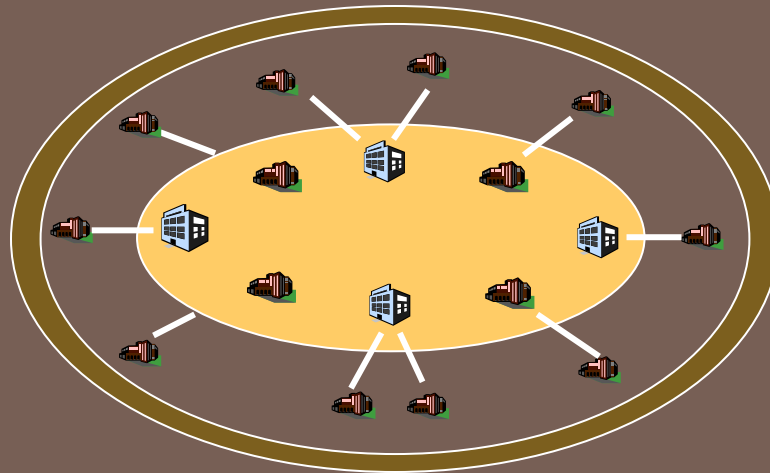


The Future of Library Print Collections: To Share is to Preserve



Lizanne Payne
Print Archives Consultant
WEST Project Manager
lizannepayne03@gmail.com

A Bigger Library ~~is~~ was a Better Library

2

Libraries motivated to acquire and retain as many volumes as possible

Researchers could only use volumes they could physically reach



Large book collection meant broad scope and long history

Libraries Face Hard Choices

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October 19, 2011 [support public radio >](#)

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Hard Choices: Do Libraries Really Destroy Books?

Categories: Culture And Criticism, Books

12:02 pm
October 12, 2011

Twitter (60)
Facebook (2144)
E-mail
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Print

Comments (91)
Recommend (73)

 Yesterday, an Australian blogger named S Peter Davis wrote a piece for *Cracked* (the surprisingly interesting online offshoot of the old comedy print magazine) called "6 Reasons We're In

[Enlarge](#) iStockphoto.com

"Libraries have a certain amount of space and a certain amount of money...

It's easy to argue that some of these books are ... important...

But if you're the library, how many of those snapshots can you keep, at what cost?"

<http://www.npr.org/blogs/monkeysee/2011/10/12/141265066/hard-choices-do-libraries-really-destroy-books>

“No single library can or should acquire and retain everything.

To do so would be to disregard our home institution’s mission and to squander its resources.

However, collectively we should be concerned with the survival of the print record broadly conceived.”

***Stephen Enniss, “Collaborative values and survival of the print record”,
College and Research Libraries News, June 1999.
(now head Librarian at the Folger Shakespeare Library)***

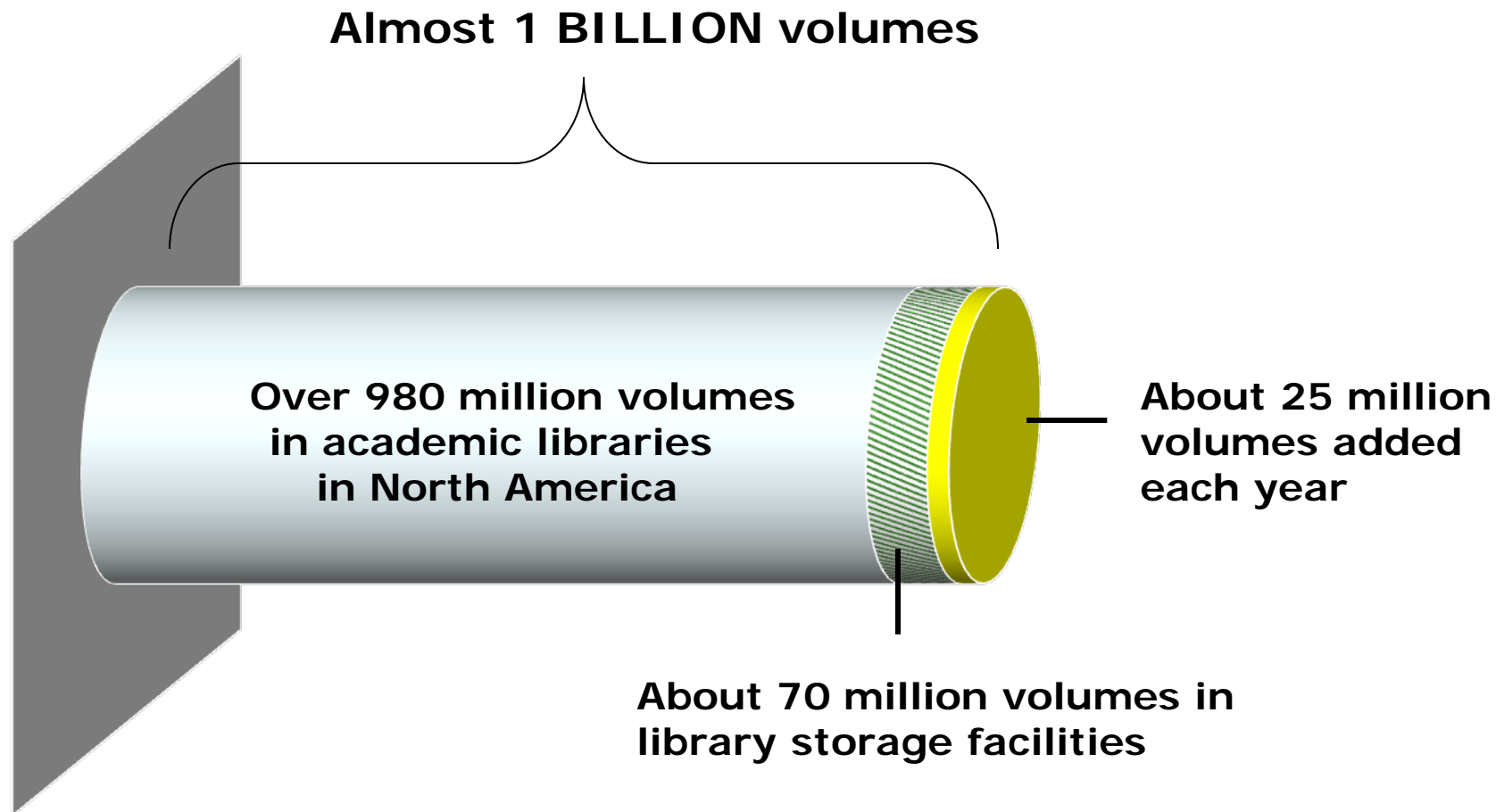
Key Trends Driving Change

5

- ❖ Print publication still strong, 2 million new titles published annually
- ❖ Libraries are at capacity and unlikely to expand
- ❖ Campus master plans favor student-oriented space
- ❖ Keeping print books on the shelves is expensive
- ❖ Secure digital versions provide viable alternatives for many print volumes

