

## NLG-L: SCEL C 2022, SCEL C & EAST: Community Strategies to Expand Diversity and Inclusivity in the Collective Collection of Shared Print

The Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium (SCEL C) in collaboration with the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST) seek an IMLS National Leadership for Libraries (NLG-L) Planning Grant in the amount of \$149,986 for a 2-year project during the FY2022 award cycle to identify ways to enhance the diversity of institutional participants and collections in their respective shared print programs, which collectively serve 118 institutions and include over 12 million retention commitments. Expansion of the diversity of shared print participants and collections furthers the IMLS goals of strengthening community engagement across diverse organizations and supporting stewardship of the national scholarly record in academic libraries in the United States (IMLS Goal 2; Objective 2.2). Specific to the NLG-L program, the project addresses Goal 5, Objective 5.1 by seeking to strengthen the communities we serve. The project aims to create shared goals and strategies for expanding the diversity of participation and representation of shared print collective collections and participants. Outcomes include development of national best practices for shared print programs related to expanding inclusion of minority serving institutions and a research framework to evaluate the diversity of collective and prospective collections of retained materials including metadata analysis of diversity metrics such as broader representation of minority researchers and topics of interest to minority communities.

### Project Justification

#### Shared Print Background

As participants of shared print programs (SPPs) such as those of SCEL C and EAST, member libraries agree to retain and provide access to portions of their print holdings for a pre-determined period of time. The growth of shared print has been driven by both the increased availability of digital content and competing demands for the use of valuable library space.<sup>1</sup> These programs focus on preserving the scholarly print record as well as supporting local collection management decisions through a formal agreement or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) among library partners. Trust is at the core of shared print as the members agree to the criteria to be used to determine which materials are to be retained and the policies and processes for making them accessible to members. While business models and governance structures vary, most SPPs evolve either out of existing consortial relationships, where an SPP is added as a core program for the consortium (as is the case with SCEL C) or develop independently as a stand-alone SPP often affiliated with a consortium that acts as an administrative host (as is the case with EAST). Program staff are responsible for coordination of the analysis of libraries' holdings, communication across the institutions and their local communities, development of policies and practices for discovery and disclosure of retention commitments, and coordination of access through resource sharing. Independent of the business model and governance, the most significant single cost involved in developing the program is that of the collection analysis whereby the bibliographic records of the participating libraries are compared, and retention commitments finalized using collection analysis and decision support tools. The result is a "collective collection" of retained print holdings which is accessible to students, faculty, and scholars at the participating institutions through standard inter-library loan and in some cases with courier service agreements among participants.

SCEL C embarked in 2013 on planning a collaborative shared print program for monographs. A strategic plan adopted in 2012 called for SCEL C "to make concerted efforts to develop shared print programs that provide for preservation of a reasonable number of copies within defined networks, as well as mechanisms for identifying unique copies, prevalent copies, and processes to share books among member libraries." This goal was reiterated and revised as Goal 2 of the strategic plan adopted for 2015-2018: "Promote broad availability and long-term sustainability of library collections." With the establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding (Supportingdoc8.pdf) and an initial cohort of 16 private college and university libraries, the SCEL C SPP has grown to 43 member and affiliate libraries, including Atla theological seminary libraries and California State University system libraries. Similarly, the Eastern Academic Scholars' Trust (EAST) project grew out of a series of discussions among more than 100 college and university librarians facilitated by the Five Colleges Incorporated beginning in the summer of 2011. The Boston Library Consortium became the formal fiscal and administrative host for EAST in 2015 as EAST brought on its first cohort of 40 libraries (Supportingdoc9.pdf). Through EAST, participating libraries protect and provide long-term access to their print collections. EAST directly addresses the growing need for academic and research libraries to ensure that print books and journals of scholarly value

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<sup>1</sup> Stearns, S., & Wohlers, A. (2020). Shared Print on the Threshold: Looking Back and Forging the Future. *Collaborative Librarianship*, 12(2), 5. <https://digitalcommons.du.edu/collaborativelibrarianship>

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are not inadvertently discarded as libraries undertake necessary weeding and deselection programs to free up space for other library services. Today, EAST has 82 academic and research libraries participating in their shared print program.

Over the last decade, shared print programs, including those of SCEL C and EAST and the collective collections they create, have begun to transform collection management in academic and research libraries.<sup>2</sup> These programs ensure that print scholarly content is protected, preserved, and made available for teaching, learning, and research. SCEL C and EAST are among the largest regional SPPs with proven expertise in developing and expanding shared print and are leaders in the broader community as founding members of the Partnership for Shared Book Collections.

