ASERL/WRLC Collections in a Mega-regional framework

Print Management at ‘Mega’-scale

Brian Lavoie
Constance Malpas

OCLC Research
Roadmap

• The future of print management
• Mega-regions and cooperative print management
• Spotlight on Char-lanta, ASERL & WRLC
• Implications & takeaways
• Discussion
ASERL/WRLC Collections in a Mega-regional framework

Print Management: Future Strategies
Background: The future of print collection management

• **Opportunity cost:**
  • Declining use of print collections (OCLC/Ohio Link study); ever-expanding array of digital alternatives
  • Resources supporting print needed for new service priorities

• **Reduce cost of print collections while leveraging more value from legacy print investment. Contours of a solution?**
  • Print resource as a shared asset managed cooperatively
  • Regions are attractive scale for this cooperation

• **OCLC Research: “Cloud-Sourcing Research Collections”**
  • ARL libraries: growing overlap with Hathi Trust, most of which widely held
  • Significant opportunity for collaboration in print management
WHY CONSOLIDATE?

HOW TO CONSOLIDATE?

Use

Back-up

Physical

Virtual

HUB MODEL
Example: CIC Print Archive

FLOW MODEL
Example: BorrowDirect

STOCK MODEL
Example: JSTOR backfiles

SPREAD MODEL
Example: Hathi Print

Cloud-sourcing Report

Mega-regions Report

OCLC Research, 2013
Print Management at “Mega-scale”
Mega-regions

Geographic area defined by high level of economic integration, underpinned by robust supporting infrastructure (transportation, logistics, etc.)

“Lights from space” definition (Richard Florida et al.)

In some respects, a “natural” unit of analysis?
Print Management at “Mega-Scale”

• OCLC Research report: characteristics and implications of a North American network of regional shared print book collections

• Many current discussions around cooperative shared print organized at regional scale

• Regional framework operationalized using mega-region concept

• Not prescriptive: one model among many

[Refer to the OCLC Research website for the full report: www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2012/2012-05.pdf]
Regional Print Book Collections*

North American print book resource:
45.7 million distinct publications
889.5 million total library holdings

* Circles are scaled to reflect the number of print book publications in each regional collection. Lavoie, Maipas & Shipengrover for OCLC Research. 2012.
### Regional coverage of the North American print book resource

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOS-WASH</td>
<td>57 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHI-PITTS</td>
<td>41 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOR-BUFF-CHESTER</td>
<td>32 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOR-CAL</td>
<td>27 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAR-LANTA</td>
<td>22 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO-CAL</td>
<td>21 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASCADIA</td>
<td>15 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAL-AUSTIN</td>
<td>14 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOU-ORLEANS</td>
<td>11 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO-FLO</td>
<td>11 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENVER</td>
<td>9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHOENIX</td>
<td>8 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Share of regional print book holdings, by institution type

- BOS-WASH
- CHI-PITTS
- HOU-ORLEANS
- SO-CAL
- CASCADIA
- DAL-AUSTIN
- NOR-CAL
- SO-FLO
- CHAR-LANTA
- DENVER
- PHOENIX
- TOR-BUFF-CHESTER

- Academic
- Public
- Other
Rareness is common

% held by 1-5 libraries in mega-region vs. % unique to mega-region for various regions:

- Phoenix
- Denver
- Dallas-Austin
- Cascadia
- Northern California
- Toronto-Buffalo-Chester
- Houston-Orleans
- Southern California
- Charlotte-Lantana
- Chicago-Pittsburgh

