

CARL Executive Director's Report

Tabled at the CARL Board Meeting, May 17, 2021

The following provides an overview of selected activities undertaken or supported by the CARL Office since the February 3, 2021 report to the Board, which was also shared with the Membership.

Special Activities to Support Institutions During the Pandemic

Friday Zoom Calls for Directors

Since the start of the pandemic, CARL has been facilitating a weekly Friday afternoon informal Zoom session where CARL directors come together to update each other on changes and decisions at their establishments, but also to lend an ear to their colleagues in this difficult time. In 2021, we started hosting the session every other week. At the suggestion of those attending one of these calls, we held a special directors' call on March 10th to share experiences and strategies with 'gifts that cost' (donations that come with terms that can become excessively burdensome to the institution).

Webinar & Community Call Series

CARL and Portage continued to host [regular webinars and community calls](#), sometimes in partnership with other groups, on topics of interest to the various library communities of practice that they support, which are free and open to all – both CARL members and non-members. Two communities for which CARL organized inaugural community calls during the reporting period were Development Officers and Communications Officers.

Policy and Public Affairs

CUSMA

The Canadian government launched a consultation in mid-February to seek comments on the implementation of the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement which extends the term of copyright protection in Canada to life + 70 years. A [discussion paper](#) offered a variety of mitigation measures especially targeted to libraries, museums and archives. CARL and CFLA submitted a [joint response](#) on March 29, 2021.

Bill C-10 – An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act

Bill C-10 is currently being reviewed clause by clause by the Heritage Committee. This has resulted in the proposed amendment that has made headlines where the committee was proposing to remove the exemption of user generated content online from CRTC regulation. The change raised questions about open internet and freedom of speech. The committee has since pulled back on this proposed amendment noting that user generated content on social

media will not be regulated. Opposition parties have called for a charter review of the Bill that could delay the process for an additional 10 working days. The Bill must go back to the House for a 3rd reading before it moves to Senate and so it is questionable whether the Bill may pass before the House rises. CARL is keeping a watching brief on this Bill at this time. (It should be noted that there have been references to hate speech in relation to Bill C-10; however, this will be addressed in a separate bill led by Minister Lametti that is yet to come forward.)

Bill C-11- Digital Charter Implementation Act, 2020 (An Act to enact the Consumer Privacy Protection Act and the Personal Information and Data Protection Tribunal Act and to make consequential and related amendments to other Acts).

Bill C-11 is currently at 2nd reading. The committee responsible for reviewing this bill is the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics (ETHI). There is a sense that the opposition is trying to block the Bill from going to committee because ETHI is currently tasked with the WE and the Pornhub scandals and they do not want this bill to interfere with those investigations. As with Bill C-10, at this time, CARL is keeping a watching brief on this Bill.

Consultation on a Modern Copyright Framework for Online Intermediaries

This consultation is the second of three launched by the Canadian Government on copyright in which CARL will participate. We have engaged Howard Knopf to provide a brief summary of areas where CARL should comment. CFLA has struck a small working group to submit a response of which CARL is participating, and we have engaged in discussions with other LAMS and post-secondary groups to further develop CARL's positioning. CARL attended the Government's technical briefing on May 5th which provided the opportunity to further explore each section of the consultation and seek clarification for the various points raised in the consultation document. The library community will be focusing its response to intermediaries, safe harbour, extended collective licencing, notice and takedown, and broad principles related to the consultation. The deadline for responses to the consultation is May 31, 2021.

Fair Dealing Advocacy

In recognition of World Copyright Day (April 23), Access Copyright and the creative industries refreshed a social media campaign against the educational exception to fair dealing. While it does not appear to have gained much traction, we are working to update various documents and speaking points related to fair dealing, considering writing an op-ed piece, exploring ways to collect data on spending by CARL libraries on Canadian content, and seeking targeting meetings with MPs and government officials to discuss the facts about fair dealing and educational spending on resources.

Supreme Court of Canada Case

CARL was [granted leave](#) to intervene in the York vs. Access Copyright case before the Supreme Court of Canada. Howard Knopf will be representing CARL and has submitted the

10-page factum to the courts. CARL's [application to intervene](#) is available on the CARL website. Our appearance before the court will be held virtually on May 21, 2021.

