Staffing

1. Rebecca Crist is our new Program Coordinator for Shared Collection Resources, following Cheryle Cole-Bennett’s retirement. Rebecca is coordinating activities for ASERL’s two shared print retention programs (print journals/Scholars Trust and federal documents/CFDP) as well as starting to explore options for expanding ASERL’s longstanding reciprocal resource sharing agreement. We expect to post a call for volunteers to serve as a Visiting Program Officer to assist in Resource Sharing program development, with the VPO starting in Summer 2023.

Deans Meetings / Governance

1. The next ASERL Deans’ Meeting will take place April 25-26 in Atlanta. The current draft of the agenda and other meeting information is [available on our website](https://www.aserl.org/event/aserl-2023-annual-meeting-spring-membership-meeting/).
2. Nominees for 2023-2024 Board: Our thanks to Jeff Steely (Georgia State Univ) for serving as nominee to become ASERL’s President-Elect, and to Irene Herold (VCU) and Jason Battles (U-Arkansas) for volunteering to serve in Member At-Large posts. The election will take place on April 25 as part of ASERL 2023 Annual Meeting. ASERL Deans/Directors are asked to contact John Burger if they need a proxy form for voting. ASERL also thanks Bob Fox (U-Louisville), Lis Pankl (Mississippi State Univ), and Toby Graham (U-Georgia) for serving as our 2023 Nominating Committee.
3. Led by Gale Etschmaier (Florida State Univ), the Membership Task Force is developing profiles of hypothetical research libraries as a thought exercise to determine members’ interests in differing types of possible members. These profiles will be shared as part of the April Membership Meeting in Atlanta.
4. Jason Battles (U-Arkansas) is chairing ASERL’s Strategic Planning Working Group, which is reviewing possible changes to ASERL’s Strategic Directions for 2024-2027. Other members include Chuck Eckman (U-Miami), Anne Moore (UNC Charlotte), Doug Way (U-Kentucky), and Lis Pankl (Mississippi State Univ). More information will be shared at the Spring Meeting in Atlanta.
5. The ASERL Board’s summertime planning day will take place on August 9 in Atlanta.
6. Save the date! The next ASERL Deans’ e-Update will take place on August 15 at 11am ET / 10am Central Time. Participants are asked to register at https://bit.ly/3Kbw3sN.

Communications / Outreach

1. John Burger and Leslie Sharp (Georgia Tech, At-Large member of ASERL’s Board) will travel to Baltimore on April 17 to provide an overview of ASERL’s programming to Elisabeth Long, the newly-appointed Dean at Johns Hopkins University.
2. John Burger and Tim Pyatt (Wake Forest Univ, longtime Board member) will provide similar programmatic overviews to Joe Salem (Duke Univ) and Mar**í**a Estorino (UNC Chapel Hill) and their leadership teams on May 23.
3. Elaina Norlin is developing plans for site visits to University of South Florida (May) and Florida State University (June).

DEI Programming

1. On April 5 – 7, ASERL hosted 43 people for our first-ever BIPOC Leadership Development Retreat. Our sincere thanks to the University of Miami for their planning assistance and generosity. Other sponsors included SEFLIN and Sage Publishing. A second retreat is scheduled for July 19 – 21 at Georgia Tech, with future retreats at UAB, University of Virginia, and Duke University.
2. Twanna Hodge (formerly at University of Florida Libraries, now in grad school at University of Maryland) will host the second in a series of web-conversations “Why Librarians Stay?” The first webinar in February attracted 230 attendees; the next session will take place on April 27 and so far has 116 registrants.

Professional Development / Communities of Interest

1. ASERL is hosting two in-person workshops focusing on data privacy issues led by Lisa Hinchliffe (U-Illinois). The first session took place on April 5 at Emory University; the second session happens on May 15 at Tulane. Registration is free, thanks to Lisa’s IMLS grant. See https://bit.ly/3nMxAy7 for more information / registration links.
2. ASERL’s Special Collections Interest Group is developing a two-day unconference focusing on the handling controversial materials, entitled “Risky Business.” The event will take place August 10-11 at Emory. keynote presenter will be Holly Smith, college archivist from Spelman College. More information is in development.
3. The next Associate Dean/AUL Networking Group meeting will take place on June 6 to discuss the impacts of Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning, focusing on misinformation/disinformation. Please contact John Burger for more information.
4. The next session in ASERL’s long-running series of Copyright Office Hours is April 28. Given the recent decision in the *Hachette v. Internet Archive* lawsuit, it may be crowded! See https://www.aserl.org/events/tag/copyright/ for information / registration.
5. Elaina Norlin is always seeking new content for future webinars. If your library has a program or resource you want to share with a national audience, please contact Elaina at enorlin@aserl.org

Shared Print Archiving / Collective Collections

1. John Burger serves as Chair for the Rosemont Alliance Operations Committee through December 31, 2023. He is also liaising with a joint task force formed by the Rosemont Alliance and the Partnership for Shared Book Collections to consider the pros/cons of a possible merger between the two organizations. The task force has recommended the two groups merge into a single, new organization to streamline shared print collection development into the future. The report is under review now and will be circulated publicly soon. An in-person “summit” meeting to discuss the logistics of such a merger is under development for late June, in conjunction with ALA / PAN meetings.
2. The year-long Journal Retention & Needs Listing (JRNL) gap-fill pilot project is ongoing. This pilot project provides access to the JRNL database to libraries who are *not* participants of in a Rosemont shared print program. Three libraries have signed on to participate in the pilot to date.
3. Georgia Tech will discontinue their participation in the Collaborative Federal Depository Program (CFDP) effective August 2024. Other libraries seeking to ingest the materials previously retained by Georgia Tech have priority access to the materials in the ASERL Documents Disposition Database.

Resource Sharing

1. As noted above, the library resource sharing world is carefully monitoring developments in Controlled Digital Lending following the initial decision in the *Hachette v. Internet Archive* lawsuit, which includes sweeping language about CDL usage in libraries. IA promises to appeal this decision, so these issues are far from decided.
2. On April 12, Rebecca Crist convened a “lunch and learn” online session to share information about new resource sharing functionalities available from OCLC, real-time availability, group resource sharing, and Express fulfillment. Jenny Rosenfeld, OCLC product manager, was the primary presenter. The session was attended by 36 participants, including representatives from 12 libraries. A follow-up session will be held Friday, April 14 to gather feedback and discuss possibilities for collective action.