### **Print Collections and a Fragile Higher Education Ecosystem**

As the landscape for higher education shifts, preservation of and access to print materials through SPPs is critical. For example, researchers predict further decline in higher education budgets, with the smallest institutions bearing extraordinary challenges. Kelchen, Ritter, and Webber (2021) predict “cumulative revenue losses will be the most severe (>50% of 2019 revenue) among institutions with fewer than 1,000 students, Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), and certain for-profit colleges as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic”.<sup>3</sup> Reductions of this magnitude certainly threaten the survival of some of these institutions and jeopardize the stability of the library collections within. College enrollments were down over 5 percent since fall 2019 and Social Security birth rates indicate an enrollment cliff that will further impact college enrollments and revenue with significant enrollment declines.<sup>4</sup> Though some institutions' budgets were shored up through pandemic stimulus, longer term predictions are for increasing closures and mergers for colleges. The immediate impact of closure and mergers, however, does not represent the entire threat to print collections. The utility and centrality of library buildings to academic priorities also represents a threat to access via mass weeding projects for space reallocation projects. Additionally, as COVID safety measures necessitated shifts to digital learning, access to print collections was restricted in whole or entirety, a further blow to the print collection status. Taken in whole these circumstances create a perfect storm for massive reduction in print collections at thriving and struggling libraries alike.

### **Enhancing and Protecting Collection Diversity in Shared Print**

SCEL C and EAST propose this Planning Grant project due to the rising importance of shared print as both a solution to safeguard collections and to enhance access to collections for participants. Both SCEL C and EAST embrace the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion in their respective missions, as reflected in daily internal operations as organizations, as well as in the resources and services provided to all libraries. A component of this mission has been the identification of participation gaps of minority serving institutions (MSIs) in shared print programs.<sup>5</sup> Such gaps increase the risk of loss of representative collections, particularly those held exclusively by MSIs. National data evaluated in preparation of this proposal indicate that MSIs, which make up 16% of IPEDS-identified 4-year institutions, participate in SPPs at the same rate as Non-MSIs (9%). However, HBCU/PBIs (at 6%) and ‘Native Alaskan, Native Hawaiian, Native American and Tribal Colleges’ (at 0%) are significantly underrepresented in shared print (Figure 1). SCEL C proposes to

<sup>2</sup> McAllister, L. & Laster, S. (Eds.). (2021) *Transforming print: Collection development and management for our connected future*. Chicago: ALA Editions.

<sup>3</sup> Webber, D. A. (2021). A growing divide: The promise and pitfalls of higher education for the working class. *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 695(1). <https://doi.org/10.1177/00027162211026199>

<sup>4</sup> See for example, National Student Clearing House Research Center, <https://nscresearchcenter.org/current-term-enrollment-estimates/>, the National Center for Education Statistics <https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=98>, and College and University Professional Association for Human Resources Membership (CUPA-HR) <https://www.cupahr.org/issue/dept/interactive-enrollment-cliff/>

<sup>5</sup> Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) include institutions designated by the U.S. Federal Government and/or the National Center for Education Statistics as Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Predominantly Black Institutions (PBIs), Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs), Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving institutions (AANAPISI), or Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs). See <https://cmsi.gse.rutgers.edu/content/msi-directory> for an exhaustive list of categories and institutions.

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lead this work with EAST as it has an excellent track record of serving MSIs. Nearly half of the SCEL C SPP participants are currently from an MSI and a high percentage of SCEL C’s overall consor tial participants are from the MSI community as compared to the academic institutions within SCEL C and throughout the U.S. (Figure 2). Furthermore, of the 43 MSIs across all SPPs, 20 participate via SCEL C.

	Shared Print Participants		Not Shared Print Participants		Total
	# Institutions	% Category	# Institutions		
<b>Minority Serving Institutions</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>430</b>		<b>473</b>
AANAPISIs	9	16.4%	46		55
HSIs	26	10.4%	224		250
HBCUs + PBIs	8	5.8%	131		139
AN/NH/NA/TCU*	0	0.0%	29		29
<b>Non-Minority Serving Institutions</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>2235</b>		<b>2460</b>
<b>Total (4-year Institutions)</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>2665</b>		<b>2933</b>

\* Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, Native American Serving Institutions plus Tribal Colleges & Universities

Figure 1: All IPEDS 4-year institutions and their participation rates across SPPs

