

CARL Executive Director's Report

Tabled at the CARL Board Meeting, September 7, 2021

The following provides an overview of selected activities undertaken or supported by the CARL Office since the May 17, 2021, report to the Board, which was also shared with the Membership.

Initiatives Arising from the Pandemic

ARL-CARL Study on the Role of the Research Library in Advancing Research and Learning Post-Pandemic

The goal of this project is to examine research universities' current strategic directions, and identify the information services needs that will support these strategies. These insights will point to how research libraries can most effectively lead and support on the evolving priorities of higher education. The study is being undertaken by Ithaka S+R, who are currently in the research and analysis phase, meeting with a selection of university presidents, provosts, CIOs, VPsR, and other key stakeholders. The project is guided by an advisory group consisting of the presidents, vice-presidents and executive directors of both organizations, as well as implicated team members. This group met with Ithaka representatives on August 26. Full results will be shared at the upcoming joint Spring General Meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee on Digital Access to Learning Materials

This Ad-Hoc committee of the CARL Board, chaired by Susan Parker, has been meeting through the summer months to assess policy and advocacy needs to enhance digital access post-COVID. The group has developed an internal document, Digital Access to Collections and Learning Resources: CARL Principles and Opportunities for Action, which can serve as an internal roadmap in CARL's future work related to the various aspects of digital access. The work outlined in the document relates to the work of the Advancing Research Committee and well as the Policy Committee. As a result of this work, CARL is also in the process of bringing on a new Visiting Program Officer for Digital Access.

Friday Zoom Calls for Directors

Since the start of the pandemic, CARL has been hosting Friday afternoon informal Zoom sessions 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.

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. Fewer events were planned over the summer months. Nevertheless, the Open Education Cross-Canada Coffee Chats were held in May and June, while a webinar on institutional perspectives on open investments was held in conjunction with SPARC and CRKN in June. A community call with the Communications Officers was held in August to discuss back to school plans and a follow up drop-in is planned for late September. The Library Freedom Project Canada Privacy group continued to meet monthly throughout the summer.

Policy and Public Affairs

Copyright Consultations

Following suit to the Government of Canada's consultation on term extension to life +70, CARL, in partnership with CFLA submitted a brief on the Consultation on a Modern Copyright Framework for Online Intermediaries. The brief discusses, amongst many other things, the implications of moving from a notice and notice to a notice and takedown regime, concerns regarding net neutrality, privacy concerns related to regulating user online activity, the question of mandatory tariffs to intermediaries and the affects to educational institutions as well as academic and public libraries. The brief will be available on the CARL website in the coming days.

The third consultation was announced on July 16th; Consultation on a Modern Copyright Framework for Artificial Intelligence and the Internet of Things. This is the 3rd round of consultations related to copyright. CARL and CFLA are partnering on a response that is due to be submitted by September 17th.

Supreme Court of Canada

CARL participated in the York v. Access Copyright Supreme Court hearing on May 21, 2021. Represented by Howard K. Knopf, Counsel, Maybee & Rideout, we were provided five minutes to speak to our 10-page Factum submitted to the court on the topic of mandatory tariffs and fair dealing. At the beginning of August, after several years of litigation in varying levels of Canadian courts, the Supreme Court of Canada delivered a unanimous and unusually prompt decision that dismissed both appeals in the York University v. Canadian Copyright Licensing Agency (Access Copyright) case. The decision established that Access Copyright's tariffs are not mandatory; reaffirming the importance of user rights as part of a balanced copyright regime in Canada. CARL was pleased to see that the essential arguments that we presented as an intervenor in the case were upheld by the Court.

Ontario Government Consultations

CARL submitted a brief to the Ontario Government's consultation Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence (AI) Framework. While CARL does not typically engage in provincial advocacy efforts, the topic of artificial intelligence has been part of our ongoing advocacy discussions at the Federal Government level and therefore we feel it is important to ensure there is consistency in legislation both nationally and provincially.

CARL also submitted a brief on September 3rd in response to the Public Consultation - Modernizing Privacy in Ontario. The consultation document presented was derived from

information obtained in the government previous consultation and is looking to seek further input on the items presented. CARL's brief focusses on a rights-based approach to privacy, safe use of automated decision-making, enhancing consent and other lawful uses of personal information, data transparency, and data management.

