



## **Scholars Trust Governance**

### **January 2023**

Scholars Trust is a regional collaborative partnership that brings together consortia that wish to share the effort of the long-term retention of and access to shared print journal collections held by academic libraries in support of learning and scholarship.

#### **Members**

- The Association of Southeastern Research Libraries (ASERL)
- The Florida Academic Repository (FLARE)
- The Washington Research Library Consortium (WRLC)

#### **Governance**

An Oversight Committee is responsible for guiding collective efforts among member programs and their participating libraries to develop shared print journal collections in the region.

At a minimum, the Scholars Trust Oversight Committee meets once yearly, and as needed by e-meeting.

The Committee is responsible for and charged to:

1. establish strategic directions for the program
2. secure the needed resources, and determine the equitable distribution among the participating consortia
3. establish and oversee/manage working groups to design and implement activities to achieve the strategic directions
4. set operational policies, priorities and guidelines
5. cultivate consensus and support among participating libraries
6. coordinate program strategies with the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance, and other organizations / service providers

#### **Decision-making**

The member programs will strive to reach decisions by consensus. Consensus is defined as “being at peace with the matter.” It is noted that some decisions/activities will require acceptance by all programs to proceed (“all-in”) while other activities may be feasible if undertaken by a subset of participants (“opt-in”). The Oversight Committee shall determine which decisions require all-in participation and which are feasible under an opt-in model.

In all governance matters, each member program shall have one vote when a vote is called. Program Representatives must find consensus within their consortium before casting its vote. One Program Representative shall be appointed to cast their program’s vote.

## Composition of the Oversight Committee

- **Representatives.**

- Each program has one dean/director/university librarian as a representative for every ten participating libraries in Scholars Trust. If a program has fewer than ten participating libraries, it will have one dean/director/university librarian representative.
- Each program may have up to three (3) subject expert representatives who serve as advisors to the Oversight Committee and support the activities of the working groups.

**Representative Term.** Representatives serve staggered 3-year terms, with her/his/their tenure ending on December 31 of the third year. In the event of vacancies, the successor will serve the remainder of the representative's term.

- **Program Advisors.** The Chief Staff Officer and a reasonable number of other staff from each member program may serve as advisors to the Oversight Committee, providing administrative support as desired.

- **Chairperson.** A Chairperson of the Oversight Committee is selected from among the Representatives.

The Chairperson is responsible for preparing agendas, prioritizing and vetting decision items, and delegating work items and appointing working groups as needed.

**Chairperson Term.** The Chairperson is selected on a rotating basis at the end of the calendar year, alphabetically by the name of the member program. The Chairperson serves a one-year term, beginning in January and ending December 31.

*Exception:* The incoming Chairperson may request a one-year postponement if the next program in rotation is able to substitute.

- **Chair-Elect.** A Chair-Elect of the Oversight Committee is selected from among the Representatives.

The Chair-Elect, or their designate, is responsible for preparing the meeting notes and serving as alternate in the absence of the Chairperson.

**Chair-Elect Term.** The Chair-Elect is selected on a rotating basis at the end of the calendar year, alphabetically by the name of the program slated to succeed the sitting Chairperson. The Chair-Elect serves a one-year term, beginning in January and ending December 31.

## Committee Appointments

The Scholars Trust Oversight Committee Representatives are appointed/affirmed by the leadership body of their program.