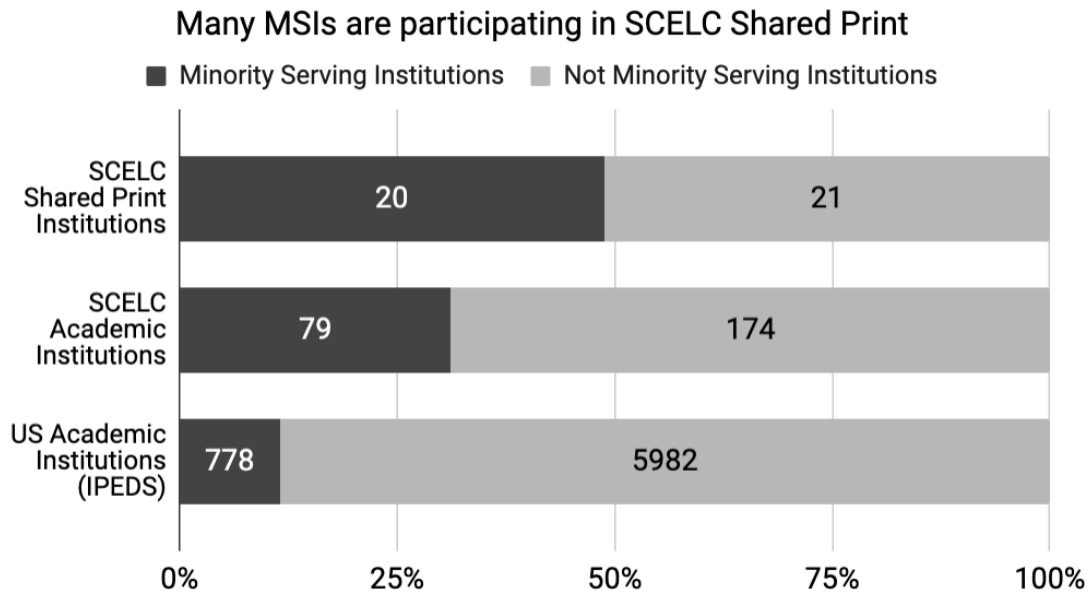


Figure 2: Representation of MSIs in SCEL C Shared Print, SCEL C Member and Affiliate Community, and Nationwide (IPEDS institutions)

Effective and inclusive community-developed strategies for increasing MSI participation and preservation are now needed to address this gap to reduce the risk of loss of scholarly materials that directly serve MSIs. With data indicating that HBCUs are at high risk for enrollment declines, and low HBCU/PBI participation in SPPs, SCEL C and EAST have begun a concerted and inclusive effort to engage HBCU/PBIs in questioning the benefits and barriers of SPPs. As a whole,

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HBCUs+PBIs hold nearly 20 million print monographs. This project aims to evaluate, preserve, and enhance access to these resources through a diversity-centered collection analysis and new shared retention commitments that will result in a stronger collective collection. Initial analysis will focus on the collections and retention commitments of the 27 MSIs (6 HBCU/PBIs, 6 AANAPISIs, and 15 HSIs) that are currently participating in the EAST or SCEL C shared print programs. This analysis will test assumptions about MSI collection distinctiveness, representation, and retention commitments and reveal fruitful pathways for enhancing the diversity of preservation and access to our shared scholarly record.

In examining the larger impact of SPPs, recent data collected by SCEL C’s SPP assessment team looked at opinions of current participants, non-participants, and preferred future program directions (Figure 3). Review of this data indicates, amongst current participants, that the SPP has been perceived as an overall benefit, most anticipate major weeding projects, and a majority support establishing retention commitments not only for older materials, but also for new acquisitions. A commonly stated value of shared print by current SCEL C participants was support for weeding the collection. By providing technology tools and data, SPPs may help to ease faculty concerns about the library’s weeding programs, especially when deselection decisions reflect partner library retention commitments.

SCEL C libraries not yet participating in the SPP support some of Shared Print’s value propositions. Grouping Minority Serving Institution responses with responses from institutions with over 50% traditionally underserved student populations (referred to here as MSI+) compared to non-MSI+ responses, reveals there is 100% agreement by both groups that retaining unique materials is a worthwhile goal. Supporting future scholarship has widespread support, although slightly less so for MSI+ institutions. Less than 50% of MSI+ institutions agreed that retaining materials would be worthwhile for their institutions or were interested in weeding their collections against known retention commitments.

