

I. Introduction

In July 2004 the MOBIUS Collection Management Advisory Committee (MCMAC) was formed with the charge to, "survey, monitor, and evaluate the MOBIUS collections in order to strengthen the resource base of the member institutions, thereby promoting excellence in academic research and instruction." Consequently, the committee spent a great deal of time exploring ways to gain a clear understanding of the age, strengths, weaknesses, and overlaps that exist within the collections of the MOBIUS consortium.

MCMAC determined that it would be most useful to first provide an overview of all libraries included in the grant to provide a collective snapshot. In the initial report MCMAC discovered that 20% of titles in the group are unique. Additionally, MCMAC discovered that 39% of titles are shared by 2-4 institutions indicating that the group's collection efforts have been reasonably successful at avoiding large-scale duplication.

One of the more meaningful pieces of information gleaned from the first report was that there are 664,949 titles in the group that were published before 1925. MCMAC feels this number may provide an opportunity to look at potential weeding and/or digitization projects across the state.

The current report provides a regional analysis of the collections of the libraries included in the grant. MCMAC determined that it would be useful to look at uniqueness, overlap and age by looking at smaller groupings of libraries that are in the same geographic region. MCMAC determined that looking at collections in this manner might provide greater potential for smaller groups of libraries to collaborate on collection management initiatives.

The final report will take into consideration data gathered from both reports and will provide guidelines for potential collaborative projects.

For the regional analysis, libraries were grouped as follows:

Central

1. Missouri Southern State University
2. Missouri State Library
3. Missouri State University
4. Missouri Western State University
5. Springfield Greene County Library
6. Stephens College
7. University of Central Missouri
8. University of Missouri Columbia
9. University of Missouri Rolla

East

1. Eden Webster
2. Maryville University
3. St. Charles Community College
4. St. Louis County Library
5. St. Louis Community College
6. St. Louis Public Library

7. St. Louis University
8. Southeast Missouri State
9. Truman State
10. University of Missouri St. Louis
11. Washington University

West

1. Kansas City Public Library
2. Mid-Continent Public Library
3. Missouri Western State University
4. University of Missouri Kansas City

II. Unique and Shared Titles

The OCLC “Uniqueness Report” indicates the number of titles shared by libraries within each group. This section of the report provides an overview of all, non-juvenile, English monograph titles held by libraries in the East, West, and Central regions of the state, as well as percentages of titles shared within each region.

Uniqueness reports provide insight into collection strengths both statewide and by region. Additionally, the reports provide a snapshot of those areas where duplication exists. Ultimately, it is the goal of MCMAC to use unique and shared title data in the regional reports, as well as the data in the initial report to establish potential guidelines for acceptable duplication levels in its final report.

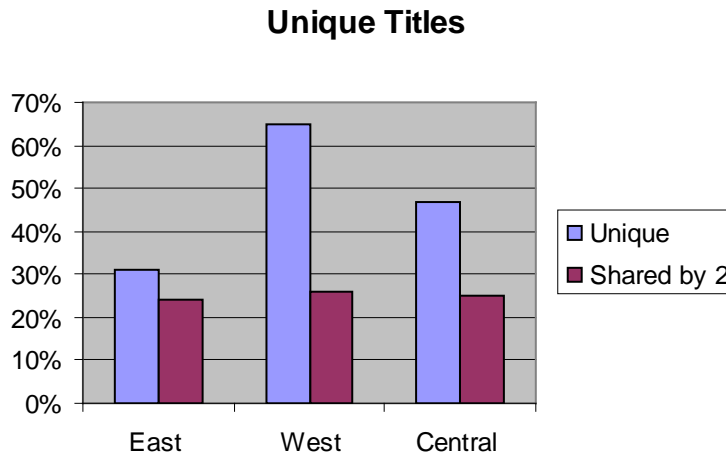
Graph 1. Unique Titles reflects total uniqueness and shared titles for library collections in the East, West, and Central regions mentioned above. Of all the regions, the Eastern region had the most overall titles with 4,033,130. The Eastern region also had the lowest percentage of unique titles in their collections at 31%.