Consultation on the Access to Information Act

In June 2019, Parliament passed Bill C-58, which made amendments to the [Access to Information Act](#). CARL engaged on Bill C-58 during its development. Bill C-58 also introduced a requirement for the President of the Treasury Board to review the act every five years, with the first review beginning by June 21, 2020. The [public/stakeholder engagement](#) portion of that review has now begun. The review will focus on reviewing the legislative framework, opportunities to improve proactive publication to make information openly available, and assessing processes and systems to improve service and reduce delays. Workshops and roundtables with stakeholders will be held this summer.

Canadian Artists and Content Creators Economic Survey

Canadian Heritage launched a Canadian Artists and Content Creators Economic Survey on May 10, 2021. All Canadian artists and content creators are invited to take part, to help shed light on their experiences working and earning a living in a pre- and post-COVID-19 world. The purpose of this survey is to help create an updated portrait of the artistic and creative community in Canada. The data gathered through this survey will inform current and future Canadian Heritage policies and programs, ensuring the department continues to be responsive to the realities of the creative sector.

Accessibility - CARL-ARL Task Force on Marrakesh Treaty Implementation

Much of the work to date has been developing metadata requirements to be used in the proposed pilot project to implement cross-border exchange between Canada and the US. Four institutions have been confirmed as pilot sites: Cornell University, BANQ, York University, and the University of Florida. Victoria Owen is Visiting Project Officer leading this initiative, and Pascal Calarco will be a second joint VPO starting in July to lead the pilot project.

Accessibility - CELA and NNELS funding

CELA and NNELS were once again facing serious cuts to government funding. While funding has been restored for this year, CARL issued a [statement](#) in March calling on the government to provide continued and ongoing funding to the these two important organizations.

Meetings with MPs and Government Officials

S. Haigh (CARL), R. Raven (CFLA), V. Owen (University Toronto and CARL VPO-Marrakesh Treaty), D. Taylor (SFU) met with Scott Simms, Chair of Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage and Madwa-Nika Cadet, Senior Policy Advisor to Minister Champagne on April 26, 2021 to discuss the joint CARL and CFLA Response to Consultation on Copyright Term Extension. Several more meetings with MPs and staffers are scheduled, with CARL attending at the invitation of CFLA.

Management, Advancement and Assessment of Research Libraries

CARL Research in Librarianship Grant

The following recipient of the 2021 student category of the Research in Librarianship Grant fund was announced on May 11: Melissa Moleirinho (Master of Information Studies student, McGill University), for her research on the experiences of non-degree students as users of academic libraries. A call for applications to the practicing librarian category was circulated on April 21st.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Under the leadership of L. O'Hara, Chair, and M. Kumaran, CARL VPO for EDI, the EDI Working Group hosted the first in a series of Inclusion Perspective Webinars on April 28th. The successful first panel featuring black librarians attracted 222 attendees.

CARL has also contracted with the Canadian Center for Diversity and Inclusion to conduct an EDI benchmarking study across CARL member libraries. The aim of the study is to gather baseline data on the composition of personnel in CARL institutions and to establish a set of benchmarks against which to evaluate and measure the impact of CARL libraries' strategies and practices with respect to EDI. The study is expected to launch in September 2021.

Competencies

The Strengthening Capacity Committee is planning to produce promotional material in collaboration with the Competencies Working Group. This will likely include an 'at a glance' visualization and video profiles for each of the competencies.

Academic Librarians' Leadership Institute (ALLI)

Unfortunately, ALLI was postponed indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. CARL and the Gardiner Centre are hoping to reschedule once it is feasible to do so.

Librarians' Research Institute (LRI)

Likewise, the LRI was postponed indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. CARL and UNB will reschedule once it is feasible to do so.

CARL Statistics Program

Development on the revised database began in January 2021 and the survey is now at the beta testing stage.

Library Impact Working Group

The Library Impact Framework Project Team has presented a draft framework to the Library Impact Framework Working Group for review. A sample of the final resource will be presented at the CARL Spring General Meeting for member feedback.

Canadian Library Assessment Workshop

To avoid conflicting with the ARL Library Assessment Conference (held biennially) or overlapping with the Librarians Research Institute, CLAW will be postponed to the fall of 2023. In the meantime, the Continuing Education Working Group is planning a series of webinars in lieu of CLAW 2021. The first of which, a panel on Library Assessment Perspectives, was hosted on April 23rd and attracted 66 participants.

Support to Research Production, Preservation and Dissemination

Portage Transition to NDRIO

As of April 1, 2021, Portage operations, including its national secretariat, are fully integrated into the New Digital Research Infrastructure Organization (NDRIO). As a component of NDRIO Operations, Portage will continue to support research data management nationally through stewardship platforms, services, tools, outreach and training.

