MEMORANDUM:

TO: CSU Council of Library Deans (COLD)

FROM: COLD Resource Sharing and Preservation (CRSP) Task Force

DATE: 10/13/2015

SUBJECT: Participation of the California State University (CSU) Libraries as a consortium in the Western Regional Storage Trust (WEST), beginning in Fall 2015.

On October 9th the CRSP Taskforce met to discuss the merits of CSU consortial membership in WEST. Overall it was the task force's conclusion that the proposal has merit; however, there were several concerns with the implementation and timing of this proposal.

With regard to implementation, the task force was concerned with what we would have to do as a consortium or as individual institutions in order to prepare our records for submission to WEST. We were left with the following key questions regarding implementation of this proposal: Would WEST membership be easier to facilitate post Unified Library Management System (ULMS) (i.e. wait 2 years)? What do we need to do to prepare our records for WEST?

With regard to timing, the task force was concerned that the timing of the WEST membership (this year) may not permit the CSUs to fully take advantage of their membership due to the ULMS migration as well. Additionally, there was a concern that we “cannot be certain what we are committing to in terms of labor” on top of the already intense technical services/cataloging workload associated with this ULMS migration.

The task force recommends coordinating with David Walker, Brandon Dudley, and Emily Stambaugh to answer the question regarding the format of the bibliographic data (e.g. separate holdings records and/or holdings statements) for the journal titles. Additionally, the task force recommends that the data is formatted in such a way during the CSU’s ULMS migration to ensure that the CSU could easily provide this data to WEST and, then, join WEST as a consortium. Once the ULMS is in place; the CSU would be better positioned to join and participate in WEST.

Finally, with regard to cost, we agree with WEST’s recommendation that a “reasonable incentive, perhaps specific to ‘Supporter’ libraries” be offered. However, we also understand that this is still an individual financial commitment of each CSU library and that in any given year, any additional monetary charges could be a fiscal impossibility. Membership must be offered on an opt-in basis.