The total number of non-juvenile, English, monograph titles for the Eastern region was 4,033,130. Of the 4,033,130 titles, 1,279,825 (31%) were identified as unique and 954,218 (23%) are shared by at least two other institutions in the region.

The total number of non-juvenile, English, monograph titles for the Western region was 1,536,653. Of the 1,536,653 titles, 1,005,525 (65%) were identified as unique and 402,966 (26%) are shared by at least two other institutions in the region.

The total number of non-juvenile, English, monograph titles for the Central region was 2,739,644. Of the 2,739,644 titles, (47%) were identified as unique and 689,958 (25%) are shared by at least two other institutions in the region.

Graph 1.



Tables 2, 3, and 4, Percentage of Unique Titles by Division reveals the percentage of unique titles by division in the East, West, and Central Divisions. MCMAC determined that it would be useful to limit the analysis to the top six categories of uniqueness for each region. In the final report divisional data will be used from this report, as well as the initial report to probe further and identify unique areas of concentration by institution. The regional uniqueness data provides guideposts for those areas MCMAC will use as benchmarks in its final report.

Table 2.

In the Eastern region the divisions with the highest percentage of unique titles are as follows:

East			
Division	Total	Unique	%
Engineering & Technology	200598	98185	48%
Agriculture	38741	18435	47%
Physical Education & Recreation	42216	16708	39%
Philosophy & Religion	303178	102952	33%
Business & Economics	340297	106433	31%
Geography & Earth Sciences	60336	19091	31%

Note: there were 11 libraries in this group

Table 3.

In the Western region the divisions with the highest percentage of unique titles are as follows:

West			
Division	Totals	Unique	%
Computer Science	11234	8363	74%
Engineering & Technology	83567	58789	70%
Philosophy & Religion	77147	54493	70%
Geography & Earth Sciences	13259	9182	69%
Education	47930	32803	68%
Political Science	43600	29876	68%

Note: there were 4 libraries in this group

Table 4.

In the Central region the divisions with the highest percentage of unique titles are as follows:

Central			
Divisions	Total	Unique	%
Agriculture	54646	34560	63%
Engineering & Technology	183043	110346	60%
Computer Science	33099	17915	54%
Philosophy & Religion	139881	74188	53%
Biological Sciences	67764	32663	48%
Political Science	89509	42605	47%

Note: there were 8 libraries in this group

Tables 5, 6, and 7, Percentage of Shared Titles by Division reveals the highest percentage of overlap by division in the East, West, and Central Divisions. Again, MCMAC arbitrarily chose to limit the divisions represented in this report. It is MCMAC's intention to use the divisions in this report, as well as the initial report to look at the areas with the highest levels of overlap and make educated determinations about acceptable levels of duplication, as well as identify potential opportunities for projects aimed at reducing duplication.

Table 5.

In the Eastern region the divisions with the highest percentage of overlap are as follows:

East	
Divisions	Shared by 2-6 Libraries
Art & Architecture	61%
Computer Science	58%
Education	63%
Engineering & Technology	62%
Political Science	67%

Note: there were 11 libraries in this group

Table 6.

In the Western region the divisions with the highest percentage of overlap are as follows:

West	
Divisions	Shared by 2-4 libraries
Language, Linguistics & Literature	41%
Art & Architecture	39%
History & Auxiliary Sciences	38%
Psychology	37%
Performing Arts	35%

Note: there were 4 libraries in this group

Table 7.

In the Central region the divisions with the highest percentage of overlap are as follows:

Central	
Divisions	Shared By 2-6 Libraries
Business & Economics	52%
Geography & Earth Sciences	50%
Mathematics	54%
Music	63%
Physical Sciences	49%

Note: there were 8 libraries in this group

III. Collection Analysis pre-1925

This section of the report examines collections for materials published pre-1925, thus in the public domain and prime candidates for digitization or weeding.