**Goals of shared print (Non-participants)**

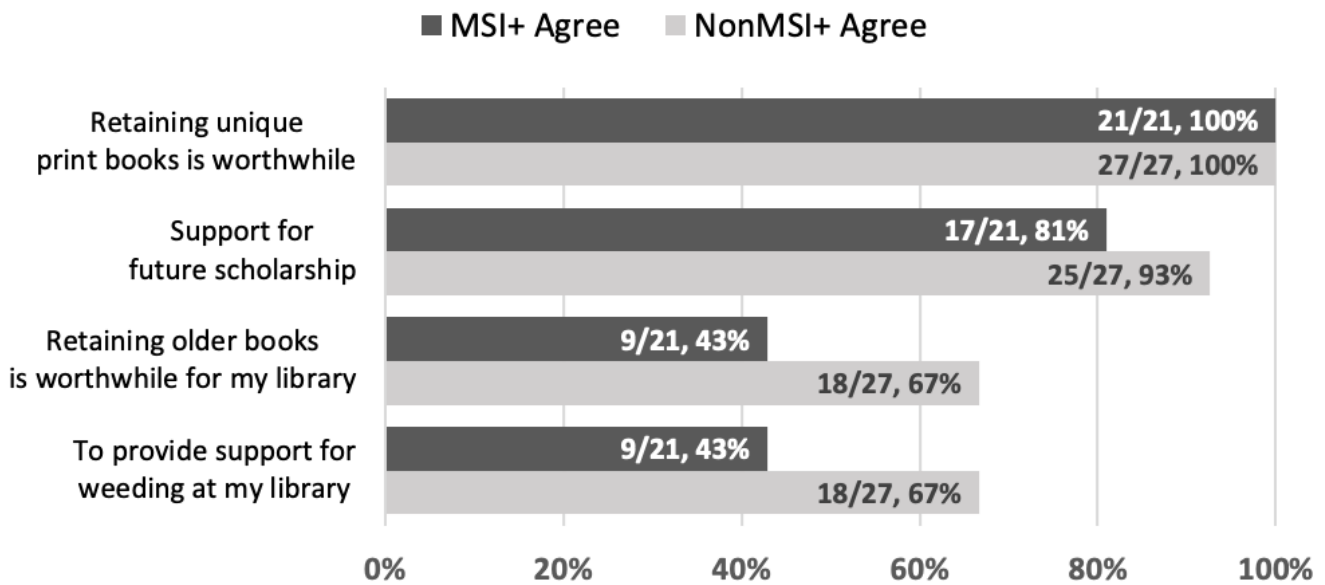


Figure 3: Perceived benefits of shared print

When asked to identify reasons for not participating and comparing the responding non-participating libraries at MSI+ institutions with non-MSI+ respondents, staffing limitations far outweigh other reasons for not participating among MSI+ institutions. Financial factors and the 15-year retention period were also of greater concern to the MSI+ institutions than for non-MSI+ respondents. (Figure 4).

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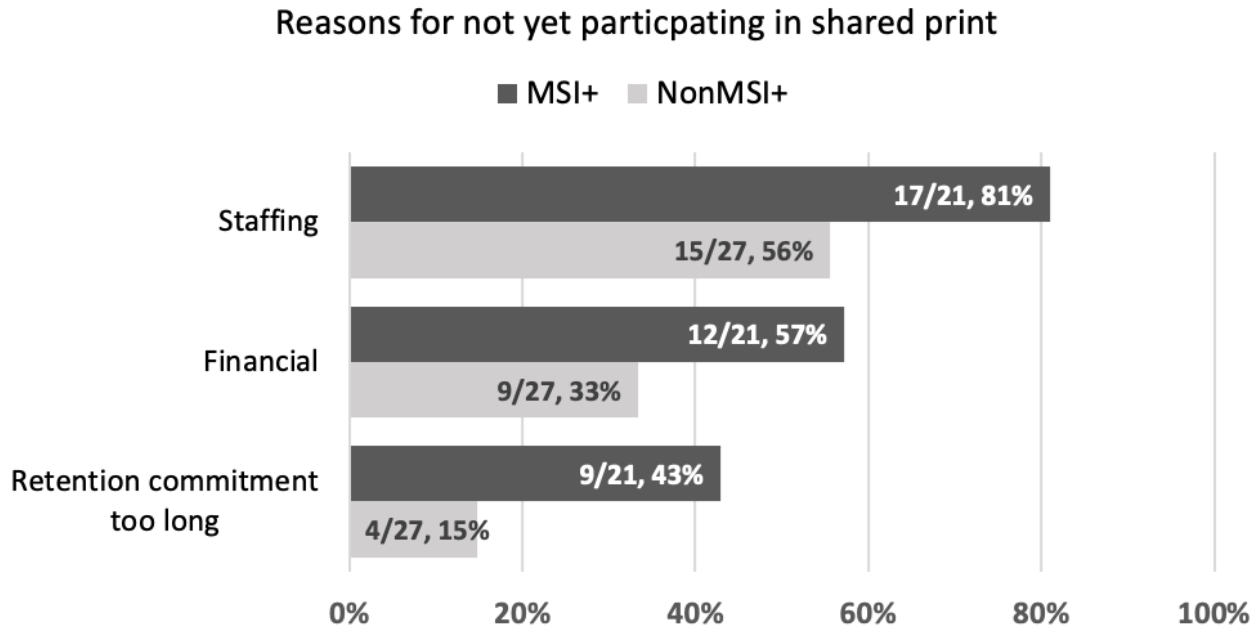


Figure 4: Reason for non-participation in shared print

SCEL C and EAST are dedicated to providing pathways to leadership and participation in shared print for MSIs and a planning grant supplies the means to meet a need that goes well beyond the regional programs of SCEL C and EAST, with clear national impact. In planning this work, SCEL C and EAST have already engaged with the HBCU Library Directors and MSI library community to vet interest and support of this project and to ensure that this collaboration provides an appropriate and community-built framework to support wider community participation in shared print. A Community Council, described below, will be key to this effort. Funding will also support SCEL C and EAST as they explore the methods by which evidentiary support could be provided to support a hypothesis that diversity in institutional profile contributes to the diversity of collaborative collection preservation. To do this, the project will explore and test replicable methodologies for the assessment of diversity in collections, a project of national scope and interest.

SCEL C and EAST not only bring a wealth of expertise to the technical implementation and administrative support of SPPs, but they have also already launched initiatives to support broader participation of MSIs in SPPs. In January 2021, the SCEL C Board of Directors allocated \$24,000 to provide subsidies for the OCLC GreenGlass group project cost for up to three member institutions among those that are on the list of Federal Minority-Serving institutions or those that have more than 50% historically underrepresented student enrollment. Thus, supporting diverse institutional participation in shared print and the development of the collective collection is collectively viewed as urgently necessary to broaden the availability of program benefits, build a representative collection, and actualize the SCEL C Strategic Plan commitment to DEI. Work has also begun at both organizations to explore diversity audit strategies for collection assessment purposes. Both organizations have studied reasons for non-participation, and EAST has given a presentation describing methodologies for enhancing the diversity of participation as a DEI initiative, arguing that this participation is essential for creating a representative collective collection.<sup>6</sup> This project also builds upon past funded IMLS grants that have sought to expand the institutional diversity of participation in preservation programs by fostering inclusive professional communities. The IMLS-funded HBCU Library Alliance + Digital Library Federation Authenticity Project and The Community Archives Center for Tacoma serve as models for using participatory project design in this regard.

