583 information to MaineCat. We were trying to use the 583 for display, but due to vendor (Innovative) limitations it wasn't an acceptable display. We eventually used the OPACMSG field (coded 'm' MSCC in the example above) for display purposes to have the results during the grant period. After we brought the display issue to Innovative's attention they have taken steps to improve their support of shared print in their 2014 release of Inn-Reach.

Example of a union catalog display of the retention statement:



Commitments for journals and serials are recorded in the Print Archive Preservation Registry (PAPR).<sup>5</sup> In the process of uploading the commitments to PAPR, Center for Research Libraries (CRL) staff assisted MSCS with resolving issues with data in the MSCS retention statements.

Documentation of retention decisions in local and shared holdings records serves two purposes. First, it allows MSCS members to easily identify items they have committed to retain, or, to put it another way, items that they should not de-accession. It also allows other libraries - most likely those in Maine or the Northeast region of the U.S. - to selectively weed their collections, safe in the knowledge that the materials are being maintained for users.

#### **Print-On-Demand and Ebook-On-Demand services**

MSCS had planned on purchasing an Espresso Book Machine to be housed at Colby College and used to deliver print-on-demand (POD) services. However, based on a higher than expected price quote, as well as feedback from two academic libraries with installations, the Project Team decided in Year 1 not to purchase the machine. We explored other print delivery options and eventually decided that we would use the University of Maine's Printing & Mailing Services.

The content for our on-demand services came from the HathiTrust, which has quality control standards for material added to their collection.<sup>6</sup> The Center for Research Libraries have completed an assessment of the HathiTrust as a digital repository and certified them as a reliable digital preservation solution. Also, the low overlap between the HathiTrust and the holdings of the partner libraries meant that we would be providing access to many titles previously unavailable in Maine library catalogs.<sup>7</sup>

We had hoped that MSCS would be able to join HathiTrust as a consortium, so all the partners would receive the benefits. Unfortunately, HathiTrust's legal counsel had issues with the fact that our consortium was not a legal entity with one counsel and one insurance. The cost of individual membership and issues with HathiTrust's authentication requirements meant only the University of Maine and Colby College became partners.

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.crl.edu/archiving-preservation/print-preservation/papr-database>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.hathitrust.org/>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.maineinfonet.net/mscs/wp-content/uploads/MSCS-Collections-Summary.pdf>

The delays caused by the investigations into the delivery of POD and HathiTrust partnership meant the testing of on-demand services didn't begin until Year 3, not Year 2 as originally planned. MSCS tested the POD service from January to April 2014 to evaluate demand and develop an ongoing business model. During the testing period there was no fee for the service, as costs were covered by allocated grant funds. Communications with HathiTrust indicated that neither they nor Google Books would approve of a formal distribution strategy between libraries for Google-digitized materials, such as POD to supply interlibrary loan requests. Therefore, books were shipped directly to requesters and the copies were theirs to keep. We also restricted the service to Maine residents only.

The POD service went live again in December 2014 with fees introduced for requesters to cover the costs of printing and mailing. The books are printed by the University of Maine's Printing & Mailing Services and the billing process is managed by the University of Maine Bookstore. The testing period showed that for a small percentage of library users, particularly those who prefer print to digital, the service would be greatly appreciated, but with higher prices and a multi-step request process the MaineCat POD service is likely to struggle to compete with commercial vendors. As of March 2015 only one POD request had been processed.

### **Project staffing**

One of the key lessons learned for MSCS was the importance of having a full-time program manager who didn't have competing interests and distractions. The role combined investigating information from various sources and leading decision-making processes as well as administrative tasks. The departure of the original MSCS program manager in June 2012 delayed project activities before the appointment of a new program manager in September 2012.

We found it essential to have a systems librarian who fully managed all aspects of wrangling library system data in and out of multiple library systems. Her leadership ensured the work was carried out consistently across the group and staff at each library did not have to learn specialized procedures.

### **Impact on library community**

MSCS had a major impact on the shared print library community. Our website, where we made accessible our extensive project documentation and announced project news, as of March 2015 the website has received approximately 10,000 sessions. We received excellent feedback on our documentation from colleagues and a number of inquiries about the project, with most originating from visits to our website.