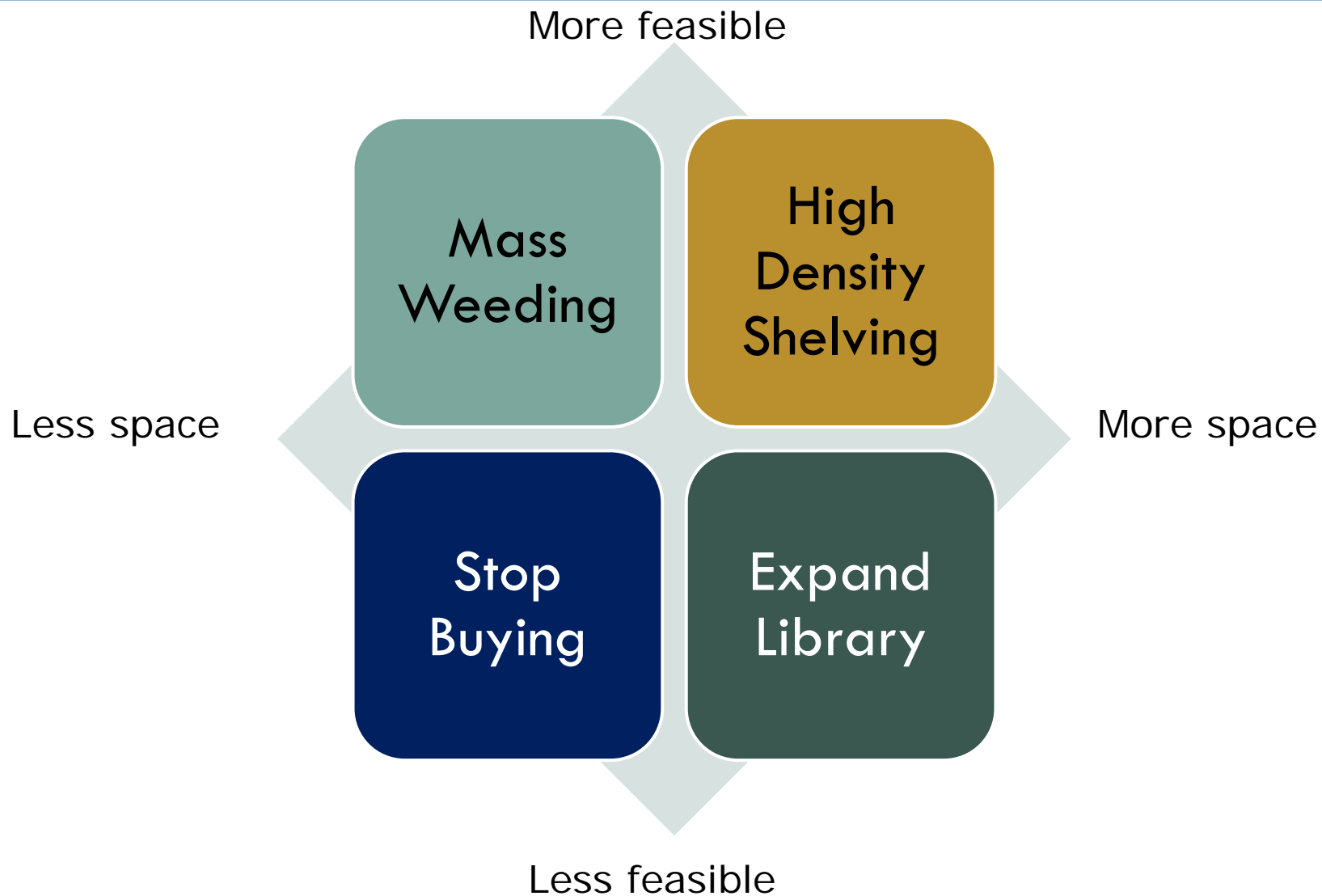
The Scope of the Issue

6



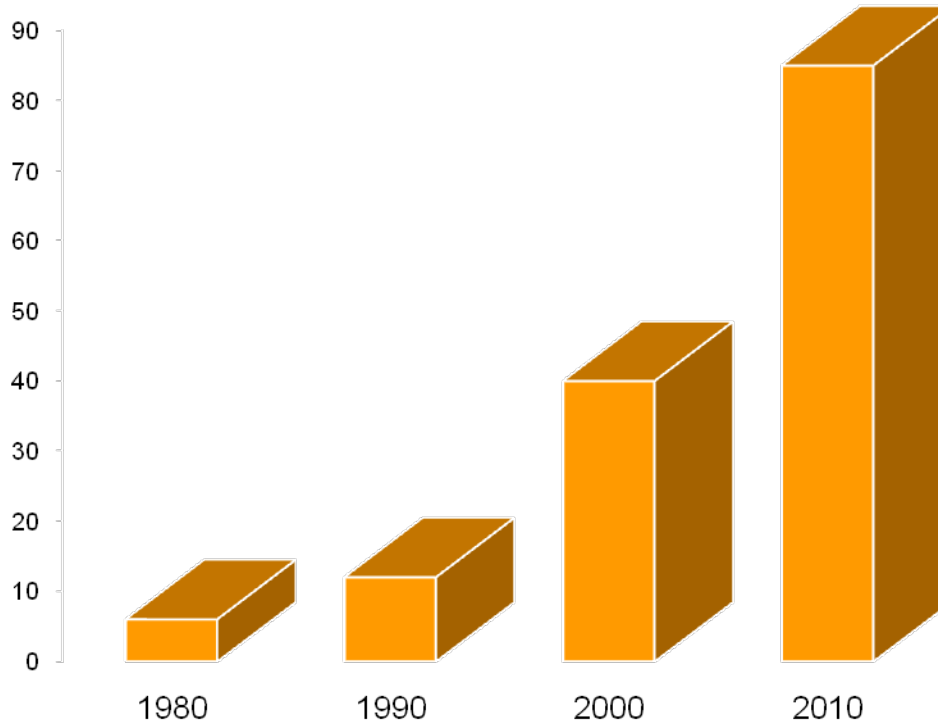
There are no good options

7



Growth of High-Density Shelving

High-density facility: a separate building purpose-built for long-term housing of very