Boston, MA – September 24, 2015: The Eastern Academic Scholars Trust (EAST), a major new shared print initiative among 47 libraries across New England, New York and Pennsylvania with important grant support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the Davis Educational Foundation, is pleased to announce the addition of two key staff to the project as well as the election of the EAST Executive Committee.

Anna Perricci will join EAST on October 12 as EAST Project Manager. For the past three years, Anna has managed a Mellon-funded initiative based at Columbia University to develop a collaborative program among the twelve Ivy Plus/Borrow Direct research libraries that cooperatively curates, preserves and makes accessible archived websites. She has earlier experience at ArtStor, the Occupy Wall Street archives, and the New York Public Library. Anna is an experienced communicator, with 14 conference presentations in the past three years alone. She holds a Master of Science in Information in Archives and Records Management from the University of Michigan.

Sara Amato joined EAST on September 21 as the EAST Data Librarian, to assist the project and EAST members with collection analysis and the planned validation studies. Sara held a similar position with the Maine Shared Collections Cooperative and brings significant experience working with multiple libraries to process and interpret collection analysis data.

John Unsworth, Vice Provost for Library & Technology Services and Chief Information Officer at Brandeis University and co-principal investigator for EAST’s Mellon Foundation grant, commented “Anna and Sara bring important skills and energy to EAST. Anna’s proven ability to build collaboration across diverse stakeholders will serve EAST well as the program moves into implementation. Sara has a proven commitment to the success of shared print initiatives and strong technical expertise that will be invaluable to EAST over the life of the project.”

Anna and Sara join these other key staff and service providers as the EAST project begins its implementation phase:

- Susan Stearns, Project Director and Executive Director of the Boston Library Consortium (EAST administrator)
Completing the EAST leadership, the member libraries recently elected their representatives to the Executive Committee. This group, which represents the diversity of EAST’s membership across both public and private institutions of varying sizes and geographic locations, includes:

- Susan Raidy-Klein, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
- Patrick Carr, University of Connecticut
- Chris Loring, Smith College
- Gail Scanlon, Phillips Exeter Academy
- Clem Guthro, Colby College
- Will Wakeling, Northeastern University.

They will join John Unsworth, Laura Wood and Susan Stearns on the EAST Executive Committee which will function as the board of directors of EAST approving operating policies, the business model and operating budget as EAST moves forward.

For more information about EAST, see https://www.blc.org/east-project

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About the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
Founded in 1969, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation endeavors to strengthen, promote, and, where necessary, defend the contributions of the humanities and the arts to human flourishing and to the well-being of diverse and democratic societies by supporting exemplary institutions of higher education and culture as they renew and provide access to an invaluable heritage of ambitious, path-breaking work.

For more information on the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, see https://www.mellon.org/

About the Davis Educational Foundation
The Davis Educational Foundation, established as a public charitable foundation in 1985, supports the undergraduate programs of public and private, regionally accredited, baccalaureate degree granting colleges and universities throughout the six New England states. Elisabeth K. Davis and Stanton W. Davis co-founded the foundation after Mr. Davis’s retirement as chairman of Shaw’s Supermarkets, Inc. The foundation is an expression of the couple’s shared support and value for higher education and has provided close to $98 million in grants to more than 157 institutions.

For more information on the Davis Educational Foundation, see http://www.davisfoundations.org/site/educational.asp

About the Boston Library Consortium
The Boston Library Consortium is a collaborative partnership of 17 academic and research libraries in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New Hampshire providing innovative and cost-effective information resources, services and expertise that allow its member libraries to best serve the teaching, research, and scholarship of their parent institutions.

For more information on the Boston Library Consortium, see https://www.blc.org/

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