HathiTrust: Reviewing Goals, Accomplishments, and Opportunities for Collective Action

HathiTrust is a partnership of academic and research libraries that was launched in 2008 with a bold mission to "contribute to the common good by collecting, organizing, preserving, communicating, and sharing the record of human knowledge." In the space of the three years the partnership has grown from 25 members to over 60, developed a robust and scalable digital repository of nearly 10 million volumes, and made impressive strides in a number of areas including access to preserved materials, copyright review, and infrastructure to support collective strategies for storing and managing print collections. The efforts of the partnership stand to have a significant impact on the way academic and research libraries function in the 21st century. This project briefing will review accomplishments of HathiTrust in light of its mission and goals, and discuss the opportunities for collective action that the partnership and its work enables.

HathiTrust Mission

To contribute to the common good by collecting, organizing, preserving, communicating, and sharing the record of human knowledge

Goals and accomplishments

Building a comprehensive archive
- Content from 23 institutions
- 9.7 million volumes
- 45% overlap with ARL libraries
- 430 languages
- Range of dates
  - Pre-1870: 5%
  - 1870-1922: 14%
  - 1923-1963: 19%
  - 1964-1977: 19%
  - 1978-present: 43%
- Beyond books and journals
  - Images, audio, born-digital

Preservation...with access
- TRAC-certified
- Discovery of materials
- Access to public domain and open access materials
- Virtual collections
- Dataset distribution
- Research Center

Openness
- Bibliographic and Data APIs
- Inventory files, OAI
Collective Action

Copyright

- Rights holder permissions
- Copyright review
- Lawful uses of in-copyright works

Collections

- Print holdings database
- Print monographs archive
- Collection analysis (overlap with HathiTrust shown below)

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