

CARL Advancing Research Committee – Terms of Reference

Revised and adopted in April 2016

Introduction

A research library is an enabler – indeed, increasingly, a partner – in the research enterprise of the university. CARL’s Strategic Directions 2016-2019 state that:

Canada’s research libraries play pivotal roles in the creation and long-term stewardship of the scholarship produced at universities—whether new faculty publications or the research data upon which new scholarship is built. They also provide access for students, faculty, and researchers to the world’s information resources. CARL supports the critical enabling role of libraries in research and scholarship.

Mandate and Role

Under the direction of ‘**Advancing Research**,’ CARL’s Strategic Directions 2016-2019 state that CARL will:

- Lead, develop, and deploy research data management initiatives.
- Foster new knowledge creation and sustainable scholarly communication, including open access, and encourage the role of the library in all aspects of publishing (creation, access, dissemination, preservation).
- Facilitate collaborations to create, acquire, share, and preserve Canada’s research resources.

The Advancing Research Committee is a strategic-level committee that focuses on all aspects of CARL libraries’ support to the research enterprise. Research Data Management (RDM) is advanced principally by **Portage**, which is a strategic initiative of the CARL Board and has its own Steering Committee, but will be a standing information item for the Advancing Research Committee.

The Advancing Research Committee develops CARL positions, priorities, and initiatives that collectively aim to foster a sustainable scholarly research ecosystem in Canada, whether at the stage of new knowledge creation or at later stages of its dissemination, use and preservation. While maximizing open access to scholarship is a clear objective, the ultimate goal is to create a healthy, integrated scholarly communication environment to serve the interests of Canadian research, learning and scholarship.

Responsibilities

The Advancing Research Committee will:

- Advance CARL’s Strategic Directions 1.2 and 1.3.

- Identify, initiate and guide CARL collaborations with other stakeholders in Canada (and beyond) that aim to develop workable, made-in-Canada approaches that encourage sustainable open access and commercial scholarly publishing.
- Identify and pursue opportunities for CARL and its member libraries to support Tri-Council policy compliance.
- Develop CARL positions on new models for scholarly publishing, and its financial support.
- Explore trends in research production and dissemination, and encourage experimentation with, or the implementation of, new or innovative approaches.
- Consider national preservation issues related to Canada's multi-format documentary heritage, and set CARL's priority areas for engagement on this matter, in collaboration with LAC and other stakeholders.
- Determine CARL collaborative digitization project priorities and funding sources.
- Form Working or Task Groups to undertake a project or initiative, or to advance a goal.
- Adhere to the CARL Committee Guidelines.

The Committee reports regularly to the Board and to the membership at General Meetings.

Membership

The Committee will normally consist of 4-8 CARL library directors. The President and the Executive Director are *ex officio* members of the Committee. Normally at least one member of the Committee will also be a Board member. The Chair of the Committee, as recommended by Committee members, will be approved by the Board and appointed for a term of two years. The term may be renewed at the discretion of the Committee.

Subcommittees and Working Groups

The Committee will strike subcommittees or working groups as needed. The members of these groups need not all be members of the Committee, but the Chair of the subgroup normally will be. Subcommittee and working group mandates, chairs, members, and project budgeting will be approved by the Committee.

This Committee was established in January 2016.