While Portage is the result of a widely distributed effort including many dedicated individuals, expert groups, and two governing committees, we would particularly like to thank Jeff Moon, the current director of Portage, and Chuck Humphry, the inaugural director, for their vision and dedicated leadership in the remarkable growth and many accomplishments Portage has made. We look forward to continued momentum in the development of RDM services, infrastructure, tools, and training in support of Canadian researchers, and the integration of these activities into the broader digital research infrastructure strategy.

Persistent Identifiers

Starting on March 3, CARL and CARL Portage, in collaboration with CRKN and Research Data Canada, have been hosting a series of webinars entitled *The Who, What, and Where of Persistent Identifiers: A six-part webinar series devoted to all things PID*. Featuring both Canadian and international speakers, librarians, researchers, and representatives from PIDs organizations, and offering simultaneous interpretation throughout, the series has been immensely popular, with over 100 attendees at every session. The last session takes place May 12, and is entitled *What's Next for PIDs in Canada?*

Open Scholarship

On April 1, CARL and CRKN held another meeting with federal funding agencies toward goals outlined in its Coordinated Action Plan for OA. It was decided that future meetings would be focused on a single topic. The next meeting will look at bibliometrics and research impact and next steps related to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA).

Members of the Open Repositories Working Group (ORWG)'s Task Group on OpenAIRE are finalizing a suite of documents that will serve as a toolkit for institutions wishing to have their repository contents reflected in OpenAIRE, presenting the different options available to them as well as platform-specific guidance based on the work on the pilot institutions.

In response to the webinar on Google Scholar's harvesting of repository contents, the ORWG is preparing a document for Google Scholar that highlights conflicts between GS's guidance

and current repository practices, especially regarding cover pages, multilingual content, and copyright statements requirements.

Mathieu Cloutier and Lise Brin have made good progress on the inclusion of Canadian journals in Sherpa-RoMEO. Having consulted frequently with Jisc staff, they expect to conclude populating the CARL-Sherpa-RoMEO sandbox with this data by mid-May, after which it will be transferred to the main Sherpa-RoMEO database following a vetting process via Jisc.

On February 16, CARL's university library members continued in their pledge for greater expenditure transparency by jointly releasing their CRKN 2019-2020 licence data, as well as two sets of earlier data, from 2014-2015 and 2015-2016, meaning that data is now available for a six-year period (2014-2015 to 2019-2020 inclusive).

As part of its Spring members' meeting, CARL is planning sessions devoted to ARC-related topics. The first, on funding strategies for open monographs, is a follow-up to the discussion CARL participated in as part of the Association of Canadian University Presses Annual General Meeting earlier this year. The CARL session will feature Martin Paul Eve (Birkbeck, University of London; Open Library of Humanities), Douglas Hildebrand and Megan Hall (ACUP), Tim Wilson (SSHRC) and Gabriel Miller (Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences). The second session will be on bibliometrics and research impact, and will feature Beth Namachchivaya and Laura Bredahl (University of Waterloo). A third short presentation will involve some library school academics reporting on their research and a proposed collaboration with CARL.

As part of CARL's continued contributions to SCOSS, Lise Brin has joined a new SCOSS Strategy Task Group that is developing a survey and focus groups to assess SCOSS's success to date and help inform its future direction. This work is meant to close in late summer 2021, to be followed by a strategic planning exercise.

Open Education

The Community of Practice Task Group has continued its informal Open Education Cross-Canada Coffee Chats series. The February OECCCC was held in collaboration with the francophone open education task group, and held in French. The March OECCCC was on the topic of collaborations, while the April OECCCC featured a conversation about the Best Practices for Fair Use in OER and applicability in Canada.

In an effort to kickstart discussions across stakeholder groups about possible collaborative efforts to strengthen support for the creation and adoption of open educational resources at the national level, CARL held on April 22 a webinar entitled *How Can We Successfully Collaborate to Advance National Capacity for OER in Canada?* Bibi Wasiimah Joomun (New Brunswick Student Alliance) served as moderator. The panelists were: Hailey Babb (SPARC), Cynthia Holt (Council of Atlantic University Libraries), Gabrielle Lamontagne (BC Campus), Kalin McCluskey (Canadian Alliance of Student Associations), Michael McNally (University of Alberta), and Lucie Vincent-LeBlanc (Consortium national en développement de ressources pédagogiques en français au collegial). 153 people were in attendance, and a lively debate took place both during the Q&A as well as via the chat. The Open Education Working Group's Task Group on Awareness-Raising and Advocacy is in the process of summarizing the ideas raised during this discussion.

