Vanguard Participation Criteria

Overview
The Vanguard phase of implementation is the middle stage between Onboarding and Implementation. During this 4 month period, tentatively scheduled for January through April 2019, up to 7 PASCAL member libraries will experience the full implementation process up to but not including going live prior to the rest of the member libraries. Vanguard libraries will be required to actively participate in data extraction and migration, profiling, testing, training, system configuration, initial workflow planning, etc. beginning in the middle of the Onboarding phase and continuing throughout the Vanguard phase. In addition, these libraries will also be expected to participate at a high level during the Implementation phase to provide assistance to other libraries and to participate in the two on-site training sessions.

Important Caveat
Participating as a Vanguard library does not result in going live with Alma before the other libraries. All libraries will go live at the same time, tentatively scheduled for May 2020.

Participation Criteria
Vanguard libraries agree to commit to the following:

- Collaborate with relevant SLSP teams, PASCAL staff, and campus entities in the data extraction and migration, profiling, testing, training, system configuration, initial workflow planning, etc.
- Participate in all relevant meetings and trainings beginning during the Onboarding phase and continuing throughout the Vanguard phase as well as various activities during the Implementation phase to support peer institutions.
- Collaborate with relevant SLSP teams and PASCAL staff to develop and document specifications, policies, procedures, workflows, and other documentation.
- Collaborate with relevant SLSP teams and PASCAL staff to conduct assessments and tests of functionality in new system releases.

Vanguard libraries should be representative of the diversity of the PASCAL member institutions. This diversity should include PASCAL constituency categories and institution size, ILS vendor, link resolver product, type and variety of records to be migrated, variety of external connections, variety of authentication approaches, etc. Though it will not be possible to include every possible permutation within the Vanguard group, ideally each participating PASCAL member library will be able to see themselves reflected in one (or a combination) of the Vanguard libraries. A library within a current shared system may participate, but the entire shared system cannot participate as each library will be counted individually.

Please note that a final decision on Vanguard selection will not be made until the Onboarding phase has begun.

If your library is interested in being considered as a Vanguard library, please complete the volunteer form by September 7th.

Please contact Dianne Schaefer with any questions.