June 2017

OhioLINK Print Archiving Report

The Ohio Library and Information Network (OhioLINK) is a consortium of 119 academic institutions and the State Library of Ohio. OhioLINK oversees five regional depositories that support the print and media archiving of the collections of our 13 state-supported universities. Three of these five depositories are shared facilities among multiple universities.

The directors of the 13 state-supported universities make up the Regional Depositories Governing Council. This council serves as an oversight body of the five depositories, sets policies, and approves guidelines for preserving print and media collections. The depositories are involved in an ongoing de-duplication effort among the serial collections in the depositories. This includes participating in OCLC's Shared Print Management Program.

De-Duplication Efforts in OhioLINK

OhioLINK has been working on a serials deduplication project in the five depositories over the past 7 years. Initially, a couple of smaller projects helped define procedures and policies before beginning a project deduping Elsevier titles. Elsevier was chosen because of an electronic back file in OhioLINK's Electronic Journal Center with many of the print back files stored in depositories. Alphabetical deduping by title began, however, it was quickly discovered that many of the Elsevier titles had few volumes in the depositories resulting in minimal space savings. OhioLINK then took a step back to research which titles, regardless of publisher, had larger numbers of duplicate volumes in the depositories. 15 titles were identified while fully verifying at the issue level. These titles contain thousands of volumes in four or more depositories. OhioLINK discovered that deduping just one title results in significant space savings. The current policy is to maintain one complete print run of each title in one or more depositories. Since completing the initial 15 titles, it has been determined that the time taken to verify at the issue level was significant (about 2.5 minutes per volume). Even in the few cases where issues or pages are missing, copies are available nationally where these issues and pages could be retrieved. Starting with the second list of 19 large volume serial titles, a new verification policy was created stating

each title will be verified only at the volume level for all titles where there are at least two print copies available through OCLC. Despite the new policy, the time saved thus far have been minimal due to factors such as the requirement to double check holdings in multiple places prior to verification and new staff trainings. Regardless, the verification routine itself is much faster. As these factors are eliminated, overall time saved for de-duplication are expected to improve.

LSTA Grant Awarded to Identify Unique Titles in Southeast Depository

Ohio University in conjunction with OhioLINK applied for a LSTA grant to help identify unique monographs and serials in the Southeast Depository (one of the five OhioLINK depositories). Uniqueness in this context means unique to Ohio, e.g. the Southeast Depository holds the only copy or copies in the State of Ohio. The project's goal is to relocate the unique material to a new location and withdraw all of the duplicated material, freeing up the depository to be reused for other purposes.

So far, Ohio University, the sole contributor to the Southeast Depository, has identified 38,000 to 40,000 unique monograph titles in the SE depository. This was higher than expected mostly due to Ohio University's concentration on Southeast Asia. Ohio University has been negotiating with Assure Vault in Columbus to store these titles, hopefully by early fall.

Data from the Southeast depository has been delivered to SCS to identify unique serial titles. This is complicated by SCS' software update to handle this data. Results are six months away and will only identify at the title level, not volume holdings. It will take an approximated 3-5 years to darken the facilities and relocate staff back to campus.

Questions?

If you have questions regarding this report, please contact Anita Cook, anita@ohiolink.edu.