Committee on Institutional Cooperation
LIBRARY COLLECTIONS

The collective libraries of the CIC hold more than 78,000,000 volumes, a national treasure as rich for its depth and diversity as it is for its sheer size. Most of these libraries began building their collections in the middle of the nineteenth century so there is a wealth of historical depth to these collections as well. Generations of librarians on each campus have nurtured individual collecting strengths over the decades. In the aggregate, the CIC collections are particularly strong in their coverage of agriculture, the Midwest region of the country (including the Great Lakes and our foremost cities and industries—e.g., automobiles, steel, mining), engineering, medicine, and literature. The collections are extremely rich in long runs of journals and periodicals, the proceedings of scholarly societies, and government information. In addition, they cover an in-depth array of worldwide languages and cultures. Below are just a few of the nationally recognized collecting strengths of CIC member universities.

Selected Library Strengths Across CIC University Libraries

University of Chicago—South Asia; astronomy and physics; religion; Near East; Classics; history of science and medicine.

University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign—Slavic and Eastern European history, literature and science; Geology; Children's books; American humor.

University of Illinois at Chicago—Medicine (with special strengths in breast cancer, neurology and dermatology); public health and pharmacology; Native American literature; history, literature and culture of Chicago.

Indiana University—Folklore; Central Eurasian (e.g., Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Estonia, Mongolia) history, literature and culture; Music.

University of Iowa—American and British theater; film studies, including Japanese cinema; culinary arts; science fiction.

University of Michigan—East Asia (China and Japan); dentistry; Egyptology, and ancient Near East; Southeast Asia (Philippines); South Slavic history, literature and travel.

Michigan State University—Agriculture, with emphasis on veterinary medicine and turfgrass; American popular culture, including comic arts; Canadiana.

University of Minnesota—Scandinavian history, literature and culture; forestry; bee-keeping; medicine, including oncology, radiology and pediatrics.

Northwestern University—Africana; transportation and transportation history; journalism; art.

Ohio State University—Psychology; education; linguistics; American literature.

Pennsylvania State University—Food sciences (e.g., mycology and mushroom production, chocolate/cocoa); materials science and ceramics; German Americana; mining, meteorology.

Purdue University—Engineering; chemistry; hospitality and tourism; Amelia Earhart collection.

University of Wisconsin-Madison—Dairy Science; food sciences (dairy, cranberries, oats, potatoes); European history and social science; Southeast Asia (Indonesia); primates.