

Ivy Plus Collections Vision Statement

The Ivy Plus libraries represent some of the world's leading academic research libraries that collectively provide access to a rich and unique record of human thought and creativity. These libraries have a history of collaboration involving subject-specific initiatives and the successful peer resource-sharing network, Borrow Direct. The changing nature of scholarly communication driven by technological innovation, and the increasing challenge from management of large and growing physical collections compels greater cooperation both within and beyond Ivy Plus.

The Ivy Plus libraries embrace a vision for collection development and management which recognizes our preeminent academic research and special collections as one great collection in support of the teaching, research and public missions of our respective institutions and the global scholarly community. The Ivy Plus libraries will endeavor to implement projects and initiatives which in time will move research materials in a variety of formats 'above the institution' to embed them in a networked infrastructure that fosters *collaboration*, *cooperation* and *consolidation* in support of building and providing access to distinctive academic research collections.

The Ivy Plus libraries' collections efforts will be guided by these general principles:

- All activities should advance collective collection building and maintenance in forward-looking ways with the potential to benefit all partners.
- All proposals should focus on maximizing access while also reducing purchasing, processing, sharing, and storage costs.
- Financial, technical, and legal hurdles should be identified and resolved wherever possible.
- Each library reserves the right to do what is best for its own users. All partners recognize the very different nature of each institution and its local mission.
- Initiatives should not undermine or unnecessarily duplicate the work of already-established programs or partnerships.
- The Ivy Plus libraries are not a closed universe. We live in a broader bibliographic ecosystem. We can't do it all and shouldn't try.
- Making evidence-based decisions should be the norm, not the exception. Pragmatism should be a touchstone. Likelihood of use and sustainability are valid concerns.

*Note, 'above the institution' and 'collaboration, cooperation and consolidation' were pulled from page 419 of Dempsey, Malpas and Lavoie. "Collection Directions: The Evolution of Library Collections and Collecting." *portal: Libraries and the Academy*, Volume 14, Number 3, July 2014, http://muse.jhu.edu/journals/portal_libraries_and_the_academy/summary/v014/14.3.dempsey.html