large quantities of library materials

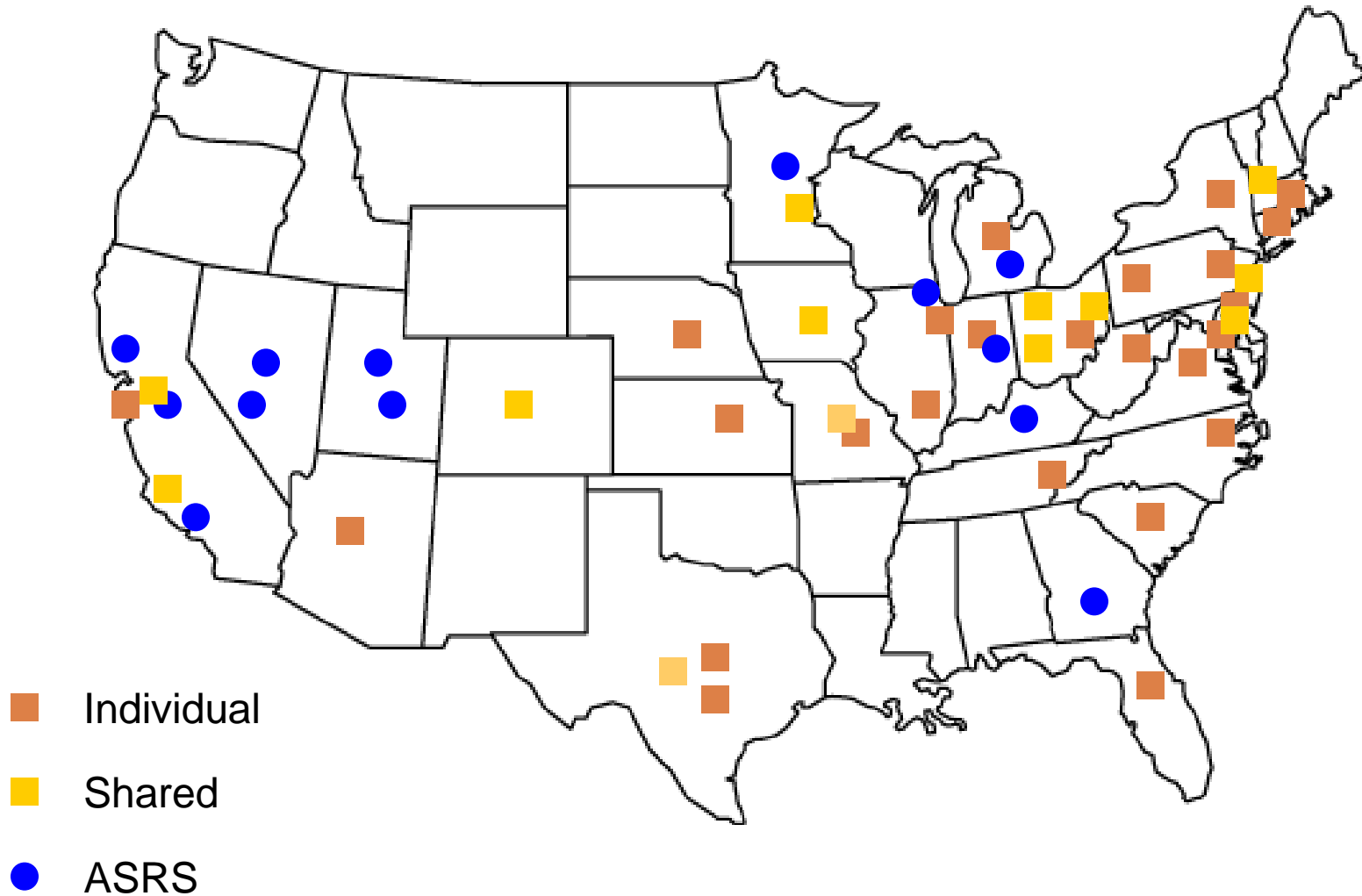


More than 50% of all ARL libraries have separate shelving facilities

80+ library storage facilities, most built in the last 15 years

High-Density Library Facilities in the U.S.

