

## **CARL Open Repositories Working Group for 2020-2021 Terms of Reference (January 2020)**

### **Background**

As open scholarship becomes a priority for the research community, the role of repositories is expanding and gaining in importance. However, in order to maximize the value of repositories (and our libraries' investments in repository services) they need to be interoperable through the adoption of common behaviours, standards and protocols. In addition, the repository landscape is becoming more diverse in Canada with an increasing number of data, institutional and domain repositories and the community would benefit from a discussion of the roles and relationships between different repositories and the opportunities for greater coherence at the national scale. The ORWG will identify and progress the collective and individual actions required to advance the strategic vision for repositories in Canada.

### **Objective**

The Open Repositories Working Group (ORWG)'s key responsibility appears in the [CARL Scholarly Communication Roadmap](#):

*3.4. Strengthen and add value to the network of Canadian open access repositories by collaborating more closely and adopting a broader range of services such as assessment and usage measures;*

In support of this goal, the Working Group will engage with stakeholders from across Canada to develop and implement positions, priorities, and initiatives related to open access repositories in alignment with the priorities of CARL's Advancing Research Committee.

### **Tasks**

The Institutional Repository Working Group will:

- Engage with CARL, ARC and other stakeholders to coalesce around a strategic vision for repositories in Canada;
- Consider and clarify the relationship between different repository types in Canada (e.g. articles, data, etc.), in collaboration with Portage;
- Investigate the potential for and interest in shared repository infrastructure, service delivery and support;
- Articulate and promote the role of repositories in supporting open access and open science/scholarship to a broad range of stakeholder communities;
- Support a community of practice for repository service providers in Canadian libraries, archives and museums;
- Identify and assist the implementation of interoperability requirements for repositories that will be needed to support a coherent network of repositories in Canada.

## **Membership**

Membership will include at least two members of CARL's Advancing Research Committee (ARC) and at least five regionally diverse leaders from within the Canadian repository community, as well as representation from COAR, and other additional members selected by the working group, for their individual expertise and institutional affiliation. One of the ARC representatives will chair, and a co-chair with ties to the Canadian repository community may also be named.

## **Appointment Process**

Expressions of interest to serve on the ORWG will be sought from the community of repository managers at Canadian academic libraries. For Advancing Research Committee (ARC) representation, expressions of interest will be sought from ARC members.

ARC will select the co-chairs. The co-chairs will select members based on geographic, linguistic, expertise, and equity, diversity and inclusion considerations.

## **Lines of Accountability and Communication**

- The Open Repositories Working Group is accountable to the CARL Advancing Research Committee.
- The Chair or Co-Chair of the Working Group reports on its activities and submits written recommendations as appropriate.

## **Financial and Administrative Policies**

- Service on the Open Repositories Working Group is non-remunerative.
- Travel and meeting expenses for the Working Group members may be reimbursed according to the policies of CARL.
- Members of the Working Group shall comply with CARL Board-approved governance and organizational policies, including code of conduct and conflict of interest policies.
- Working group outputs will be released under a CC-BY licence and will follow CARL's standard practices regarding authorship and attribution.
- Insofar as it may be feasible, discussions of the Open Repositories Working Group will be conducted by teleconference or videoconference.

## **Timeline**

These terms of reference apply to the second mandate of this working group, which begins in January 2020, and will meet on a monthly basis over a two-year period. A final report should be presented by the Chair or Co-chairs to the Advancing Research Committee in December 2021.