

# Lessons from Library Collaborations

*Academic and research libraries have sought for more than a century to collaborate with one another in order to achieve wider and more efficient access to collections, generate greater negotiating power, and provide stronger systems and services. To succeed, library collaborations have had to overcome substantial structural impediments. Our transition to a pervasive digital environment has introduced new challenges and new opportunities for collaboration, including in areas of digitization, discovery, and preservation. The history of library collaboration has many lessons for us today, from unavoidable tradeoffs around governance and agility to the relative roles of community control and commercial catalysts. This talk will provide an overview of some key lessons and leave ample time for discussion.*

[Speaker Bio](#) - Roger C. Schonfeld, Program Director, Libraries, Scholarly Communication, and Museums, Ithaka S+R

We will be using this Google document as one way to capture questions and comments inspired by our guest speaker. If there is a question you would like to share ahead of the meeting based on the topic description of this presentation or work of the guest speaker, please share them here. During the presentation and following discussion, you are welcome to add questions and comments to this document, unmute and share verbally, or chat your questions in Zoom!

## Questions

*Add any questions you have before or during the meeting here*

You mentioned issues related to governance models in trust organizations where every member wants to have a voice in decision-making. Do you have any ideas about how governance models might change and how we in libraries could bring those changes about?

We should have a very interesting data set coming out of the pandemic, thinking of ETAS, and increased participation in RapidILL, for example. I'm wondering if anyone is planning a broad analysis of collections use and resource sharing, as that data might lead to some new models and organization? What might be some good questions to ask looking at this data?

## Comments, Observations, Inspirations

*Add any comments you have before or during the meeting here*

Seems like overall, a key challenge is that libraries aspire to participate in an inclusive, global network (whether it be digitization or shared print) but unfortunately can't avoid the constraints of local fiscal control.