



THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Collaborative Storage Arrangements

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The Context

Despite rapid transition to digital environment, most academic libraries face pressing space problems in accommodating print collections

Commonly adopted solutions

- expand or redevelop existing buildings to provide additional space
- build or rent on- or off-campus storage facilities

Increasing reluctance to fund solutions requiring physical library development when future seen to be digital

- when funded, such development often designed to create flexible learning spaces for users, not additional space for print collections

New Approach

Need for strategies that limit or possibly cap demand for additional space without reducing standards of service to users

One such strategy, to encourage institutions to collaborate in implementing a last (or single) copy retention policy for infrequently used materials

- requires individual libraries to accept responsibility for retaining and making available specific titles, thereby allowing other libraries in collaboration to dispose of their holdings

Various Models

Collaboration

- national
- regional
- sectoral
- cross-sectoral

Storage infrastructure

- national or regional

e.g.

CARM Centre

University of California, Ohio State University (state-funded)

Five Colleges of Massachusetts, ReCAP (consortial)

Library Service Centre at Duke University (proprietary)

Models of Interest

UK Research Reserve

Orbis Cascade Alliance Distributed Print Archive

- both geographically distributed storage repositories, to greater or lesser extent
but
- different in scale and aspiration

UK Research Reserve

Goals

- To safeguard long-term future of print research journals by establishing system to manage coordinated retention of an appropriate number of low-use print journals and ensure ‘last copies’ are not inadvertently discarded
- To enable quick and easy access to research journals for all researchers by building on existing strengths of British Library’s document supply service
- To ensure efficient use of resources, allowing higher education library sector to make significant space gains through coordination of storage and retention of print journals

Project based on CHEMS Consulting study, *Optimising Storage and Access in UK Research Libraries* (September 2005)

Phase 1, UKRR Pilot, January 2007 – August 2008

- funded by UK HEFCs (£709k)
- project partners

Imperial College London (lead)

University of Birmingham

British Library

Cardiff University

University of Liverpool

University of St Andrews

University of Southampton

July 2008

UKRR established with grant of £9.84m from HEFCs

- Imperial College London and British Library (lead institutions)
- British Library to store and maintain low-use journals and provide delivery service in print or electronic format
- Participation through subscription
- Participants to contribute to storage costs as well as meeting document delivery costs
- 1 copy at British Library and at least 2 more retained in collections of participating libraries

Orbis Cascade Alliance

37 institutions (universities and liberal arts colleges) in Oregon and Washington

Distributed print repository pilot project (2005)

- American Chemical Society (ACS) journals
- JSTOR

Arts and Sciences I

Arts and Sciences II

Original intention to build 2 complete runs of each title for retention in separate bright and dark archives

Essential requirement

a tight community of interest engendering commitment and trust within institutional partners and local academic communities whose interests the collaborative enterprise serves

Also, model must

- exploit or leverage existing infrastructure
- be lightweight not heavyweight, agile rather than worthy
- not add to existing operational overheads

Accordingly, design argued for distributed print repository in purest form

- takes as storage capability the existing stores or collections of Go8 partners
- builds repository on network of commitments by partners not only to retain identified resources ('last copies') but also to provide access through set of agreed services
- allows discovery through local catalogues, not central database of partnership holdings

Partners

Australian National University
Monash University
University of Adelaide
University of Melbourne
University of New South Wales
University of Queensland
University of Sydney

Initial Pilot

Oxford Journal Archive (OJA)

- methodology tested and accepted
 - holdings data collected
 - load balancing achieved (in alignment with ratio of local holdings of print volumes to total volumes in OJA)
 - space gain distributed across classification
 - 'last copy' retention responsibilities allocated
- contractual arrangements approved (heads of agreement plus letter of agreement for each publisher archive)

The way forward

1) Serial titles duplicated online

Springer (started)

Elsevier

Wiley

Blackwell

Sage

etc.

2) Infrequently used serials not duplicated online

3) Infrequently used monographs

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Thank you

Vic Elliott
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