

## Advice re: OCLC Reclamation for EAST Project Participants

A fundamental activity of the EAST project is the print monograph collection analysis to be conducted by Sustainable Collections Services (SCS) (now part of OCLC). Some EAST libraries have asked if it is recommended to complete an OCLC reclamation project before the SCS collection analysis occurs. According to Rick Lugg of SCS, an OCLC reclamation project is NOT a prerequisite to a successful collection analysis and libraries may choose to pursue that project on their own schedules if desired.

The SCS collection analysis will compare the circulating monograph holdings of EAST members using holdings and circulation data extracted from each library's ILS. The collection analysis will identify overlaps within EAST, show the occurrence of these holdings elsewhere (e.g., in WorldCat and HathiTrust), and consider circulation activity to highlight candidates for retention or deselection.

**As part of its contracted work for EAST, SCS processes the records provided by each library and performs many of the actions that also occur during OCLC reclamation:**

- For library records that do not have an OCLC number, SCS identifies the appropriate OCLC number using other match points such as LCCN and a "title similarity" algorithm. SCS reports they can find the OCLC number about 97% of the time.
- If the library record contains an obsolete OCLC number, SCS finds the current OCLC number. This will occur for cases where OCLC has merged duplicate records in WorldCat as part of a major clean-up project over the past several years.
- If the library record contains or is assigned a valid OCLC number but the library's holdings are not set in WorldCat, SCS provides a list that the library may use to update WorldCat holdings at a later time.
- In all of these cases, SCS does compare the library's holdings against WorldCat holdings using the valid OCLC number; the library's records are correctly included in the EAST collection analysis.
- SCS does not change the library's records in WorldCat, but does provide reports that will allow the library to do so.

This data preparation work by SCS goes a long way toward facilitating the comparison of EAST libraries' holdings to other WorldCat libraries.

While it is not necessary to complete an OCLC reclamation project before the EAST collection analysis begins, it would be useful for EAST libraries to conduct it at some point to bring their OCLC holdings and local records up-to-date. In a reclamation project, any new holdings in the library's ILS would be added to WorldCat, and any of the library's WorldCat holdings that are not currently represented in its ILS would be deleted from WorldCat. OCLC can also provide a file of updated OCLC numbers so the library can update its local records.

Each library is entitled to one no-cost reclamation project at OCLC. To arrange, see information about ordering Batchload processing at <http://www.oclc.org/batchload/ordering.en.html>