9



Harvard-Model Library Facility

10



Design goal: cost-effective shelving

Volumes stored by SIZE for maximum density

Order picker for retrieval

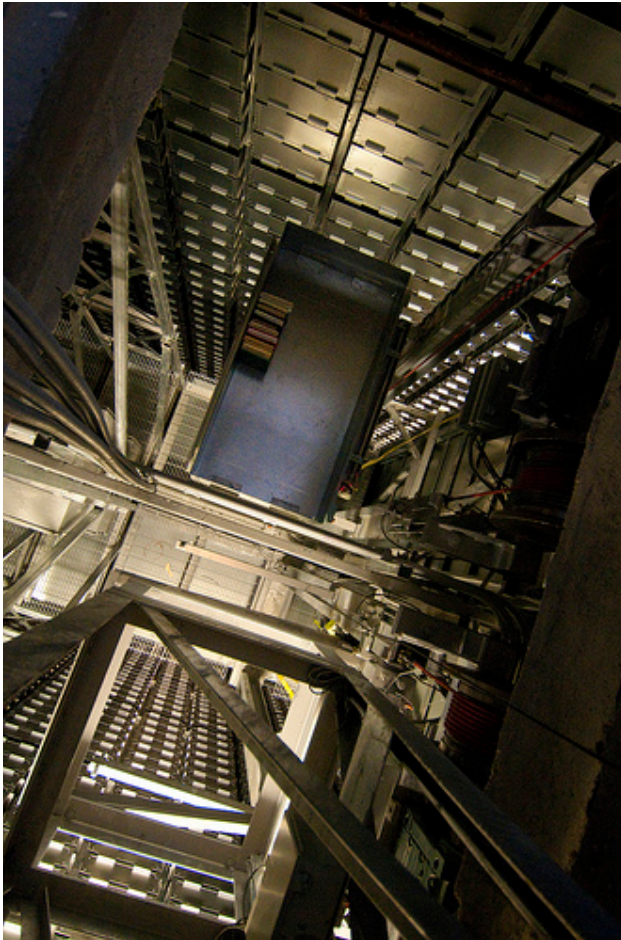
Usually built off-campus

Scheduled book delivery and online article delivery

Construction cost per volume approx USD \$3

Automated Storage/Retrieval System (ASRS)

11



Design goal: Fast retrieval

Volumes stored in metal bins, retrieved by robotic mechanism

Built on campus

Book delivery in minutes

Construction cost per volume approx USD \$10

University of Chicago Mansueto Library

Permanent Migration from Open Stacks

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University of Chicago

- ❖ Underground ASRS, opened May 2011
- ❖ 3.5 million volumes (almost 50% of collection)

San Francisco State University

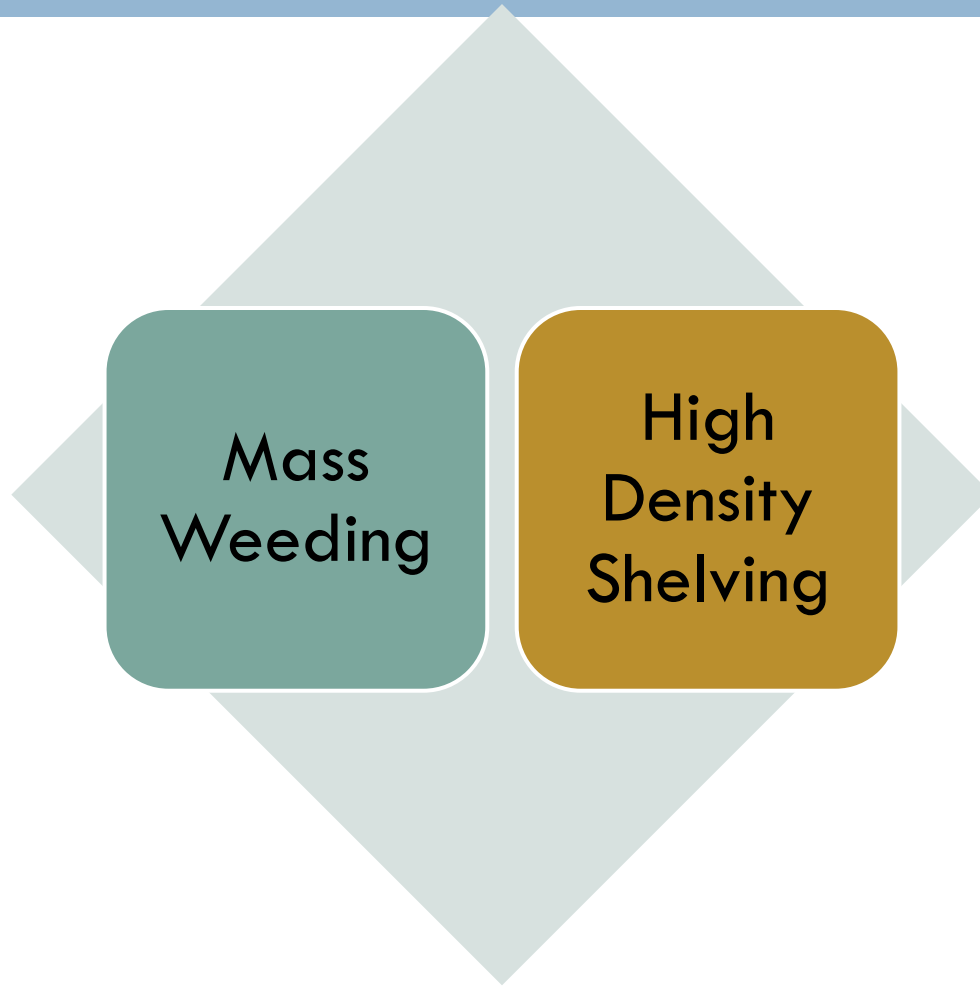
- ❖ Building new library with ASRS, to open in spring 2012
- ❖ Only about 250,000 volumes will return to open stacks, about 1 million to remain in ASRS

University of Denver

- ❖ Moved 100% of library collection to high-density offsite facility in summer 2011 during 18-month remodel
- ❖ Determining how many will return to open stacks

Growth of Mass Weeding

13



Mass Weeding (or “Deselection”)

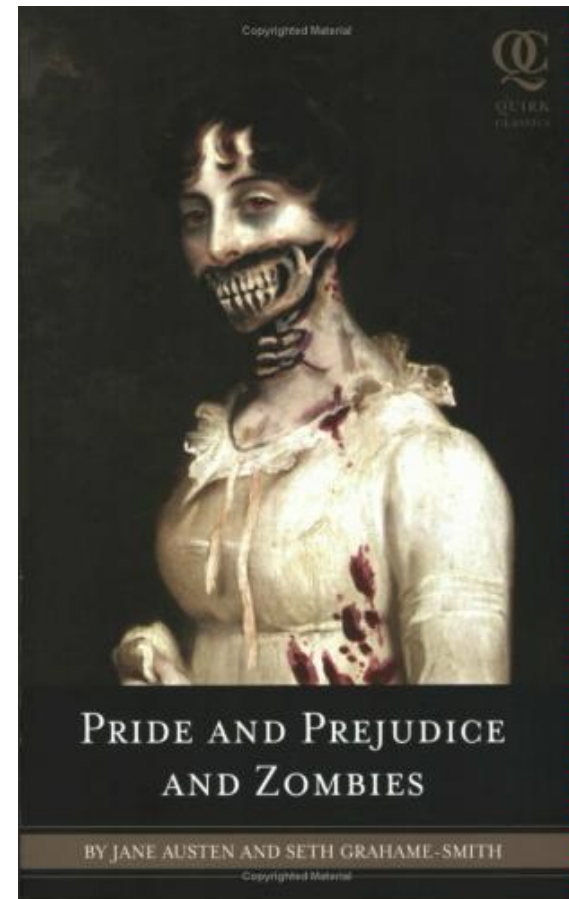
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“...for a librarian

it's like your best friend just got
bitten by a zombie

and you're the only one
with a gun.”