The graphs below indicate significant numbers of titles published before 1925. Not surprisingly these are concentrated in the areas of history, languages, literature, philosophy, and religion, the traditional core disciplines in higher education.

Table 7. Books Published Pre-1925 by Region and Division identifies the percentages of books by divisions that were published before 1925.

The number of titles published in the Eastern region before 1924 is 280,519 out of a total of 4,033,130 titles.

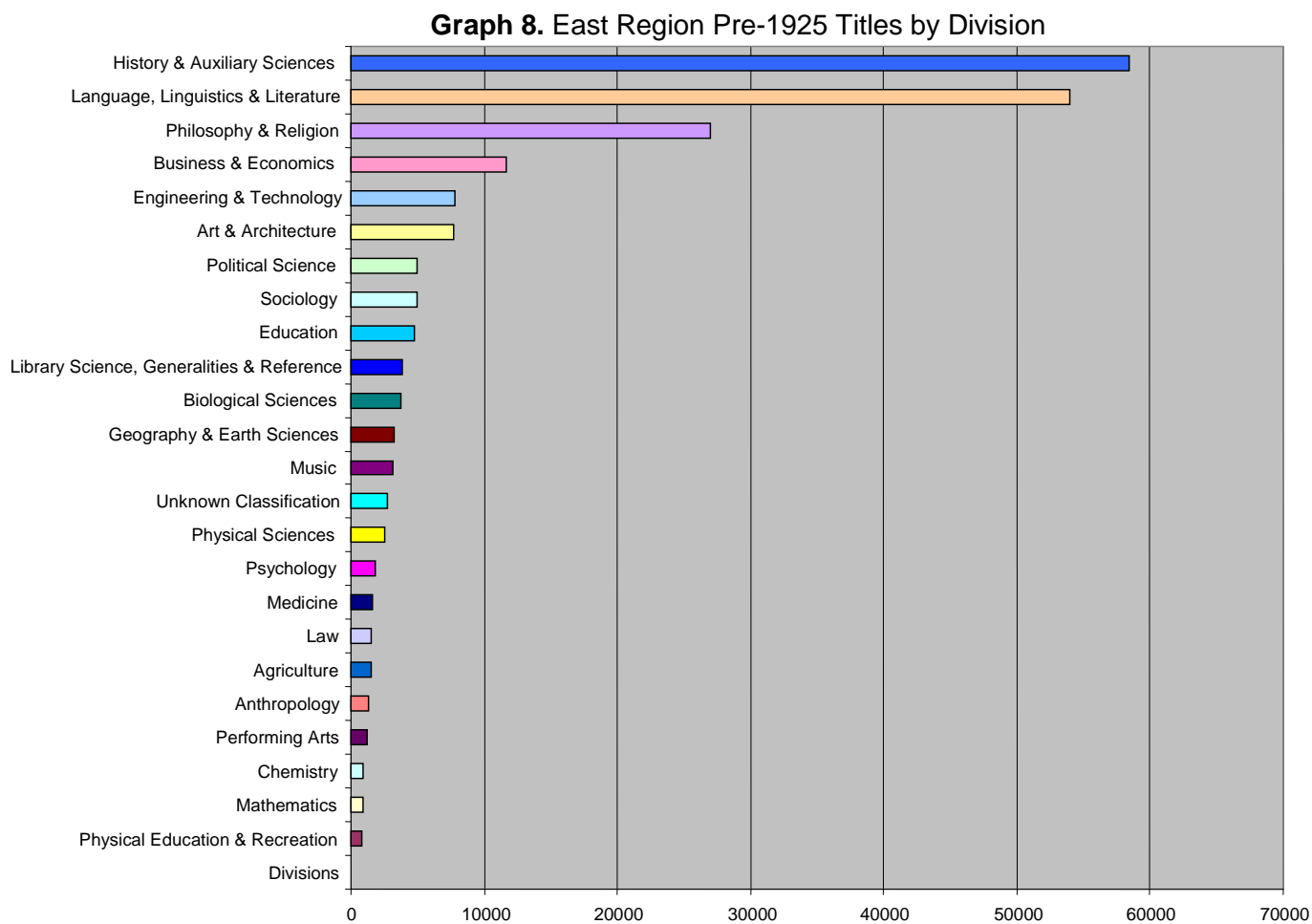
The number of titles published in the Western region before 1924 is 70,138 out of a total of 1,536,653 titles.

