

# Shared Print Transforms Library Spaces

Academic and research libraries increasingly are planning and implementing programs to share the responsibility and costs of maintaining print collections. These shared print projects can have impacts on space, budget and collection growth.

## Space

**Many libraries are dealing with competing demands for space.** We know monographs on shelves take up a lot of space, but the scale of large monograph collections can be surprising.<sup>1</sup>



**250,000**  
monographs

**need 45,000 sq. ft.**  
(4/5 of one football field)



**1,000,000**  
monographs

**need 150,000 sq. ft.**  
(about 2 1/2 football fields)

Using a variety of data, **libraries can make informed decisions about how to share, archive or remove monographs** to transform valuable library space into teaching, learning and collaboration spaces.

## Budget

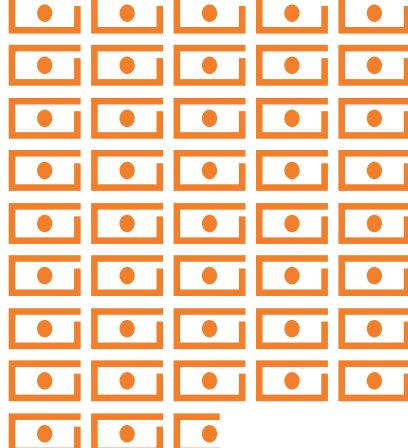
**Libraries are budget-conscious and decisions about how to use their budget dollars directly affect the service and collections available to patrons.** The cost to maintain 100,000 monograph volumes annually is substantial.<sup>2</sup>



**High-density off-site  
storage stacks**

**\$86,000**

per year



**Central stacks**

**\$426,000**

per year

To maintain service levels and collection access, sharing is becoming critical. As the return on investment in local print collections diminishes, **libraries can externalize print operations to shared repositories or take on deselection or shared print projects.**

## Growth

**More works are being published than ever before.** Large and mid-size university libraries still add tens of thousands of volumes each year.<sup>3</sup>



**Mid-size  
university libraries**

**20-30,000**

added per year



**Large academic  
research libraries**

**80,000**

added per year

It's nearly impossible for a single institution to maintain a complete collection. **Sharing print collections allows institutions to broaden their reach** without having to purchase every new published work they need.

**Sustainable Collection Services (SCS) provides tools and services to help manage and share print monographs.**

SCS offers GreenGlass™, a web application that allows single libraries and library groups to explore and visualize their collection in the context of the collective collection. You can also quickly model deselection and print management scenarios and generate custom reports and lists to support weeding and other collection management activities.

**Learn more at [oclc.org/scs](https://oclc.org/scs)**



<sup>1</sup> Lawrence, Stephen R, Lynn S. Connaway, and Keith H. Brigham. "Life Cycle Costs of Library Collections: Creation of Effective Performance and Cost Metrics for Library Resources." *College & Research Libraries*. 62.6 (2001): 541-53. Print.

<sup>2</sup> Courant, Paul N., and Nielsen, Matthew "Buzzy." "On the Cost of Keeping a Book," *The Idea of Order: Transforming Research Collections for 21st Century Scholarship*. Washington, D.C: Council on Library and Information Resources, 2010. Print.

<sup>3</sup> Payne, Lizanne. *Library Storage Facilities and the Future of Print Collections in North America*. Dublin, Ohio: OCLC Programs and Research, 2007. Internet resource.