S. Peter Davis. *“6 Reasons We're In Another 'Book-Burning' Period in History”* *Cracked*, October 11, 2011
http://www.cracked.com/article_19453_6-reasons-were-in-another-book-burning-period-in-history.html



Stopgap Measures

15

- ❖ Selective weeding:
 - ❖ Donate to other libraries
 - ❖ Book sales
 - ❖ Donate to Better World Books (but doesn't accept bound journals, no market)
- ❖ Patron-Driven Acquisitions
 - ❖ Buy what users ask for
- ❖ ***These solutions are useful but don't scale***

The Annual Cost of Keeping Books

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	Open Stack (traditional library)	High Density	Hybrid (10 years in Open Stack)	Hybrid (20 years in Open Stack)
Annual average cost per volume	\$4.26	\$.86	\$1.53	\$1.99

Includes amortized building construction, utilities, staffing

Paul N. Courant and Matthew "Buzzy" Nielsen, "On the Cost of Keeping a Book", The Idea of Order: Transforming Research Collections for 21st Century Scholarship. CLIR Pub#147. June 2010, p. 99.

\$4.26 * 25 million new volumes = over \$100 million annual investment in North America just to keep up with new accessions

Libraries Invest Heavily to Support Low Use

17

- ❖ OhioLINK OCLC Collection and Circulation Analysis Project 2011 reviewed use of 30 million items across 89 libraries *
- ❖ Found “80% of the circulation is driven by just 6% of the collection”
- ❖ Thus, a library with 2 million circulating volumes in open stacks invests over \$8 million annually to support circulation of 120,000 volumes (using Courant figures)

* OhioLINK Collection Building Task Force, Julia Gammon and Edward T. O’Neill. 2011. *OhioLINK OCLC Collection and Circulation Analysis Project 2011*. Dublin, Ohio: OCLC Research. <http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2011/2011-06r.htm>.

Major Weeding Projects in the News

18

UC San Diego

- ❖ Removing 150,000 volumes (4% of collection) after state budget cuts forced closure of four campus libraries
- ❖ Criteria: not checked out in 10 years, available in digital form, or duplicates in regional storage facility

Sustainable Collections Services company

- ❖ 12 major deselection projects completed or underway in 2011
- ❖ Libraries from small (200,000 volumes) to large (2 million) including University of Vermont and James Madison University

The Cost of NOT Keeping Books

**“There is a very real risk
that so many copies may be discarded
as to threaten the availability of certain materials
in their original format.”**

Roger C. Schonfeld and Ross Housewright. “What to Withdraw: Print Collections Management in the Wake of Digitization.” Ithaka S+R, 2009, p.8.

Another Option

20



Mass
Weeding

High
Density
Shelving

Shared Print
Collections

“...in an environment where there is widespread digital access, libraries could share their print storage, keeping only several copies nationally or regionally...”

Paul N. Courant and Matthew “Buzzy” Nielsen, “On the Cost of Keeping a Book”, The Idea of Order: Transforming Research Collections for 21st Century Scholarship. CLIR Pub#147. June 2010, p. 99.

Shared Print Journal Programs in the U.S.

22

Shared Storage Copy

UC RLFs

OhioLINK

PASCAL

WRLC

Minnesota MLAC

Library-Nominated Titles

ASERL Journal Retention

TRLN Single Copy Archive

By Publisher

CIC Shared Print Repository

UC Shared Print

Orbis-Cascade Alliance

PALCI

Five Colleges (MA)

By Title Risk

Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST)

Shared Print Operating Policies (A Template)

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Selection Criteria

- How are items chosen for retention

Archive Locations

- Centralized or Distributed?
- Storage facilities and/or libraries?

Retention Commitment

- Perpetual, 25 years, 10 years, unspecified?

Ownership

- Original library? Or archiving group or library?