The number of titles published in the Central region before 1924 is 144,519 out of a total of 2,739,644 titles.

Table 7. Books Published Pre-1925 by Region			
Titles Published Pre-1925	West	East	Central
	70138	280519	144519

Graph 8. Books Published Pre-1925 in the East Region identifies those divisions with the greatest number of titles published. The graph below only includes those divisions where there are greater than 500 titles published before 1925. The five categories with the most titles published before 1925 are as follows:

1. History & Auxiliary Sciences – 58482
2. Language, Linguistics and Literature – 53969
3. Philosophy and Religion – 26952
4. Business and Economics – 11665
5. Engineering and Technology – 7810

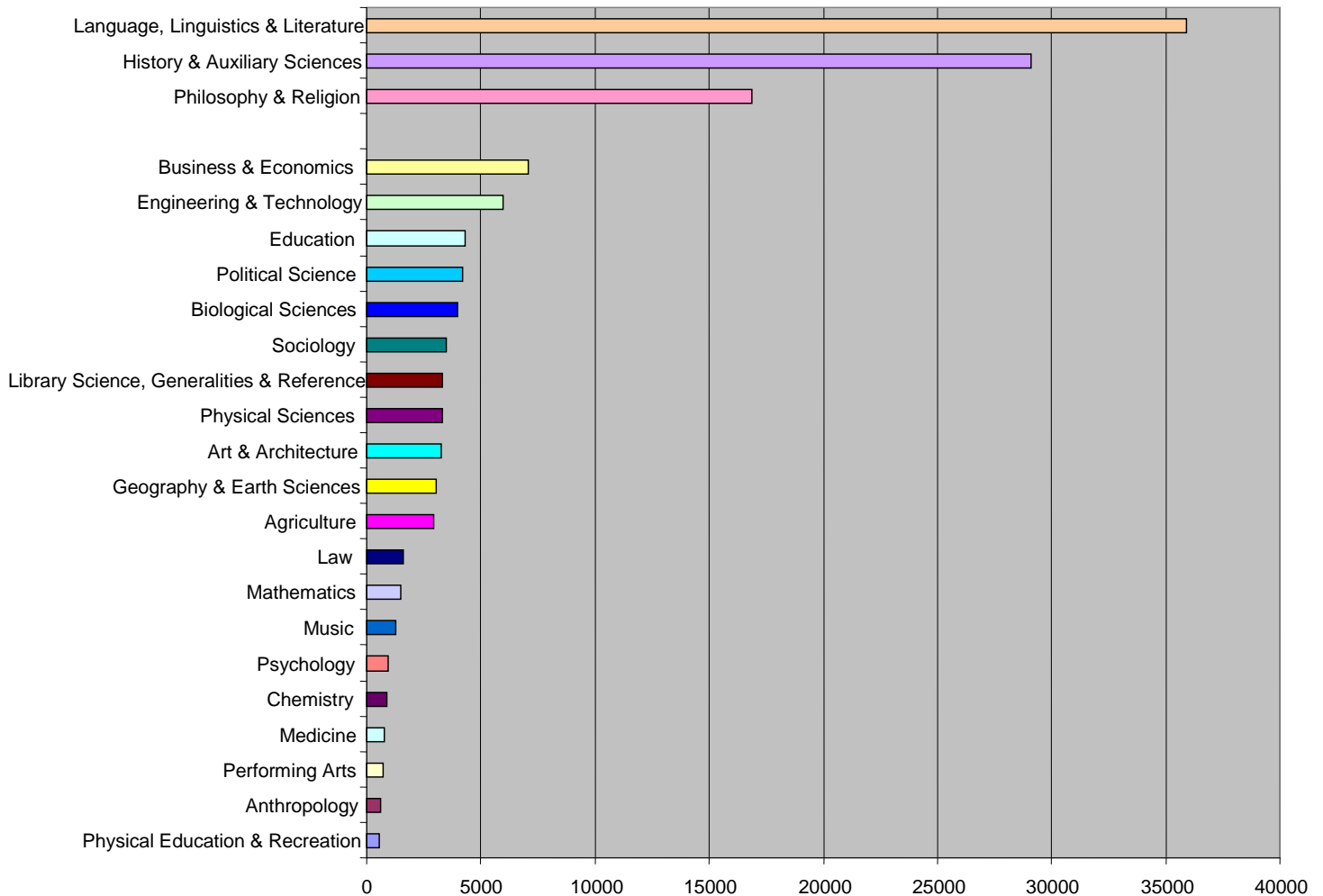


Note: there were 11 libraries in this group

Graph 9. Books Published Pre-1925 in the Central Region identifies those divisions with the greatest number of titles published. The graph below only includes those divisions where there are greater than 500 titles published before 1925. The five categories with the most titles published before 1925 are as follows:

1. Language, Linguistics and Literature – 35882
2. History & Auxiliary Sciences – 29081
3. Philosophy and Religion – 16875
4. Business and Economics – 7057
5. Engineering and Technology – 5960

