Gold Rush Implementation and Analysis
Working Group
Jun 21, 2023

Parent Committee: Library Deans/ULs Shared Print Committee

Background / Purpose:
The Working Group advances the commitment expressed in the BIG Collection Statement (2019).

“We will individually and collectively invest in strategies that transition our focus from building local collections to creating a shared, fully networked collection that supports our local students and scholars. With ever increasing rigor, we will manage the separate collections of the Big Ten as if they were a single shared collection, maximizing access to and ensuring the preservation of the scholarly record in support of our common mission.”

The current focus of the Big Ten’s print collection strategy is the development of a shared print program rooted in the previous decade of shared print repository projects, scaling to encompass a new distributed print shared collection, adding monographs with serials, and supported by evolving systems of trust.

To support the scaling of the Shared Print Collection, BTAA has licensed the collection analytics tool, Gold Rush. The BTAA instance of Gold Rush will bring together the holdings of the collective collections of all member libraries and enable any employee of a BTAA library to conduct analyses of their local collection, the collective BTAA collection, and combination of BTAA libraries’ holdings.

Charge:
The Working Group will act to implement a foundational instance of Gold Rush reflecting the collective analog and digital collections of all BTAA member libraries. Once the tool is fully populated with member data, the group will provide initial analyses of the collective collection to support the efforts of a not-yet-charged Shared Print Program Agreements and Practices Working Group, who will be developing agreements to govern initial distributed print commitments to the BTAA Shared Print Program

The initial commitments to the monographic shared collection will focus on monographs in preservation quality, closed-stacks environments.
The activity of the Working Group will be:

- Support initial ingest of records, drawing on resources from Gold Rush and partnering with the Shared Print Program Lead and Visiting Program Officer for Shared Collections.
- Troubleshoot issues in the contributed data using exploratory analyses
- Working in advance of the Shared Print Program Agreements and Practices Working Group, conduct the initial analyses in support of the next phase of work
- Support members in developing local analytics projects
- Support BTAA peer groups, communities of practices and discussion groups in developing targeted analytics projects, for instance in the arenas of digitization and addressing bias and silencing in the shared collection.
- Develop a shared practice for monthly updates of member data

Outcomes and Deliverables:

- Successful standup of the BTAA instance of Gold Rush populated with data from all BTAA member libraries.
- Initial analysis of collective data in support of the next phase of the Shared Print Program
- Guidelines and recommendations for monthly updates of member holdings in the Gold Rush collection analysis tool.
- Resources to support members in conducting targeted collection analyses.

Timeline:

Late-June - launch/organizing of group
June 1-30 - initial ingest of all member data complete
July 1 - August 15 initial analyses to support next phase of expansion of the Shared Print Collection
Sept 1 - Shared practice for monthly updates complete and ready for implementation
Sept 1-Dec 1 - Resources for members and BTAA groups to develop targeted analytics projects

Membership:

Nominated by Deans/ULs and approved by SPP Directors Group
- Chair
- 6-8 members drawn from roles with experience with bibliographic data submission and collection analyses after seeking nominations from Deans. Relevant expertise includes metadata, access services, collection analysis, and IT systems supporting print collection discovery and access (where possible members will act as liaisons to their BTAA peer groups).
● Ex officio: Karla Strieb (BTAA)

Key Partners (Peer Groups, Communities of Practice, and Pilots)

● Heads of Cataloging
● ILL Coordinators
● Access Services
● Collection Development Officers/Electronic Resources Officers
● Digital Strategies and Technology Services
● Technical Services Strategy
● RECAP/SCSB Pilot