

De-duping the OSU Libraries Collections

De-duping the OSUL collections was originally conceived in response to space shortages in our facilities, including the Book Depository. However, increasingly de-duping is one of many ways we have to carefully use our budget for maintenance of facilities and records and to use our personnel to support the university's mission. De-duping no longer is only about how many linear feet of shelving we have, but what we place on those shelves, how and why we choose what to put on those shelves. Traditional models of funding have changed for facilities, for collections, for personnel, and will continue to change in the future. Given the directions in which the university and the board of regents are moving, we must carefully consider all aspects of access to materials for our patrons.

De-duping is not something that will stop once Thompson re-opens, once we have examined our current collections and made decisions about individual titles. It is a process that will continue indefinitely. As we buy new materials, we need to make space for them on shelves. But we also need to acknowledge that books we buy today in multiple copies may be withdrawn in 20 years. Journals which are in print today will go electronic tomorrow, and we must consider how we access them and whether or not we need to retain a print copy. A new book today may be purchased by 25 OhioLINK libraries with excellent justification; whether or not all 25 of those copies are still necessary in 5, 10, or 20 years is a question that must be constantly examined.

For the last two years, we have been working on a variety of projects aimed at making the collections leaner & trimmer, and specifically to make more room in the Book Depository for circulating items. These projects include:

1. Withdrawing journals for which 2 copies exist on the Columbus campus (including HEA & LAW)
 - a. Exception: JSTOR (only 1 copy kept)
2. Withdrawing monographs for which 2 copies exist on the Columbus campus (including HEA & LAW)
3. Withdrawing second copies of paper dissertations from 1955-1975
 - a. Exception: dissertations which contain original material, including photographs, artwork, textiles, computer programs, etc.
 - b. Copies are being withdrawn from STX1 and ACK (for SEL dissertations)
 - c. Those which have circulated 2 or more times since 2000 are being scanned and placed in the ETD (approx. 275 titles)
4. Withdrawing items as subject specialists identify them
5. Special projects

- a. ELs – all items withdrawn examined by subject specialists, searched; approximately 15% were reinstated
- b. AHs – all items being examined by subject specialists, searched

These projects are continuing, but while they have helped de-duping the collections, the time has finally come when **STX is full**. Only when a volume is withdrawn can another volume be added. This has happened at the same time that large transfer projects are underway in SEL and BUS; more items remain to be transferred from ACK before Thompson opens next year.

The chances of our ever receiving money to build a new module onto the depository are very small. OhioLINK has received funding that could be used to build one depository module, but there are five depositories in the state, and each of them can make an excellent case as to why they should have an additional module. The funding may not even be used for this purpose, but could be used for service or content instead.

Therefore, we need to look at some new proposals for de-duping our collection and sharing resources within OhioLINK. In essence, we need to consider OhioLINK as another department library.

Proposed changes to internal de-duping and location of materials

1. Withdraw all copies of a monograph from STX1 if another circulating copy exists in OSUL (including regionals, LAW & HEA)
 - a. Exception: items individually identified by a subject specialist for reserve, due to high circulation, etc.
 - b. Transfer the STX1 copy to a location if it circulates
2. Withdraw all except one copy of a journal held on the Columbus campus (including LAW & HEA)
3. Items with book plates will not be withdrawn at this time

Proposed de-duping against OhioLINK holdings

OhioLINK expects to hire someone for a 2 year appointment to bring together the 5 depositories to make recommendations on de-duping across them. This process will take time, and we do not know what the outcome will be. Until we know what these guidelines might include, let us consider the following.

Note: Some would argue that internal de-duping should be completed first. By de-duping against both OSUL and OhioLINK at the same time, we only need to handle each item once during this initial period. We expect to fully participate in OhioLINK recommendations for de-duping the depositories.

1. Monographs in STX1 that have not circulated since 1995 will be checked against OhioLINK holdings
 - a. If more than 10 copies are available in OhioLINK, STX1 copy (copies) will be withdrawn
 - i. Exception: Public libraries in OhioLINK will not be considered in the holdings
2. Serials in STX1 that are available through JSTOR or EJC will be checked against OhioLINK holdings
 - a. If more than 10 complete copies are available in OhioLINK, STX1 copy will be withdrawn
3. All withdrawn items will be offered to other OhioLINK institutions
4. Exceptions
 - a. Subject specialists may identify titles individually that must be retained due to illustrative matter that does not reproduce well, accompanying material, etc.
 - b. Items with book plates will not be withdrawn at this time