

Summary of Survey Results: May 2009

by Kathleen Shearer, Co-ordinator of the CARL IR Program

The survey was conducted in February 2009 using the online survey site, Survey Monkey. 26 of 27 CARL academic libraries replied, as well as CISTI and two non-CARL libraries (University of Lethbridge and IDRC), with a total of 29 responses. The survey was available in both French and English and the questionnaires are included in the Appendix.

Results

25 of the 29 respondents indicated that they had an institutional repository at their institution. Of the CARL libraries, 23 of 27 respondents currently have an institutional repository, and 3 more are planning to implement one in the next year.

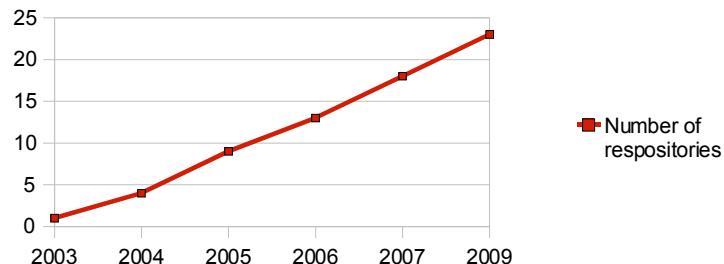
Table 1: Responding CARL libraries with repositories

University of Alberta	Université du Québec à Montréal
University of British Columbia	Queens University
University of Calgary	University of Regina
Carleton University	University of Saskatchewan
CISTI	Simon Fraser University
Dalhousie University	University of Toronto
University of Guelph	University of Victoria
University of Manitoba	University of Waterloo
McGill University	University of Western Ontario
McMaster's University	University of Windsor
Université de Montréal	York University
University of Ottawa	

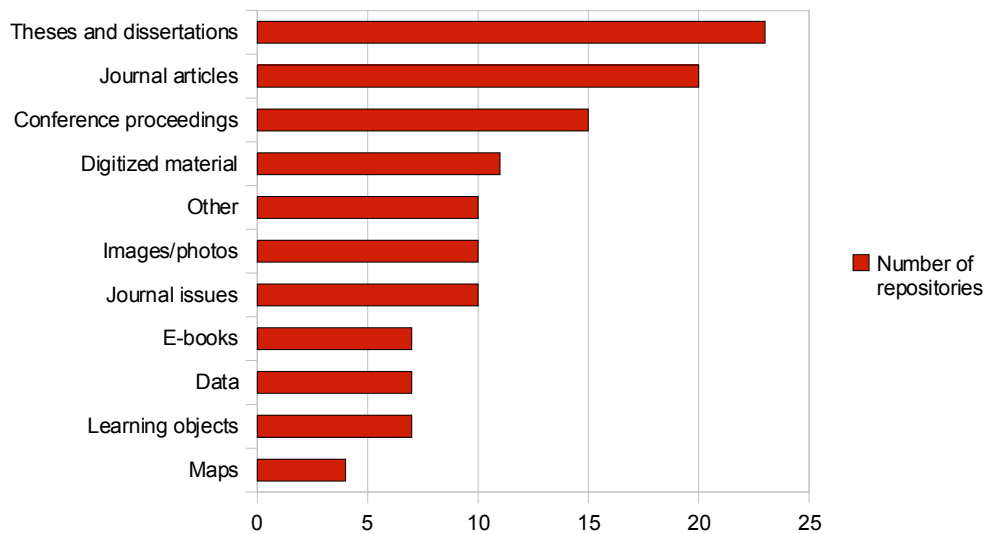
Table 2: CARL libraries developing repositories in the next year

Concordia University
Memorial University
University of New Brunswick

Growth of CARL IRs

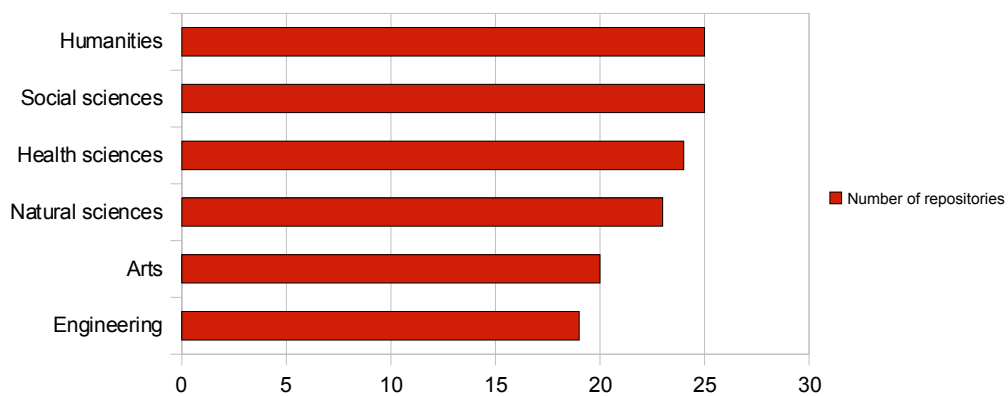


Types of content collected: The content types currently being collected at respondent IRs are quite varied. Table 1 provides a list of all content types collected by responding repositories. 23 repositories are collecting theses and dissertations; 20 are collecting journal articles.