Bill C-10 - An Act to amend the Broadcasting Act and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts

This Bill was introduced in the House of Commons in the fall of 2020. The Bill received Second Reading in February 2021 and was referred to the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage for review. After a lengthy set of hearings, the Committee tabled its Report on the Bill in the House of Commons on Monday June 14th. There has been significant criticism of Bill, including its content, how the Committee conducted its Study as well as the number and content of the amendments recommended by the Committee. Questions related to privacy and net neutrality have been raised as some of the amendments discussed at Committee consider regulating user generated content on the internet. In spite of the controversy the Government was pushing to have the Bill approved by the House and referred to and passed by the Senate before Parliament adjourned for the summer. The Bill died on the order paper when Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced the election on August 15th.

Access to Information Review Public Engagement

CARL has submitted a brief to the consultation on the Access to Information Act. CARL focused on better funding for Library and Archives Canada for their role as the federal government archives, modifications to support reconciliation, means to address creation of alternate formats, ways to improve proactive disclosure, removing Crown copyright, and providing greater oversight and authority to the Information Commissioner.

2022 Pre-Budget Consultation

CARL submitted its response to the consultation on July 30th. The brief discussed supporting a national strategy for open education resources, increasing support to Library and Archives Canada, continued support for the Centre for Equitable Library Access and the National Network for Equitable Library Services, and to introduce legislation to ensure reasonable terms for libraries and users to e-content from multinational publishers.

Marrakesh Treaty Implementation

Four institutions have agreed to participate as pilot sites: University of Florida, Cornell University, York University and Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec. The Task Force has implemented three working groups to explore ways to implement the Marrakesh Treaty between Canada and the US.

- Metadata Working Group, chaired by Merideth Fletcher (Manager, Metadata Sharing, Published Heritage Branch, LAC), is primarily charged with determining the minimum metadata requirements for pilot participating libraries and to recommend controlled vocabularies for use in alternate format descriptions
- Beneficiaries Working Group, chaired by Katherine Klosek (Director of Information Policy, ARL), will be focusing on collaborating with the beneficiary groups in Canada and the US to help guide us through the roll out of the project

- Implementation Working Group, still being formed, is bringing together systems professionals in the pilot institutions to assess the needs for implementing the project on campus.

Meetings with MPs and Government Officials

On August 3, 2021 S. Haigh (CARL), Michael Rogowski (CFAL), V. Owen (University Toronto and CARL VPO-Marrakesh Treaty), D. Taylor (SFU), met with David Lametti, Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and Nadia Kadri Policy Advisor at Office of the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada to overview the joint CARL and CFLA Response to CUSMA consultation and other Copyright Committee works such as Crown Copyright and Marrakesh Treaty Implementation. 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 call for applications to the practicing librarian category of the grant closed on August 15th. Applications are under review and will be announced shortly.

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 second in a series of Inclusion Perspective Webinars on June 29th. The successful second panel featuring racialized library colleagues attracted 111 attendees.

CARL has also partnered 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 October 7th, 2021.

Competencies

The Strengthening Capacity Committee is planning to produce video profiles for each of the competencies in collaboration with the Competencies Working Group. A call for nominations will be circulated shortly.

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

Beta testers from the CARL statistics community completed both the English and French version of the submission form, providing feedback to the developer. Corrections to the appearance and the database functionality have been completed and the developer is in the final stages for the site to go live.

Library Impact Working Group

The Library Impact Framework Working Group reviewed the draft framework produced by the Library Impact Framework Project Team and created two example logic models. Additional logic models are currently underway, and the final resource will be presented at the CARL Fall 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.

Support to Research Production, Preservation and Dissemination

Research Data Management

In July, ARL and CARL's Joint Task Force on Research Data Services (which had formed in 2020) released its final report. The final report presents the task force's recommendations for the roles of research libraries with regard to research data principles, policies, and approaches to managing research data. The report also offers strategies for discipline-specific research data approaches, priorities for automation of processes, economic models to scale and sustain shared resources, prioritization of research data to steward, and decision-making rubrics.

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. Susan Haigh represents CARL on their Advisory Committee on National Service Delivery Model, and continues to participate in the Data Management Working Group, which is soon to be sunset. Both groups have been also been consulted on Deloitte's project for NDRIO to develop their new Strategic Plan.

Open Scholarship

On August 25, CARL and CRKN held another meeting with federal funding agencies toward goals outlined in its Coordinated Action Plan for OA. Discussion at this meeting was focused on the UNESCO Recommendations on Open Science, which is slated for ratification by UNESCO members in November 2021.