The policies, procedures, and guidance on our website are intended to be used by staff at partner libraries going forward and for other libraries to learn from our experiences. In an effort to combine some of our experiences and guidance into one document, MSCS produced a user's manual for shared print containing what we consider the requisite ingredients for a successful

shared print initiative.<sup>8</sup> We also found that social media was a good way to announce project news and get the attention of vendors when you mention their services; as of March 2015 MSCS has 177 followers on Twitter.

Project representatives presented on the work of MSCS at numerous professional conferences, including the 2013 IFLA Conference in Singapore. Our presentations have received approximately 12,000 views on the website SlideShare. Numerous articles have been written about MSCS, both by project participants and publications like the *Library Journal*.<sup>9</sup> MSCS organized a day-long pre-conference session that was held on June 27, 2014 at the ALA Annual Conference. The session facilitated a discussion around how libraries might build upon the experience of current shared print initiatives like MSCS and explored in what ways the shared print landscape will develop in years to come.

### **Scalability of MSCS**

Making retention decisions at scale can be replicated by other projects, but it remains to be seen whether a monographic shared print program is scalable to other large groups of libraries.

The most significant contributing factor in MSCS's success was the existing trust between the partner institutions, based on a decades-long history of working together. Participants agree that the trust has only been strengthened through the work of MSCS, which can now act as a building block for future collaborative work. Another possibly critical factor was that the work involved a small number of institutions (nine) and relatively close proximity (within one state), which made organizing in-person meetings straightforward, a luxury not all groups will have. MSCS also benefited from the fact that all the partners use the same ILS, which made the data extracts, comparisons, and batch-loading of retention statements easier. Finally, the grant partners, as well as most future members of MSCC, are linked organizationally as members of Maine InfoNet, which provides a shared statewide library catalog (MaineCat) and services for electronic resources that deliver collections in physical and electronic formats.

## **Future work**

### **Business model**

The MSCS partners have made significant commitments to large parts of their collections, but to fully reach our goal of preserving the critical print collection in Maine, we need to attract new members. The deadline extension helped us to begin actively recruiting new member libraries to join the Maine Shared Collections Cooperative (MSCC). The University of Maine have agreed to support these efforts by funding the role of Maine Shared Collection Librarian who will coordinate the Cooperative's activities. The work of MSCC is governed by its board of directors, which represent constituencies that are participants in the Cooperative. Answering to

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<sup>8</sup> [http://www.maineinfonet.org/mscs/wp-content/uploads/Teaching-document-Version-1\\_0.pdf](http://www.maineinfonet.org/mscs/wp-content/uploads/Teaching-document-Version-1_0.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> <http://lj.libraryjournal.com/2013/03/managing-libraries/major-maine-libraries-public-and-academic-collaborate-on-print-archiving-project/#>

the Board is the Collections and Operations Committee, who oversee issues related to the selection of materials for retention, as well as issues related to holdings disclosure, access, and delivery.

MSCC have no plans to introduce membership fees. Subsidies for archive holders were debated, but we agreed that it would be difficult to persuade libraries to pay fees when the partners had already agreed to retain the material.

### **Collection building and prospective collection development**

An area where there are opportunities for future work is collection building, whereby MSCC libraries agree to ingest, store and retain material transferred to them by other members. So far, two MSCC libraries have agreed to take on the role of Collection Builders: the Maine State Library for Maine-related material and Portland Public Library for fiction and poetry. We have reports from SCS that can be used to identify subject strengths across the partner libraries. We had planned on using this data to allocate retention responsibility, but it proved not feasible to add this to an already challenging set of allocation rules. The MSCC Collections & Operations Committee will look again at how subject data might be used to allocate retention responsibility and possibly even to plan for prospective collection development.

MSCC will investigate developing a business model for digitize-on-demand services which would complement the on-demand services already offered in MaineCat.