Validation

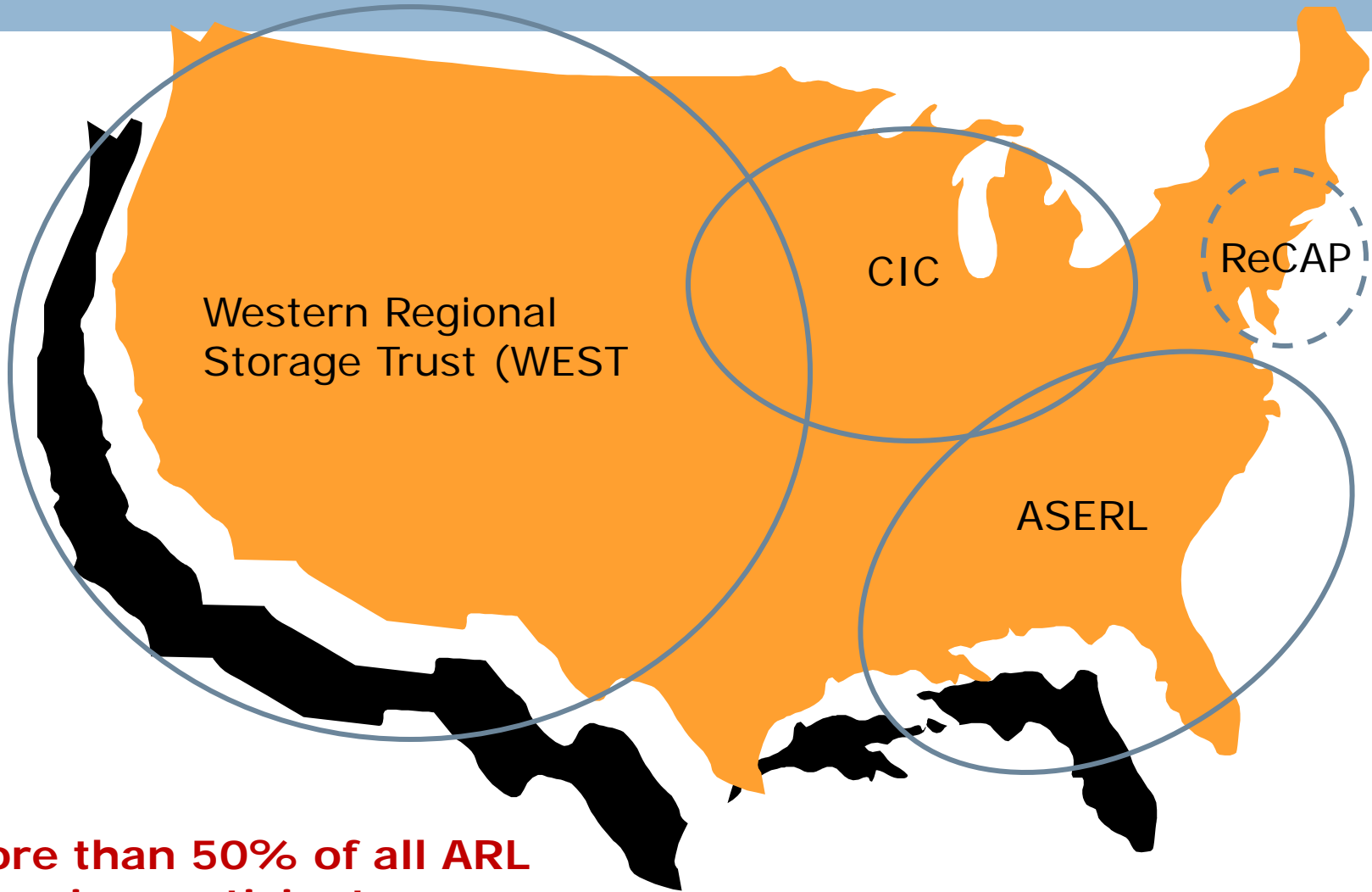
- Review for completeness, condition
- Volume, issue, page, none

Access/delivery

- Who can borrow
- Access/Delivery methods

Mega-Regional Shared Print Journal Programs

24

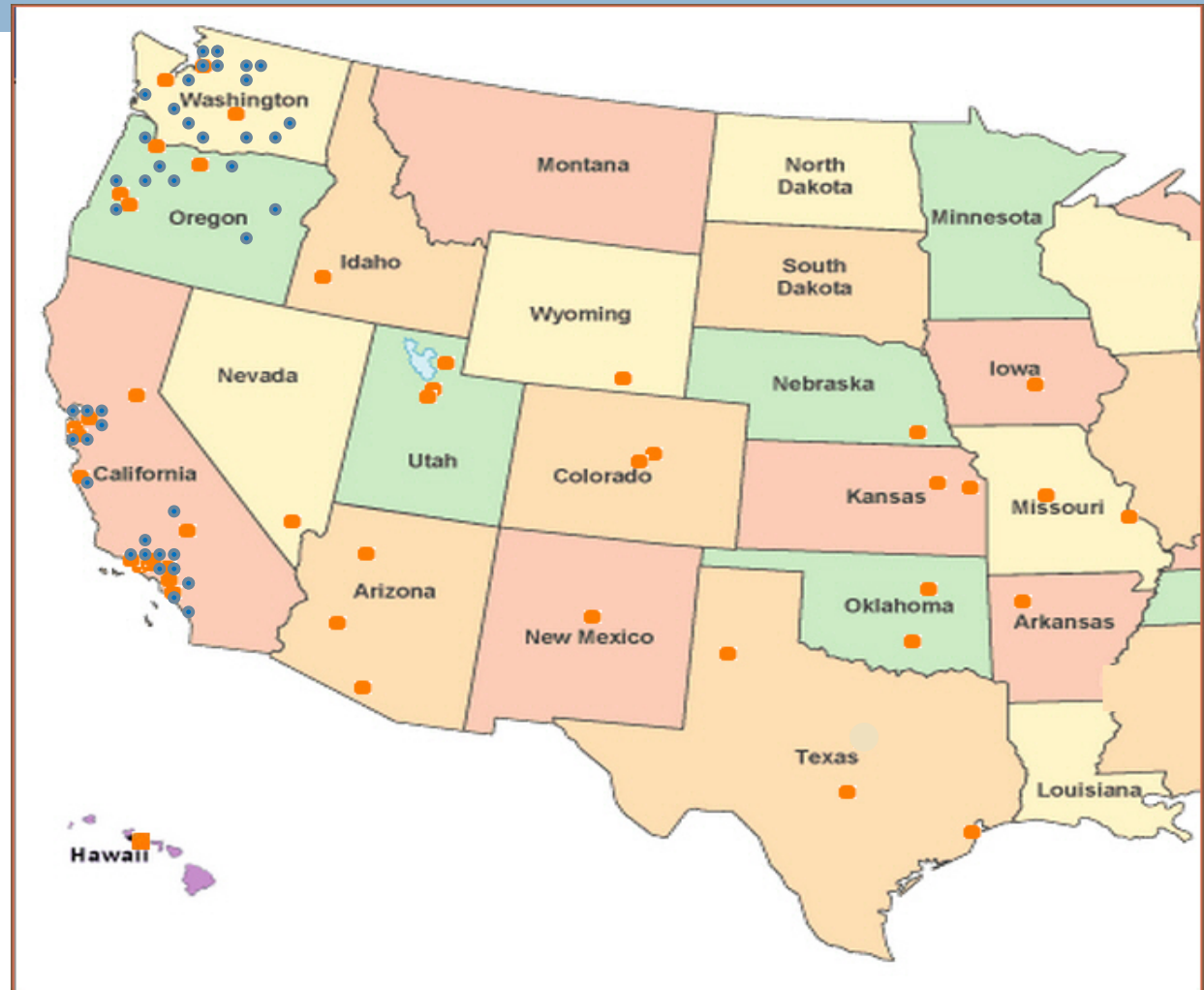


More than 50% of all ARL libraries participate

WEST Membership: 103 Libraries in 17 states

25

- ❖ 44 individual libraries
- ❖ 3 library consortia
 - ❖ University of California (10 libraries)
 - ❖ Orbis Cascade Alliance (30 libraries)
 - ❖ Statewide California Electronic Licensing Consortium (SCELC) (19 libraries)
- ❖ 25 members of ARL
- ❖ 30 members of CRL
- ❖ 16 libraries > 3 million volumes



