

# A Consortium For Sharing Primary Materials

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## **LET THEM EAT... EVERYTHING: EMBRACING A PATRON-DRIVEN FUTURE**

**Speaker: Rick Anderson** - Associate Director for Scholarly Resources & Collections, University of Utah

**Reported by: Heather Miller** (HMiller@uamail.albany.edu) - University of Albany

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Anderson characterized library practices as “less sane”(ILL, big deals including subscription and approval plans, reference, bibliographic instruction, redundant cataloging and print runs) and “more sane” (document delivery, Wikipedia, shared cataloging, ease of use, print on demand and patron driven acquisitions). Graphical interfaces have made the library’s walls very fuzzy and the library huge. Game changers in the next five years: budget weakness, Google Books, Hathi Trust, patron driven options, and the Espresso Book Machine. Anderson expects Google Books, with its discoverability and availability, and Hathi Trust, due to its size, robustness, trustworthy archiving and effective metadata, to essentially replace the library. He described the Espresso Book Machine, in use at the University of Utah library, as “the coolest thing I have ever seen;” it will drive innovation. Utah has experienced a high demand for self-publishing and for blank books. There are opportunities for the library to publish unique materials and to partner with the university press. Anderson noted that we are not yet where we can go to a completely patron driven acquisitions model, that even for general collections all material is not available electronically, budgeting is difficult in a patron driven model and that this will exclude special collections. Nevertheless, we need a North Star to set our sights on – easy, immediate access to all books and articles. We won’t reach it, but need to stay focused on it.

## **A CONSORTIUM FOR SHARING PRIMARY MATERIALS**

**Speaker: Joseph J. Esposito** - CEO, GiantChair

**Reported by: Heather Miller** (HMiller@uamail.albany.edu) - University of Albany

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The proposal: Create a consortium of academic institutions to digitize and share important primary materials, starting with a detailed plan defining goals and issues, carefully delineated governance structure and carefully controlled membership. Esposito proposed starting with five founding institutions, each digitizing a particular collection of importance and scope, all having access to each others’ collections. Primary documents would present fewer problems at first and could provide a test platform for other content types. The consortium would be run by a strong management team, not at the board level. This team would create a business plan, obtain start up grants, set up an advisory committee and develop policies (including setting a membership fee). He foresees such a consortium having enormous leverage with costs remaining steady while value grows. Numerous issues will arise, but he noted that sometimes thinking too big and worrying too much about potential problems gets in the way of getting

started. The key elements here are: primary documents, careful planning, control and management. Esposito emphasized the need for stiff membership requirements, performance audits and eliminating “free riders” by, for instance, charging unaffiliated scholars a fee for access and assigning them to a member institution for authentication.

## **WHO DO WE TRUST? THE MEANING OF BRAND IN SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING AND ACADEMIC LIBRARIANSHIP**

**Speakers:** **Anthony Watkinson** - Senior Lecturer, Department of Information Studies, University College London, Moderator; **Kent Anderson** - CEO/Publisher, The Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery; **Dean Smith** - Director, Project MUSE; **Hazel Woodward** - University Librarian Cranfield University UK; **Allen Renear** - Associate Dean for Research and Associate Professor, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Reported by:** **Audrey Powers** (apowers@usf.edu) – University of South Florida

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Four presenters and a moderator representing the publishing industry and academic libraries provided their viewpoints about trust in an ever exploding web environment. Each presenter offered a different perspective of the meaning of trust based on the presenter’s point of view; publisher, vendor, librarian, and researcher. The presentations provided different perspectives on trust in the scholarly environment, but they all ultimately pointed to the information seeking behavior of end users. Because the explosion of published scholarly materials has created an environment where there is too much to read, the trend is to move away from finding and reading authoritative, trustworthy articles to exploiting content with text mining and strategic reading. Topics covered included skepticism and distrust of the publishing world, public access to research, the trust dynamic between publishers and librarians, users’ trust in the information resources in the web environment and the fact that the importance of trust is being exaggerated.

## **CHARLESTON CONFERENCE OBSERVATORY: ARE SOCIAL MEDIA IMPACTING IN RESEARCH?**

**Speakers:** **David Nicholas** - Director of the Department of Information Studies, UCL Centre for Publishing and CIBER Research Group; **Ian Rowlands** - Professor of Information Studies, University College London, (UCL); **Deanna Wamae** - Senior Vice President of the Americas, Emerald Group Publishing Inc.

**Reported by:** **Lettie Conrad** (Lettie.Conrad@sagepub.com ) - SAGE Publications, Inc.

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Online tools such as Twitter and Wikipedia are no longer exclusively social media; these devices can now also be considered “scholarly media,” as CIBER’s most recent studies show