CARL was a sponsor for the international Cascadia Open Education Conference, which was organized this year by BCcampus, and provided free registration to all attendees.

Preservation

The Digital Preservation Working Group, chaired by Dale Askey (Alberta) is continuing its efforts. The DPWG's Infrastructure Group, led by Steve Marks (U of T) has shifted gears and decided to prepare a short, high-level document on the question "What you need to know about digital preservation in Canada 2021: Infrastructure." The Digital Preservation Policy Toolkit (inspired by the CARL Open Access Policy Template and Toolkit) is being finalized, under the leadership of Grant Hurley (ScholarsPortal). The Capacity Group, led by Lara Wilson (UVic) is near its final draft of a document on how to create digital preservation positions. The Canadian Web Archiving Coalition (CWAC) has new chair: Dana McFarland (Vancouver Island University). CWAC membership now stands at 130.

National Collective Print Strategy

The National Shared Print Network Steering Committee has now been formed, with representation from CARL, LAC, the regional consortia, and shared print initiatives. They will hold their first meeting, where they will discuss terms of reference and the staffing of the coordinator position, on May 27.

Ad Hoc Committee on Digital Access to Learning Materials

A new Ad-Hoc committee, chaired by Susan Parker, has been struck to assess policy and advocacy needs to enhance digital access post-COVID. This work includes controlled digital lending (CDL) and its implications in Canada, OER support, and licensing implications. To date, the committee has developed principles that can guide the shift to digital access.

CARL Administration & Outreach

Conferences, Events, International Meetings

Not surprisingly, there have been fewer conferences to attend, as all travel has been halted due to COVID-19. Nevertheless, since the last report, S. Haigh or other CARL staff attended many virtual events, workshops, webinars and international meetings including: OLA Superconference, IFLA AGM, CFLA AGM, LAC Stakeholder Forum, BRIC: Bibliometrics and Research Impact Conference, RLUK 21 Conference, RLUK Digital Shift Forum, Cascadia Open Education Summit, ABC Copyright, IARLA Spring Meeting, and the CCDI Unconference.

CARL Member Transitions

Mark Asberg was appointed Vice-Provost and University Librarian at Queen's effective May 1, 2021.

Selinda Berg was appointed University Librarian at University of Windsor effective July 1, 2021. Pascal Calarco will become, as part of his transition, a part-time CARL-ARL Visiting Program Officer for Marrakesh Treaty Implementation Pilot Project.

Su Cleyle, Memorial University of Newfoundland, has not sought reappointment and will shift to administrative leave as of July 30, 2021.

Staff

Dancya Kapampa, MLIS student at the University of Ottawa, joined the CARL team as a part-time Communications Officer on May 3rd.

The current general division of responsibilities is:

- *Susan Haigh – Executive Director:* Overall executive direction and management; lead for CARL advocacy and public policy; outreach and strategic national and international relations;
- *Katherine McColgan – Manager, Administration and Programs:* Board Secretariat; financial and office administration and oversight; support to Policy Committee and advocacy activities; annual statistics program management; CARL privacy officer;
- *Lise Brin – Program Officer:* Support to Advancing Research Committee; open access and open education initiatives; E-lert editor;
- *Julie Morin – Program Officer:* Support to Strengthening Capacity Committee and Assessment Committee; E-lert co-editor;
- *Katarzyna (Kasia) Kozyra-Kocikowska– Administrative Officer & Event Coordinator:* Book-keeping and financial administration; meeting and hospitality arrangements; office management and administrative support; support to Standing Committee on Finance and Audit.
- *Dancya Kapampa – Communications Officer:* Website, E-Lert production support, and communications.

Visiting Program Officers (part-time)

- *Mark Swartz – VPO, Copyright and Privacy*
- *Maha Kumaran – VPO, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion*
- *Corey Davis – VPO, Digital Preservation*
- *Victoria Owen – VPO, Marrakesh Treaty Implementation*

Consultants/On retainer

- *Kathleen Shearer – Research Associate – RDM, scholarly publishing and open science initiatives.*
- *Temple Scott Associates (Don Moors, Josh Matthewman) – Government relations*
- *Rideout & Maybee, LLP (Howard Knopf) – Copyright*
- *Clark Wilson LLP (Michel Jaworski, Jeff Holloway) – Contracts*
- *Emond Harnden LLP (Colleen Dunlop) – Human resources*

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Haigh,
May 17, 2021