Graph 9. Central Region Pre-1925 Titles by Division

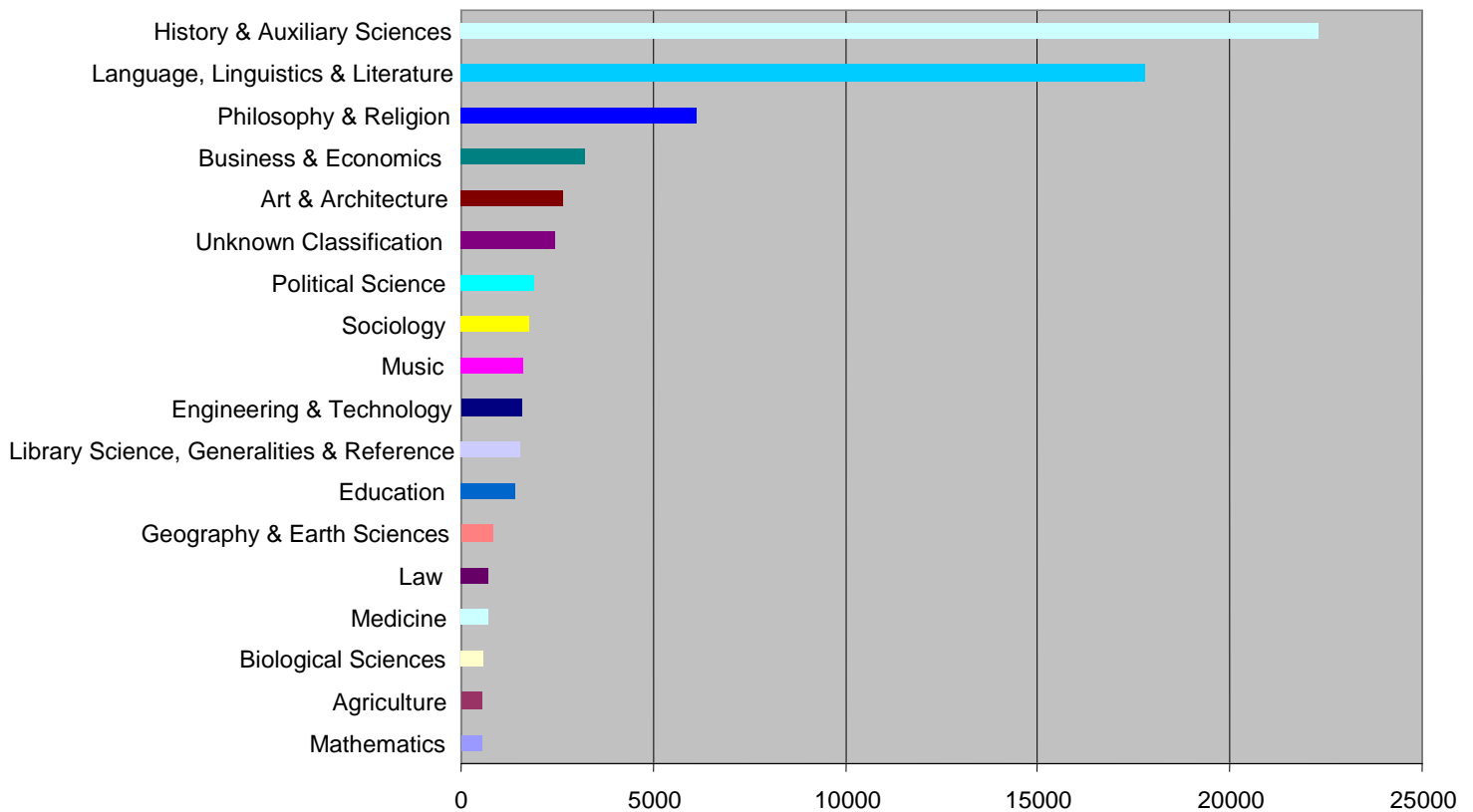


Note: there were 8 libraries in this group

Graph 10. Books Published Pre-1925 in the Central Region identifies those divisions with the greatest number of titles published. The graph below only includes those divisions where there are greater than 500 titles published before 1925. The five categories with the most titles published before 1925 are as follows:

1. History & Auxiliary Sciences – 22,304
2. Language, Linguistics and Literature – 17,780
3. Philosophy and Religion – 6,134
4. Business & Economics – 3,222
5. Art & Architecture – 2,648

Graph 10. West Region Pre-1925 Titles by Division



Note: there were 4 libraries in this group

IV. Conclusion

The current report was generated to provide a closer look at collections from a regional perspective. While there is an imbalance in the numbers of libraries in each group, there is a good representation of each type of library within each region, particularly in the East and Central regions. It seems that the identification of strengths and weaknesses in a varied group of libraries provides an excellent opportunity to identify potential collaboration projects between different types of libraries that are in close proximity to one another.

The regional reports tend to reflect higher levels of uniqueness than the first report. For example, the first report showed that overall uniqueness for all libraries included in the project was 20%. However, levels of uniqueness by region jumped to 31%, 65%, and 47% for the East, West, and Central regions respectively. This can certainly be attributed to the way in which the libraries were grouped. For example, the East region only included 4 libraries with two public and two academic, which explains the high percentage of unique titles in that grouping.

The divisional reports for all regions reflect higher rates of uniqueness in selected divisions than in the overall reports as well. For example, Engineering and Technology had the second highest rate of uniqueness at 26% when looking at overall uniqueness. When looking at the Engineering and Technology division regionally, the rates of uniqueness are 48%, 70%, and 60% for the East, West, and Central divisions respectively.

Further, the regional overlap reports suggest that overlap levels are not alarmingly high. However, it is this area that can provide guidance for determining what MCMAC/MOBIUS considers acceptable duplication levels. It is MCMAC's intent to look at these divisional reports both collectively and regionally to come up with recommendations for collaboration on reduction of duplication, as well as create a guideline for an acceptable level of duplication. Recommendations will be provided in the final report.

The Pre-1925 regional and overall reports reflected that the key areas with the greatest number of titles published prior to 1925 are History and Auxiliary Sciences and Language, Linguistics, and Literature. It will be these areas that MCMAC will focus on when preparing its final recommendations for potential digitization projects. MCMAC will use the data from the first two reports as guidelines for further analysis. For example, the committee will look at narrower subdivisions within these broad areas to identify meaningful "collections" of titles that might generate digital projects and make final recommendations based on those findings.