● = Direct Members

● = Consortial Members

Key Features of WEST, CIC, and ASERL Plans

26

	WEST	CIC-SPR	ASERL
Members	~ 100	10+	38
Archive facilities	Libraries and storage facilities	Indiana U. storage facility	Libraries and storage facilities
Selection	By risk profile	STM from Elsevier, Springer, Wiley	Library-nominated
Ownership	Archive Holder	Original Owner	Original Owner
Retention	25 years (to 2035)	25 years	25 years (to 2035)
Access	Digital preferred; physical in-library only	[TBD]	At owning library's discretion
Business Model	Share upfront costs of ingest	Share upfront costs of ingest AND ongoing retention	No cost sharing, libraries absorb own costs

Sharing Other Materials

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- ❖ Government documents
 - ❖ ASERL program to consolidate gov docs among Regional Centers of Excellence
 - ❖ CIC libraries preserving gov docs scanned by Google

- ❖ Monographs
 - ❖ Last-copy programs e.g. CARLI in Illinois
 - ❖ Maine Shared Collections program in development
 - ❖ Hathi Trust

Hathi Trust May Be Game Changer

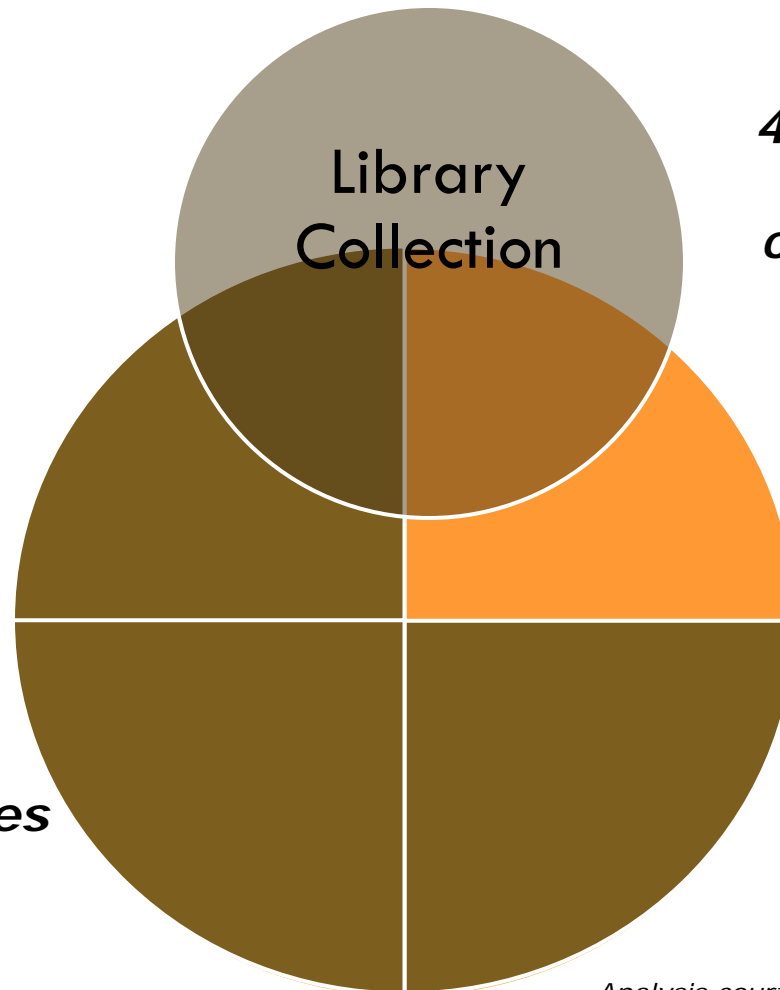
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- ❖ Hathi Trust partnership provides “a comprehensive digital archive of library materials converted from print”
- ❖ Endorsed “establishment of a distributed print archive of monographic holdings corresponding to [digital] volumes represented within HathiTrust “ (October 9, 2011)
- ❖ Working Assumptions:
 - ❖ Distributed archive based on holdings of Hathi members
 - ❖ Compensation or partial subsidy for libraries that retain
 - ❖ Available to Hathi members

Hathi Collection Overlap

29



***45 - 50% of typical
academic library
collection matches
Hathi titles***

***75% of Hathi titles
stored in print
repositories***

Analysis courtesy OCLC Research "Cloud Library Project"

<http://www.oclc.org/research/publications/library/2011/2011-01.pdf>

Shared Monographs Require a Different Model

30

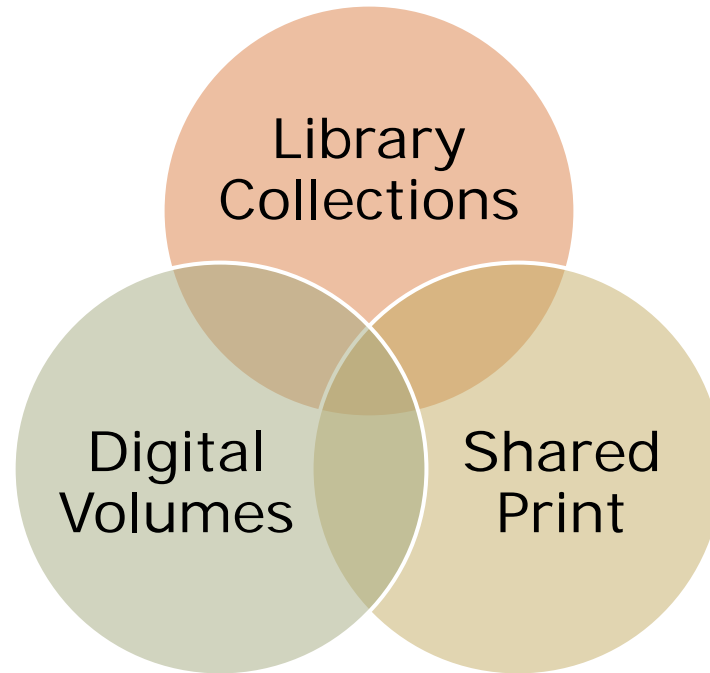
- Copyright issues
 - ▣ Only ~27% of Hathi titles in public domain

- Searchers more likely to want full print version
 - ▣ Keep more copies available?
 - ▣ Print on demand?