OCLC Research, 2013
Size is a driver for uniqueness and global diversity

OCLC Research, 2013
### HathiTrust coverage of regional print book collections

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Publications</th>
<th>In Hathi Trust</th>
<th>Share of Regional Collection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PHOENIX</td>
<td>3,827,173</td>
<td>1,258,297</td>
<td>33 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DENVER</td>
<td>4,047,196</td>
<td>1,216,497</td>
<td>30 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CASCADIA</td>
<td>6,987,064</td>
<td>1,977,901</td>
<td>28 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAL-AUSTIN</td>
<td>6,383,756</td>
<td>1,790,966</td>
<td>28 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HOU-ORLEANS</td>
<td>5,162,621</td>
<td>1,470,582</td>
<td>28 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO-FLO</td>
<td>5,008,657</td>
<td>1,286,838</td>
<td>26 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SO-CAL</td>
<td>9,771,974</td>
<td>2,433,638</td>
<td>25 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOR-CAL</td>
<td>12,481,999</td>
<td>2,927,296</td>
<td>23 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAR-LANTA</td>
<td>10,156,810</td>
<td>2,240,706</td>
<td>22 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHI-PITTS</td>
<td>18,558,201</td>
<td>3,700,089</td>
<td>20 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOR-BUFF-CHESTER</td>
<td>14,699,921</td>
<td>2,827,021</td>
<td>19 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOS-WASH</td>
<td>26,105,425</td>
<td>3,719,184</td>
<td>14 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASERL/WRLC Collections in a Mega-regional framework

Spotlight on Char-lanta
Southeastern Innovation Corridor

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Population (Millions)</th>
<th>Economy (Billions)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Greater Tokyo</td>
<td>55.1</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Bos-Wash</td>
<td>54.3</td>
<td>$2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Chi-Pitts</td>
<td>46.0</td>
<td>$1,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Am-Bus-Twerp</td>
<td>59.3</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Osaka-Naoya</td>
<td>36.0</td>
<td>$1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Lon-Leed-Chester</td>
<td>50.1</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Rom-Mil-Tur</td>
<td>48.3</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Char-Ianta</td>
<td>22.4</td>
<td>$730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. So-Cal</td>
<td>21.4</td>
<td>$710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Frank-Gart</td>
<td>23.1</td>
<td>$630</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A mega-regional perspective on print books in Char-lanta, ASERL & WRLC

Char-lanta

5th largest collection by scope (titles)
3rd largest collection by size (holdings)
Robust cooperative infrastructure
Print Books in Char-lanta Libraries

Char-lanta

Regional print book collection
- 10,156,810 discrete titles (manifestations)
- 8,098,748 discrete works
- 1.25 manifestations per work on average
- 60,102,186 holdings in Char-lanta libraries
- 5.92 holdings per title on average
- Median age: 25 (i.e. published 1986)

= 22% of titles (7% of holdings) in North American print book collection including more than 700K titles unique to Char-lanta
‘Density’ of print book holdings in Char-lanta

Majority of titles held by <5 libraries in region

Holding libraries in Char-lanta

- > 99 in region
- 25 to 99 in region
- 10 to 24 in region
- 5 to 9 in region
- <5 in region

73%
In sum: supply-side view of regional resource

**EVIDENCE**
- Char-lanta print book collection is the third largest regional collection in North America
- Char-lanta library holdings provide coverage for about 20% of print book titles in North America

**OPINION**
Char-lanta institutions will continue to rely on access to, and preservation of book collections in other regions
Need to coordinate regional management plan with other North American partners

Long-term preservation of the regional print book resource will require partnerships within and outside of Char-lanta
Intra-regional stewardship: institutional infrastructure

Char-lanta

1,811 libraries (holding symbols) in WorldCat

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Percent of Char-lanta library population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>School libraries</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-ARL academic libraries</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public libraries</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special libraries</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARL libraries</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Institutions with stewardship mandate and preservation capacity

OCLC Research, 2013
Distribution of Char-lanta Print Books by Holding Library Type

Char-lanta

- Academic: 39,264,141 (65%)
- Public: 14,619,669 (24%)
- Other: 6,218,376 (11%)

N = 60M holdings

**Majority of holdings are managed in academic libraries**
N = 39M holdings in Char-lanta academic libraries; 60M holdings in all Char-lanta libraries
In sum: institutional stewardship

**EVIDENCE**

• 2/3rds of Char-lanta print book collection is held by academic libraries
• Most are non-ARL institutions with limited preservation capacity or mandate

**OPINION**

As mid-tier HEI seek to adapt to competitive e-learning environment, local investment in print management is likely to decline; external cooperative or commercial strategies will be increasingly attractive to academic administrators.

