



Collection Managers & WEST

WEST leverages group action to provide local benefits and collection managers play a key role in WEST's success at the group and local levels. Collections managers demonstrate the value of WEST in their local institutions, whether by retaining materials for the group locally, contributing materials to complete holdings retained by other member institutions, or by using the results of the centralized analysis to support local decision making while freeing up local staff time for other projects.

Group Action, Local Benefits

- WEST uses algorithmic collections analysis to provide a broad view of members' collections, including overlap and uniqueness, then draws on the deep expertise of collections managers to identify what to retain.
- WEST members archive locally or contribute materials to complete retained holdings. Archive Holders and Builders agree to make retained collections available to members through established resource sharing channels, ensuring current and future students and scholars will have access to the materials they need.
- WEST members share costs of archive creation by the Archive Builders, which benefits all members by ensuring the WEST-retained copies of high-risk journals are physically validated and as complete as possible. By making this a group endeavor, Archive Builders are able to take on this work that all WEST members benefit from, without putting an unreasonable financial burden on any single institution.

Rethinking collections

- WEST retention commitments offer new frameworks for collection decision-making around local, duplicative collections. WEST is also working to integrate shared print more seamlessly into local and national discovery systems, shrinking the gap between 'yours' and 'mine.'
- WEST was a founding member of the Rosemont Shared Print Alliance, a federation of regional shared print programs across the US. The Rosemont Alliance has since merged with the Partnership for Shared Book Collections and is now known as the [Shared Print Partnership](#). We continue to work collaboratively to operationalize our partnership to provide broad access for our members. By integrating its regional efforts into a national context, WEST can more effectively deploy program resources and connect members to a broader network of retained content and access.

Get involved

WEST frequently seeks volunteers to serve as consultants, in governance bodies, or on working groups. On a yearly basis, WEST's Executive Committee calls for nominations to the Operations and Collections Council. Collections managers and other library leaders are encouraged to self-nominate for the OCC, which provides oversight and direction on WEST's operations, including the collections analysis, systems development, policy review and revision, and new initiatives as they arise.

Collections managers are also encouraged to attend WEST member meetings, which occur biannually in the summer and midwinter, and may address questions or feedback at any time to WEST's Shared Print Analyst, Nika Burns Teshin at nika.worth@ucop.edu.