- How to make monograph deselection cost-effective
 - ▣ By subject?
 - ▣ By branch?

Shared Print: Getting to Scale

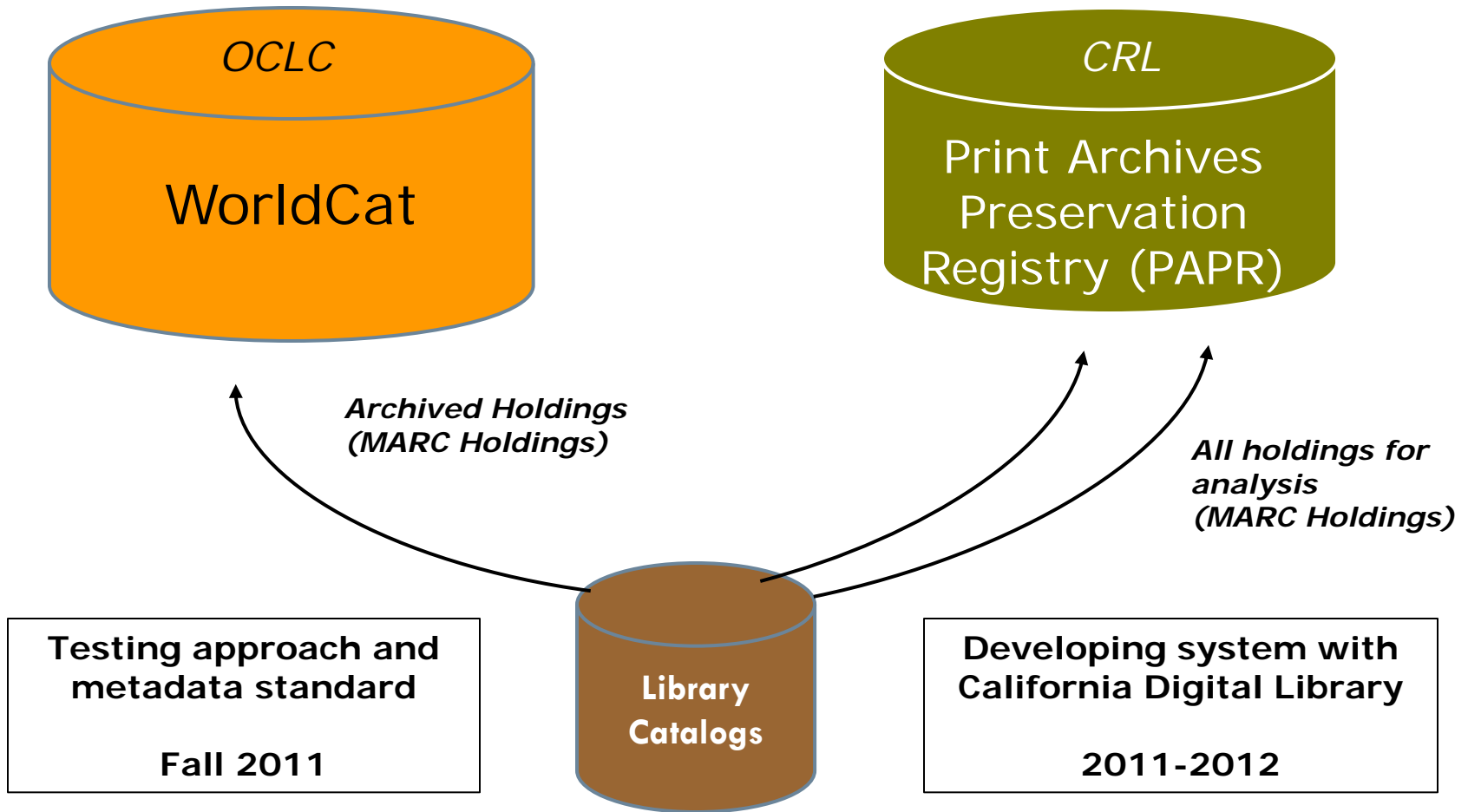
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- 1. Disclose holdings that have been digitized or committed to shared print**
- 2. Develop community standards and agreements to preserve print**

Disclosing Shared Print Holdings

32



Shared Print Community Forum

33

- ❖ Shared Print discussion group Fridays at ALA (informal but longstanding)
- ❖ Print Archives Network (PAN) listserv hosted by CRL
- ❖ CRL's new Global Resources Forum offers community discussions via web meeting. Coming up: Dark archives, light archives, and optimal copies (Dec 7)
- ❖ Preconference on Nov 2 at Charleston Conference

Neither a Dinosaur nor a Philistine Be

34

“To husband our collective resources effectively, we need to respect both of these viewpoints.”

“Dinosaurs”

- ❖ Print still has enormous value.
- ❖ Not everything is available digitally.
- ❖ Sufficient copies of print must be retained to assure that no content is lost.

“Philistines”

- ❖ Print use actually is declining.
- ❖ Low-use books limit space and resources available for other uses.
- ❖ It costs serious money to retain volumes

Rick Lugg. Sample and Hold blog

<http://sampleandhold-r2.blogspot.com/2011/06/philistines-and-dinosaurs.html>

THANK YOU

Lizanne Payne
lizannepayne03@gmail.com