<sup>6</sup> “Inclusive Models to Sustain Shared Print and the Future of Print Collections”, ACRL, 2021, Susan Stearns, Amy Wood from the Center for Research Libraries, Heather Weltin from the HathiTrust Digital Library, and Alison Wohlers from the California Digital Library.

## NLG-L: SCELCE 2022, SCELCE & EAST: Community Strategies to Expand Diversity and Inclusivity in the Collective Collection of Shared Print

### Project Work Plan

Summarized below, key activities for the proposed Planning Grant include the joint review of past program assessment surveys by both SCELCE and EAST (Supportingdoc.10 ; Supportingdoc11.pdf ; Supportingdoc12.pdf) for current and prospective participants, interviews with MSI library representatives, and focus group exercises. These activities will support the identification of additional leaders from MSIs, determine how and if SPPs have a distinctive value proposition for MSIs, and create interest and participation amongst MSIs not currently participating in SPPs. Exploratory collection analysis and research activities will also be conducted to test assumptions that adding institutions of a diverse profile will contribute to the diversity of the shared print collections.

The Community Council will be convened early in the planning grant to provide leadership, feedback on programmatic activities, and advice and counsel. This Council will further the collective action in support of the grant activities and ensure diverse voices contribute to the work. The Community Council will be composed of eight (8) representatives and meet quarterly to review and provide guidance on the activities of (4-6) grant personnel from SCELCE and EAST, including each organization's Executive/Project Director and SPP staff. Community Council members will receive reports on Community Research Activities, provide oversight on the selection of the four new SPP participants from MSIs, receive progress reports on collection analysis activities, and support the dissemination of program findings by sharing outcomes with their communities. Members will include: an MSI representative from current SPP; MSI Consortia representatives (i.e., HBCU Library Alliance, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, Asian Pacific American Librarians Association), Members of ALA affiliate organizations such as REFORMA: The National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking, and the American Indian Library Association (AILA). Current committed members of the Community Council include:

- **Loretta Parham**, CEO and Director of the Atlanta University Center Woodruff Library, which supports the teaching, learning, and research missions of higher education that include the world's largest consortium of HBCUs, Clark Atlanta University, the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College, and Spelman College
- **Dr. Blanche Sanders**, Dean of Alcorn State University, representing the HBCU Library Alliance
- **Dr. Richard Bradberry**, Director of Library Services at Morgan State University, an EAST HBCU member library
- **Tracy Gilmore**, Collection Development Librarian at California State University, Long Beach, a SCELCE member and active in the shared print community
- **Romelia Salinas**, incoming President of REFORMA and Dean of Library and Learning Resources, Mt. San Antonio College
- **Nancy Hampton**, Interim Library Director, Xavier University of Louisiana Library, a SCELCE HBCU member library

The Community Council will be responsible for providing oversight for all project activities, acting in an advisory capacity to the Principal Investigator and project team. Specifically, it is expected the Council will:

- Assist in outreach to assist in selection of the MSIs to join SCELCE and EAST
- Review the results of the focus group work to assist in analysis of barriers to the adoption of shared print by MSIs assessing the value shared print brings to MSIs
- Advise on the methodologies planned to analyze the diversity of the current SCELCE and EAST collections as well as further research planned on how best to audit both existing collections from a DEI lens and approaches to expanding the diversity of shared print in general

Through this structure to support collaboration between SCELCE and EAST staff and the Community Council, the project team will achieve the following goals on the timeline described:

### GOAL 1. SPP Community Building

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SCEL C, EAST, and the Community Council will identify ways to expand MSI participation in SPPs by understanding and communicating the value proposition of SPPs for MSIs as well as by designing solutions for overcoming barriers to participation.

August 2022 – May 2023

Findings from existing, but separate, program reviews will be mutually studied by SCEL C and EAST staff followed by (10) additional interviews and (2) virtual focus groups. This will include both shared print participants and MSIs not involved in shared print. Potential candidates for interviewees and participants in focus groups from HBCU libraries include: the four libraries that are members of the Atlanta University Center: Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, Spelman College, and the Interdenominational Theological Center; members of the HBCU Library Alliance: Alcorn State University, Mississippi State University, St. Augustine's University (NC) as well as the additional three EAST HBCU libraries: Bowie State University, Coppin State University and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The work will culminate in the development of an SPP Best Practices to Support MSI Participation Whitepaper.