New and updated for 53 Canadian journals were submitted to Sherpa-RoMEO in late August. These should be reviewed and reflected in the live version of the database in a few weeks.

Jisc and CARL representatives plan to meet to debrief and decide whether a second phase of this work should be explored.

In June, CARL collaborated with CRKN and SPARC to present a webinar featuring institutional perspectives on investments in open infrastructure. Talia Chung (Ottawa) moderated the session, while Rebecca Graham (Guelph) and Stéphanie Gagnon (Montréal) contributed their views as the Canadian panelists.

The SCOSS Strategy Task Group, to which CARL's Program Officer Lise Brin contributed throughout the summer, has led a community consultation exercise including a survey and focus groups in order to better understand the community's perception of its efforts, and consider necessary shifts in strategy as a result of these findings. A consultant was brought on for this work, and is expected to produce a report in coming weeks.

In response to a proposal by Sonya Betz (Alberta), CARL supported in August two virtual workshops organized by Ms. Betz and Mariya Maistrovskaya (Toronto) in collaboration with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) regarding their Aid to Journals Program. These workshops, held in both official languages, were aimed at library-hosted journals, and resulted in a high level of interest and excellent engagement.

Open Repositories

As it is nearing completion of its second two-year term, the Open Repositories Working Group (ORWG) members engaged in June in a strategic discussion regarding its accomplishments to date, before adjourning for the summer months. Further reflection will continue this fall, leading to a final report in December 2021 and recommendations to the Advancing Research Committee regarding its next steps.

In August, members of the Open Repositories Working Group (ORWG)'s Task Group on OpenAIRE under the leadership of Pierre Lasou (Laval) released 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. A virtual workshop is being planned for later this fall.

Open Education

The Open Education Working Group (ORWG)'s Community of Practice Task Group continued its Open Education Cross-Canada Coffee Chats series – the May chat was a “cross country check-in” which featured updates on notable open education milestones from the past year across the country. The June chat was on the topic of accessibility in OER. Following a break during the summer, the task group is already actively planning its fall chats. The task group members will also be presenting about their work in developing this community of practice offering during the Creative Commons Summit in September and the Open Education Conference in October.

Largely spurred on by the energy and enthusiasm of the panelists at the April webinar that focused on the possibility of a national strategy for OER in Canada, CARL reached out to a number of national organizations related to post-secondary education (CASA, CFS, CAUT, UnivCan, CICAN, OTESSA, and a few others), along with the panelists from the webinar, to

meet on June 21 to discuss shared interest in working on a national strategy for OER. The meeting went very well, and several of these associations went on to include asks related to OER in their federal pre-budget submissions. Another meeting is planned in early September. The members of the OEWG Task Group on Awareness-Raising and Advocacy have been invited to engage in the work of this cross-stakeholder group and to help develop a national framework document for OER.

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) is nearly ready to release its high-level document intended for CARL directors on the topic of digital preservation infrastructure in Canada. 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), now chaired by Dana McFarland (Vancouver Island University) put out in July a call for new members. CWAC membership now stands at 141 (up from 130 in its last report).

National Shared Print Collective

The National Shared Print Network Steering Committee, with representation from CARL (Gwen Bird, SFU), LAC, the regional consortia, and shared print initiatives, have elected a chair and hired a Project Coordinator. They have also selected a new name for their organization: *North: the Canadian Shared Print Network/ Nord: Le réseau Canadien d'imprimés partagés*.

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: the third LAC Forum with University Partners, CAIS 2021, "Indigenous Knowledges" Special Issue Launch, Internet Governance Forum, OTESSA Conference, Canadian Association of Learned Journals (CALJ) Conference, and IFLA WLIC 2021.

CARL Member Transitions

Susan Cleyle, Memorial University of Newfoundland, did not seek reappointment and shifted to administrative leave on July 30, 2021. Janet Bangma has since been appointed Interim Dean of Libraries. As part of this transition, Su will become a part-time CARL Visiting Program Officer for Leadership Development Initiatives.

On July 1, 2021 Selinda Berg commenced as University Librarian at University of Windsor.

Staff

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*
- *Pascal Calarco - VPO, Marrakesh Treaty Implementation*
- *Susan Cleyle - VPO, Leadership Development Initiatives*

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 (Michal Jaworski, Jeff Holloway) - Contracts*
- *Emond Harnden LLP (Colleen Dunlop) - Human resources*

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Haigh,
September 7, 2021