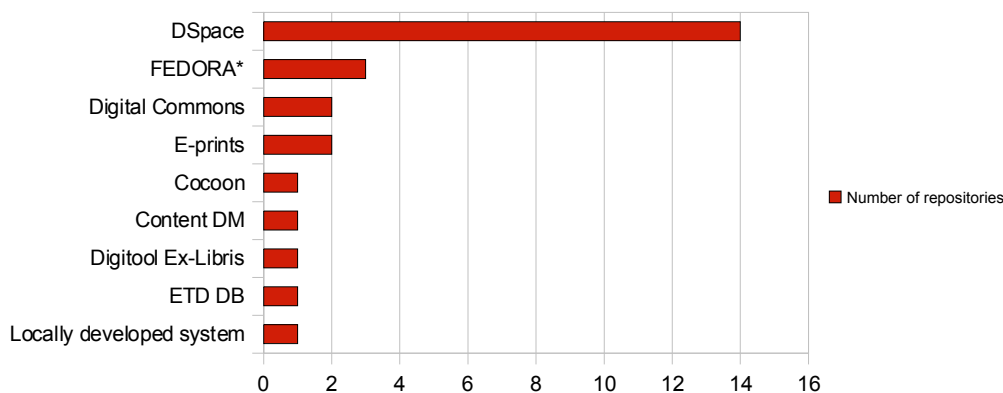
The types of material included in the 'other' section were: musical recordings, research reports, technical reports, audio and video, powerpoint presentations, book chapters, reports, audio files (conferences), video recordings, and podcasts.

Disciplines: Most repositories collect content across disciplines.



Staffing: The staffing at repositories ranges from .25 FTE to 6 FTE (CISTI), with the average staff time being 1.3 FTE per repository.

Software platforms: DSpace is the most popular repository platform, with 14 repositories using the DSpace software. Two respondents indicated that they are moving from Dspace to Fedora and thus there will be three repositories running Fedora software. Two repositories are using e-prints and several repositories are using commercial software platforms (listed below).



*figure includes 2 repositories that are migrating from DSpace to FEDORA

Usage statistics:

70% of respondents (14) indicated that they are collecting usage statistics, 30% (6) are not. Most repositories are using internal statistics provided by software package, but several repositories are supplementing these with external statistics provided by Google analytics (5) and awstats (2).

Only 7 of the 17 respondents indicated that they were making usage statistics publicly available, while the other 10 said they were not presently making them public.

One respondent indicated that they are including IR statistics in the library's annual reports.

SWORD:

Several survey questions were developed by a CISTI-CARL Working Group to determine levels of interest and capacity of CARL members for implementing the SWORD protocol.

20 of 27 CARL academic libraries indicated that there was an interest at their organization to implement the receiver aspect of SWORD. However, five of those are using software platforms in which SWORD has not yet been implemented. In addition, another 3 repositories indicated that, although interested, they currently do not have the technical expertise available. This leaves a total of 12 CARL academic repositories that have interest, technical expertise, and the appropriate software to implement the receiver aspects of SWORD. In addition, CISTI intends to implement the SWORD in its own institutional repository.

Other comments from respondents

“Maybe next year it would be useful to ask if any institutions are planning new features in their IRs such as alerts, "faculty pages", integration of IR material into other websites, etc.”

“survey assumes that you are only running one software environment, and one IR project. skews some responses”

“We are interested to see how other IR’s implementation affects their workflow. In particular we will be watching for the following: a) Will it increase the number of faculty submitting their own papers? b) Will it increase campus awareness of the IR? c) Will it encourage Departments, such as, Physics and Medicine who have their own established subject/discipline repositories to also deposit in their University IR? d) How publisher copyright policies will be taken into account with a dual upload to a subject repository and a University repository. How to ensure that the item can be posted in an Institutional Repository (publisher policies are often more strict regarding Institutional Repositories). How will we ensure that the IR records comply with the publisher policy in terms of file type and licensing? How permissions are set up if faculty are uploading themselves. To ensure that records were complete and copyright was complied with would need to go through an approval process (approved my Administrator).”

“Explore a collaborative/consortial approach to launching and managing a data repository 2. Develop "best practices" of IR management and assessment”

“please see numerous posting on dsalo's blog: <http://cavlec.yarinareth.net/> also recent commentary on e-foundations starting here: <http://efoundations.typepad.com/efoundations/2009/02/repository-usability.html> repositories need serious attention, VRE at UPEI seems to have the best track record in Canada that does not involve staff mediation: <http://vre.upei.ca/> it would be really instructive if CARL highlighted VRE to all of its institutions since this is a gem that originates in Canada”