### *Phase 1: Planning: August 2022-December 2022*

- 1.1. Jointly Review Prior Program Assessments: Impacts of SPP on member library operations and collections; Identification of needs and preferences for future program building; Review of the perceived value of shared print to both participants and non-participants; non-participant reasons for not joining SPP
- 1.2. Convening of the Community Council to review Program Assessments (1.1), discuss plans for Interviews (1.2) and Focus Groups (1.3), and seek input on value propositions

### *Phase 2: Community Research: January 2023-May 2023*

- 1.3. Interviews: Reviewing findings of 1.1 with prospective SCEL C/EAST program participants from MSIs
- 1.4. Virtual Focus Groups: Clarifying findings from 1.1 and 1.3 (Prospective SCEL C/EAST SPP participants from MSIs)
- 1.5. Convening of Community Council to review results from Focus Groups (1.4) on value propositions

## **GOAL 2. SPP Program Development and Collection Analysis**

Through the addition of four new MSI program participants, SCEL C, EAST, and the Community Council will research the impact of MSIs on collection diversity. Program staff will support onboarding of new participants and research staff will support projects that test diversity audit strategies including bibliographic analysis.

Research staff will analyze individual and combined print book collections from three MSI categories represented by five or more shared print participants (SPPs) across our two communities (AANAPISIs, HBCU/PBIs, and HSIs) to test three specific hypotheses comparing them to Non-MSI institutions. These hypotheses address collection rarity and uniqueness, subject representation, and retention commitment profiles.

### *MSI Collection Distinctiveness*

Hypothesis 1: MSI SPP collections have a higher proportion of rare and/or unique print book holdings than Non-MSI SPP collections. Data contained in GreenGlass and Gold Rush, the two most widely used collection analysis tools, will be used to determine the proportion of each individual MSI's collection that is rare (vs OCLC holdings) or unique (vs other holdings in the Shared Print Program (EAST or SCEL C)). Comparison studies using inferential statistics to contrast MSI Collections to appropriate non-MSI comparators will then be used to assess the strength of any influence of MSI status or category in predicting an institution's proportion of rare or unique holdings.<sup>7</sup> Rare and/or unique holding sets will then be used in additional hypothesis testing.

### *MSI Collection Representation*

Hypothesis 2: Existing MSI SPP collections have proportionally greater representation of print books in subjects that reflect ethnic studies in their MSI Category. We will analyze and review extant subject heading and LC

<sup>7</sup> Phelps (2021). Assessing a consortium for a multidisciplinary subject, *Collection Management*, 46(1), 35-56.

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classification range sets that have been designed to address the interdisciplinary nature of Asian American Studies, African American Studies, and Latin American studies. After optimizing a working model, we will use LC Class and/or Subject Heading sets to quantify the proportion of books in these subjects across the comparator groups used to test Hypothesis 1. Comparison with the previously identified overall, rare and unique holding sets will provide greater insight into the relationship between MSI status and collection representation of book collections related to the minority group they serve.

### *MSI Retention Profiles*

Hypothesis 3: MSI Retention commitment profiles reflect the minority group they serve. Independently of whether rarity or representation differ for MSIs and/or specific MSI groups, their retention commitment profiles may differ. Applying the datasets and methods designed to address the first two hypotheses will support comparison of retention commitment profiles both within and across MSI institutions, categories and the shared print program as a whole.

Systematic testing of these three hypotheses with existing shared print participant collections will provide valuable insights that will help the shared print community to identify ways that it can support participation, specify service enhancements to the diversity, equity, and inclusion of MSI institution collections, and describe the crucial part they play in the collective collection.

August 2022 – December 2023

Four new MSI SPP participants will be identified, and their respective collections evaluated for uniqueness and presence of materials that expand the representation of minority created and minority focused scholarship.

### *Phase 1. Methodology Planning: August 2022-May 2023*

- 2.1. Develop Research Sampling Methodology and Criteria for Collection Analysis
- 2.2. Call for new MSI SPP Participants leveraging value proposition findings (1.5)

### *Phase 2. Collection Loading and Analysis Implementation: June 2023-December 2023*

- 2.1. Convening of Community Council to review proposed Methodology (2.1) and selection of SPP Participants (2.2)
- 2.3. Load Collections and Identify Preliminary Retention Commitments
- 2.4. Evaluate Collective Collection and new MSI SPP participants using Research Sampling Methodology and Criteria for Collection Analysis
- 2.5. Apply New Retention commitment modeling based on findings from 2.4
- 2.6. Convening of Community Council to review results of collection analysis and new retention modeling with particular emphasis on ways the DEI research might best inform retention

## **GOAL 3. Support Future DEI Focused Shared Print Initiatives through Project Dissemination**

The findings of the Planning Grant will be shared broadly within the Shared Print and MSI Library community in order to support future research of collection diversity and to continue progress towards reducing participation gaps in SPP.

May 2023 – July 2024

SCEL and EAST will leverage their internal communications frameworks as well as the committed partners from the SPP community to share broadly the findings of Community Research Activities (1.1-1.5) and SPP Collection Analysis (2.1-2.6) with national SPP and MSI library representatives.