### **Future grant partner collection analysis**

Having gone through an extensive analysis of their collections during MSCS the partner libraries have decided that their next collection analysis (to be no sooner than 2019) should include items added post-2003. Already in the MSCC collection analysis work we are seeing some issues that will have to be taken into consideration when looking at post-2003 titles, for example, more self-published titles. In the meantime, libraries are free to make additional commitments and use the procedures described above to make changes to commitments. The MSCC MOU and retention commitments will be reviewed at least every five years. This will be a chance for libraries to look again at the decisions made and debate the effects the retention commitments have had (including usage rates), and determine whether any policy changes need to be made.

### **Collection analysis service and recruiting new members**

MSCS surveyed Maine library directors on their levels of interest in participating in shared print related activities. Based on the survey results, collection analysis services is the most popular service MSCS could offer. To better understand what the collection analysis work would entail and to develop a business case for why libraries should join MSCC, we carried out pilot projects with Edythe L. Dyer Community Library and the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Through this work, we found that the major selling point of MSCC was our ability to provide collection data reports they couldn't easily compile themselves. Based on our experience of what data was useful for making retention decisions, the MSCS systems librarian produced reports which showed overlap with MSCC retention commitments for print monographs and holdings in local



and union catalogs. Although the support of SCS was vital for the group collection analysis conducted for MSCS, with the support of the MSCS systems librarian it's now possible for us to perform the in-house data manipulation required for analysis, albeit on a much smaller scale. Both Edythe L. Dyer Community Library and the University of Maine at Presque Isle were able to use the MSCS reports to make data-informed retention decisions that took into account the wider library environment.

MSCS also carried out a successful pilot project with Northeast Harbor Library who use a Koha ILS which is a first for MSCC. We can now market our collection analysis services to a variety of ILSs, rather than just those libraries using Innovative's products.

As of March 2015, 16 libraries have gone through the collection analysis process ranging from small public libraries to University of Maine system libraries. The holding comparisons have showed high overlap (on average 40%) between the library's print monograph collections and what titles have been committed to retain by grant partners. Maine libraries have reported that they value the insurance of knowing they can safely withdraw items that have MSCC retention commitments at other libraries and have guaranteed access to the items via existing resource sharing agreements. For retention at these libraries, generally, the titles identified as retention candidates are those where there are fewer than ten holdings in OCLC, don't have an existing MSCC retention commitment, or are Maine related. On average the amount of titles identified as potential retention candidates account for less than 1% of the library's print monograph collection.

Of the 16 libraries MSCC have worked with on analyzing their collections, ten have so far formally joined MSCC and have collectively agreed to retain approximately 300 titles.

### **Involvement in regional and national shared print initiatives**

Looking beyond our state project, the work of MSCS has influenced the work of other shared print projects. We have received inquiries from a number of library groups about our experiences and our work has been referenced in the work of shared print initiatives such as the Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST) and the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC).<sup>10</sup>

MSCS representatives have been involved in the planning stages of the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST), the collaborative for sharing print management for infrequently used monographs and journals. The MSCS retention commitments will be used as a factor in EAST's collection analysis.

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<sup>10</sup> <http://www.cdlib.org/cdinfo/2013/11/19/updates-from-beyond-west-shared-print-at-the-2013-charleston-conference/>  
<http://www.oclc.org/publications/nextspace/articles/issue23/rightscalingstewardshipofthecollectiveprintresource.en.html>

MSCS Program Manager Matthew Revitt and Co-Project Principal Investigator Clement Guthro, Director of Colby College Libraries, are members of the HathiTrust Print Monograph Archive Planning Task Force, which is developing a national approach to shared print monographs.

It still remains to be seen how EAST and HathiTrust will work alongside existing shared print initiatives such as ours.

## **Conclusion**

MSCS were able to go beyond the project goal of developing a model for jointly managing and preserving print collections to actually agreeing to commit to retain a total of 1.4 million title-holdings for a 15-year period. These commitments have been disclosed to the world to enable other libraries to use our retention decisions as a factor in their own collection management decision-making. The grant partners now have the option to weed titles being committed to retain by other libraries and thus can free up valuable space. Also, as a result of MSCS, Maine library patrons have digital access to 1.4 million public domain titles from the HathiTrust and can request print-on-demand copies of these titles.

The work of the Maine Shared Collections Strategy, and the impact it has made on the wider library community, would not have been possible without the generous support of IMLS.