



CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF RESEARCH LIBRARIES  
ASSOCIATION DES BIBLIOTHÈQUES DE RECHERCHE  
DU CANADA

**CARLABRC**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**OTTAWA (September 29, 2006) – RESEARCH LIBRARY SPENDING ON ELECTRONIC SERIALS SURPASSES PRINT SERIALS FOR THE SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Spending on electronic serials by Canada's research libraries in 2004–2005 rose to just over \$94 million dollars, a 20% increase over 2003–2004, compared to a decrease of 3% on print serials expenditures to \$69.6 million dollars. For the second consecutive year, electronic serials expenditures have exceeded print serials expenditures.

“The shift of resources from print to electronic access continues unabated,” says Dr. David Holmes, former Director of Institutional Research and Planning, Carleton University and the author of the *CARL Statistics 2004–2005 Trends and Observations*. “It remains to be seen whether the new generation of electronic book readers, will stimulate greater interest in electronic monographs.”

A number of emerging service trends continue to unfold. Another CARL library added a “learning commons”, bringing the total to 21 such facilities. At the same time, 24 out of 29 CARL libraries have undertaken at least one digitization project—up from 22 the previous year.

The *Statistics* detail Expenditures, Establishment and Collection Size as well as salary information. Emerging Services address the issues of technological advancements and support to patrons in using this technology. Tables on Use, Facilities and Services are also included.

The 29 reporting CARL member libraries spent \$242,885,451 on materials in 2004–2005. They hold over 81 million monographs and subscribe to over 742,000 journals.

“CARL academic library members exist to meet the education and research needs of their university user communities,” stated Ms. Sylvie Belzile, Directrice, Service des bibliothèques, Université de Sherbrooke, and Chair of the CARL Committee on Effectiveness Measures and Statistics. “This latest issue of the annual *CARL Statistics* continues the long-standing tradition of providing sound and comprehensive Canadian research library data—a practice that originated in 1969. CARL is an excellent source for complete statistical information on Canada's research libraries.”

CARL is the leadership organization for the Canadian research library community. The Association's members are the 27 major academic research libraries across Canada plus Library and Archives Canada, the Canada Institute for Scientific and Technical Information (CISTI) and the Library of Parliament.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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