### *Phase 1. Documentation and Writing: May 2023-March 2024*

- 3.1. Release SPP Best Practices to Support MSI Participation Whitepaper: Bringing together all research activities, this inventory will highlight shared values of SPPs and will summarize the value proposition of SPPs and requisite conditions or SPP changes needed to support MSIs in promoting and seeking funding for future SPP participation.
- 3.2. Publish Findings: Research Sampling Methodology and Criteria for Collection Analysis



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### 3.3. Convening of the Community Council to Review Final Materials (3.1, 3.2)

#### *Phase 2. Dissemination: October 2023-July 2024*

- 3.4. Share Results at conferences and meetings: Findings from whitepaper and research findings presented at meetings such as Partnership for Shared Print Collections; Print Archive Network (PAN) Forum of the American Library Association, and other Interest/Affinity Groups for MSI Libraries, Charleston Conference, HBCU Library Alliance Invitational Webinar on SPPs
- 3.5. Release findings on SCEL2022/EAST Website: SCEL2022 and EAST will share and archive the open access whitepaper (3.1) and methodology (3.2) on a joint project page
- 3.6. Sponsor Webinars: SCEL2022 and EAST, along with representatives from the Community Council and new MSI shared print libraries, will sponsor two webinars for the community: one focused on best practices in support of MIS participation in shared print and the other on research methodologies for DEI research and collection analysis

## Project Results

Project results from this grant will extend the existing research on collection diversity and SPPs by identifying and disseminating best practices for expanding SPP participation. As outlined in the Project Work Plan, SCEL2022 and EAST have a strong commitment to working with the Community Council on dissemination of a Best Practices Whitepaper and publication of the methodology and findings of the Research Sampling Methodology and Criteria for Collection Analysis. As a planning grant, this work will serve as a national foundation to develop a longer-term grant application with additional partners on SPP Collection Diversity initiatives.

Specifically, this work will highlight the value shared print programs can offer to MSIs, identify barriers to the adoption of shared print by MSIs, and formulate ways in which those barriers can be addressed or overcome. In doing so, we hope to validate the role of shared print as a collection management strategy for MSIs and apply the learnings to the expansion of shared print programs to include additional MSIs in their membership, leadership, and governance.

Furthermore, as discussed, MSIs face threats to their continuation due to predicted higher education enrollment challenges. The project will identify strategies to encourage additional MSI participation to safeguard collections and to enhance access to collections for participants. By adding an additional research agenda of testing how diverse institutions contribute to collection diversity, the project teams will lay the groundwork for additional funding to subsidize SPP participation. The project work will utilize tools for assessing the diversity of the EAST and SCEL2022 collective collections to determine the validity of the hypothesis that increasing the participation of MSIs in shared print contributes to an increase in the diversity of the collective collections in ways that contribute to the overall preservation of a diverse and inclusive collaborative collection.

To do this work in an inclusive and sustainable manner, shared print programs must ensure that the program value proposition is relatable to the MSI community and that obstacles to participation are considered and addressed. Beyond the addition of four new SPP participants with one-time financial support, this project will expand leadership and communities of practice that are prepared to engage and support future participants from underrepresented categories.

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		<b>GOAL 1. SPP Community Building</b>											
		Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July
<b>Phase 1: Planning: August 2022 - December 2022</b>		[Orange bar spanning Aug 2022 to May 2023]											
Jointly Review Prior Program Assessments		[Orange bar spanning Aug 2022 to Oct 2022]											
Convening of the Community Council to review Program Assessments		[Orange bar spanning Nov 2022 to Dec 2022]											
<b>Phase 2: Community Research: January 2023 - May 2023</b>		[Orange bar spanning Jan 2023 to May 2023]											
Interviews		[Orange bar spanning Jan 2023 to Feb 2023]											
Virtual Focus Groups		[Orange bar spanning Mar 2023 to Apr 2023]											
Convening of Community Council (CC) to review results from Focus Groups		[Orange bar spanning May 2023 to Jun 2023]											

		<b>GOAL 2. SPP Program Development and Collection Analysis</b>											
		Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July
<b>Phase 1. Methodology Planning: August 2022-May 2023</b>		[Light Green bar spanning Aug 2022 to May 2023]											
Develop Research Sampling Methodology and Criteria for Collection Analysis		[Light Green bar spanning Aug 2022 to May 2023]											
Call for new MSI SPP Participants		[Light Green bar spanning May 2023 to Jun 2023]											
<b>Phase 2. Collection Loading and Analysis Implementation: June 2023-December 2023</b>		[Light Green bar spanning Jun 2023 to Dec 2023]											
Convening of CC to review proposed Methodology		[Light Green bar spanning Jun 2023 to Jul 2023]											
Load Collections and Identify Preliminary Retention Commitments		[Light Green bar spanning Jul 2023 to Aug 2023]											
Evaluate Collective Collection and new MSI SPP participants		[Light Green bar spanning Aug 2023 to Sep 2023]											
Apply New Retention commitment modeling		[Light Green bar spanning Sep 2023 to Oct 2023]											
Convening of CC to review results of collection analysis and new retention modeling		[Light Green bar spanning Oct 2023 to Nov 2023]											