Unrealistic to imagine that a handful of ARL institutions can assume stewardship responsibility for regional print book resource.
43% of ASERL members are located within Char-lanta mega-region represents <1% of libraries in Char-lanta accounts for 31% of print book inventory (holdings) in the region i.e., a monographic preservation program limited to 18 ASERL libraries would secure almost a third of regional print book holdings

UNC Chapel Hill alone holds 25% of titles in the Char-lanta regional collection – but is it solely responsible for stewardship of this resource?

Cooperative infrastructure enables broader (re)distribution of stewardship
Mega-region preservation capacity for Char-lanta print books

Percent of Char-lanta print books duplicated in other North American mega-regions

- Bos-Wash: 82%
- Char-lanta: 10M titles
- So-Flo holds 40%
- Hou-Orleans holds 41% of Char-lanta collection

OCLC Research, 2013
Digital preservation status of Char-lanta print books

Char-lanta

Char-lanta Print Book Titles Duplicated in HathiTrust Digital Library
July 2012

Range for other regions: 19% ↔ 33%

N = 10M titles (manifestations)

22%

2.24M titles
Scaling up: cooperative infrastructure

~50 libraries spanning four mega-regions

ASERL-WRLC Resource Sharing

In early 2013, ASERL and the Washington Research Library Consortium (www.wrlc.org) signed a partnership to expand resource sharing among the member libraries of each consortium. As a result of this agreement, starting February 1, 2013, ASERL and WRLC libraries will provide no-fee, priority service to each others' resource sharing requests. This is an important, significant expansion of resource sharing for research libraries in the region.

9.36M print book titles; 44M library holdings

What is the carrying capacity of this network?
Scale matters: assessing print preservation risks

“rareness is common”

~75% of print books in ASERL/WRLC collective collection are held by fewer than 5 libraries in the group

N = 9.36M titles (manifestations)
Scale matters: assessing print preservation risks

~75% of print books in ASERL/WRLC collective collection are held by fewer than 5 libraries in group.

~15% of print books in ASERL/WRLC collective collection are held by fewer than 5 libraries in WorldCat.

N = 9.36M titles (manifestations)
Mega-regional stewardship: cooperative infrastructure

Char-lanta

9,358,508 print book titles in ASERL/WRLC collective collection

Represents 68% of print book titles in Char-lanta

75% of print book titles in Hou-Orleans

75% of print book titles in So-Flo

31% of print book titles in Bos-Wash

20% of print book titles in North America
In sum: **regional stewardship**

**EVIDENCE**
- A preservation compact among a small number of institutions would secure a significant part of the regional resource.
- If comprehensive coverage is desired, extra-regional agreements may be needed.

**OPINION**
Given growing stewardship expectations for ARL institutions, *investment in print preservation* should be *reassessed in view of growing digital preservation infrastructure*; regional efforts should acknowledge *inter-regional dependencies*.

*Joint ASERL / WRLC agreements could transform print preservation strategy for libraries throughout the Southeast*
In conclusion

- Char-lanta print book collection is an **important regional resource**; it complements and enriches other regional collections in North America

- **Pressures on academic libraries** will continue to destabilize current preservation eco-system

- Strategic planning on a **mega-regional scale builds on existing infrastructure and networks** of supply and demand

- ASERL / WRLC **cooperative infrastructure has potential to transform print management** in Char-lanta and other regions
Comments or Questions?

lavoie@oclc.org
malpasc@oclc.org

www.oclc.org/research/activities/megascale.html
www.oclc.org/research/activities/sharedcollections.html
Questions to consider

• How can the cooperative infrastructure of ASERL and WRLC be leveraged to support an efficient redistribution of print stewardship responsibilities?

• What synergies exist between ASERL / WRLC print archiving efforts and other regional efforts (WEST, CIC, etc.)?

• Where does ASERL / WRLC infrastructure fit within regional higher education and economic development plans? What strategic alliances are possible?