		<b>GOAL 3. Support Future DEI Focused Shared Print Initiati</b>											
		Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July
<b>Phase 1. Documentation and Writing: May 2023-March 2024</b>		[Blue bar spanning May 2023 to Mar 2024]											
SPP Best Practices to Support MSI Participation Whitepaper		[Blue bar spanning May 2023 to Mar 2024]											
Preparation of Published Findings		[Blue bar spanning May 2023 to Mar 2024]											
Convening of the CC to Review Final Materials		[Blue bar spanning Mar 2024 to Apr 2024]											
<b>Phase 2. Dissemination: October 2023-July 2024</b>		[Blue bar spanning Oct 2023 to Jul 2024]											
Conferences and Meetings		[Blue bar spanning Oct 2023 to Jul 2024]											
Website Production		[Blue bar spanning Oct 2023 to Jul 2024]											
Community Webinar		[Blue bar spanning Oct 2023 to Jul 2024]											

## NLG-L: SCELCL 2022, SCELCL & EAST: Community Strategies to Expand Diversity and Inclusivity in the Collective Collection of Shared Print

### **Type**

The work products for this grant include a SPP Best Practices to Support MSI Participation Whitepaper, a report on Research Sampling Methodology and Criteria for Collection Analysis, and recordings from any webinars or presentations discussing the project results, all of which will be shared and archived on a publicly accessible, joint project webpage. Text-based materials will be created using standard office productivity software, such as Microsoft Word, Google Docs, and Adobe Acrobat. Recorded materials from Zoom or other web conferencing platforms will be stored in MP4 format. Closed captioning for SCELCL created videos will be created with Otter.AI software and stored in a text-based format.

### **Availability**

Work products described above will be publicly released to a SCELCL Drupal-based website and/or a SCELCL Springhare LibGuides page. Additionally, SCELCL intends to pursue archiving options on the Institutional Repository with multiple member libraries. Permission to archive in this way has already been confirmed with The Claremont Colleges Library. Published documents will be assigned a DOI at the time of publication and archived according to the publisher or institutional platform standards to facilitate linking and findability.

### **Access**

All reports and recordings will be published with a CC-BY license with the exception of any recordings with restricted access or otherwise unavailable via a conference host website.

### **Sustainability**

SCELCL is committed to ensuring grant documents will be directly available for a minimum of 7 years after the completion of the grant as part of their current document retention policy. Print copies of text-based materials will be added to the SCELCL archives, which are currently hosted at the University of Southern California. By also depositing the work products in multiple member Institutional Repositories, SCELCL will provide long term, stable access.

Applicant Organization Name: SCEL C

I. Organization Mission and Core Values

Founded in 1986 by the University of Southern California (USC) library, the Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium (SCEL C) was established to develop resource-sharing among the libraries of private academic institutions throughout California and has grown from the initiative of one library to encompass many. SCEL C's mission is to empower librarians working in private nonprofit academic and research libraries to collaborate on access to and the effective use of library resources and services. As part of the organization mission, SCEL C upholds 8 core values: access, collaboration, innovation, integrity, partnership, responsiveness, transparency, and diversity and inclusion. The mission statement and core values were reviewed and reaffirmed at the SCEL C Board Meeting on May 29, 2020 as part of the updated SCEL C Strategic Plan: 2020-2024 (Supportingdoc2.pdf).

II. Organization Structure

On June 21, 2001, the Statewide California Electronic Library Consortium (SCEL C) was formally incorporated as a nonprofit (Supportingdoc3.pdf) and is governed by a Board of Directors composed of Directors and Deans from its advisory libraries with a set of bylaws that were most recently updated in June of 2018 (Supportingdoc4.pdf). SCEL C employs an Executive Director who oversees 8 professional staff and facilitates the work of the Board in collaboration with its Board Committees and Advisory Committees (Supportingdoc5.pdf).

III. Organization Service Area

SCEL C now represents more than 330 institutions in 39 states, with 110 advisory member libraries and 220+ affiliate libraries (Supportingdoc6.pdf). SCEL C supports a diverse array of libraries including, but not limited to, private and public academic libraries, research institutes, museums, seminaries, and hospitals, but the majority of SCEL C's libraries serve a student FTE of less than 2000. According to IPEDS, 31% of SCEL C are Minority-Serving Institutions, and many of the 79 identified institutions serve more than one minority population. Primarily concentrated in California, SCEL C's libraries also stretch east to include: 70 Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), 30 Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISIs), and 1 Historically Black University (HBCU).

IV. Brief History of SCEL C's Shared Print Program

SCEL C's Shared Print Program (SPP) is a collaborative initiative whose goals are to promote broad availability and long-term sustainability of print monographs as a shared collection among participating institutions through distributed retention, preservation, and resource-sharing of title-level commitments (Supportingdoc7.pdf). To achieve these goals, SCEL C established a permanent Shared Print Committee (SPC) and planning structure. The SPC works with other members of the Partnership for Shared Book Collections to foster collaboration on print monographs, as it has on journals through WEST since 2010. Initially established as a member benefit in 2015-16 with a cohort of 14 libraries, there are 43 active participants as of March 2022. The SPC has upheld SCEL C's core value of Diversity and Inclusion, and with focused recruitment, almost half of SPP participating institutions are identified in IPEDs as MSIs. As part of an established objective for the SCEL C Strategic Plan, the SPC is also exploring funding assistance for MSIs and institutions serving underserved populations.