

## CARL Executive Director's Report

Tabled at the CARL Board Meeting, February 9, 2022

The following provides an overview of selected activities undertaken or supported by the CARL Office since the November 15, 2021, report to the Board, which was also shared with the Membership.

### Initiatives Arising from the Pandemic

#### Friday Zoom Calls for Directors

The Friday afternoon informal Zoom sessions held every other week continued during the reporting period, usually with 12-16 directors attending. The calls allow attendees to update each other on changes and decisions at their establishments, and to draw advice and support from their peers in this difficult time.

#### Webinar & Community Call Series

CARL 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.

### Strategic Planning

Under the direction of CARL Vice-President Brett Waytuck, the strategic planning process began with a consultation session with members at the CARL Fall General Meeting. The Strategic Planning Committee (Brett Waytuck, Mark Asberg, Beth Namachchivaya, Mark Robertson, and Vivian Lewis (Ex-officio), with support from Susan Haigh and Katherine McColgan) met with CARL staff and visiting program officers in December and held two consultation sessions with senior teams in January.

The committee will continue to meet through February and March to develop a draft plan to share with members in advance of the spring membership meeting for feedback.

Members are invited to share any further thoughts and comments with any one of the committee members at any time during the process. The final plan is hoped to be approved and take force at the spring members' meeting.

## Policy and Public Affairs

### Federal Government Matters

In November 2021, a joint statement from Canada's Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry and the United States' Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy stated, "We seek to create inclusive scientific research communities that engage and benefit underserved, underrepresented, and marginalized peoples to encourage their full participation in joint science activities. We are looking to tackle cross-cutting issues of common interest such as equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility... We strongly support the principles of open science, including in international collaborations to maximize the contributions of science to the well-being, health and economy of our countries...". CARL will be monitoring these activities.

In December, an interim report on the access to information review was released. The Report noted that Public Safety, in collaboration with the National Security and Intelligence (NSI) community, Library and Archives Canada, and the Treasury Board Secretariat, is spearheading a declassification initiative. This includes the creation of a draft NSI Declassification Framework, which provides guidance on a consistent and coordinated approach to declassifying historical NSI records proactively across the community.

The new Liberal government under Justin Trudeau began taking shape from November through January. Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries have been named, ministerial mandate letters released, and Parliamentary Committees have started to meet again. CARL has requested some meetings with key ministers and committee chairs.

In its December Economic and Fiscal Update 2021, the Government announced additional funding to Library and Archives Canada toward construction of a new facility in collaboration with the City of Ottawa and Ottawa Public Library. This new facility will house part of Library and Archives Canada's public services and programs in the National Capital Region.

Also in December, the Privacy Commissioner released a report calling for prompt reintroduction of privacy legislation and modernizing PIPEDA. He highlighted the 60 recommendations he had made to improve Bill C-11 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; and notes that Canada's privacy regime is falling behind many of its global trading partners, and that the federal government is falling behind provinces like Quebec and Ontario. These points align with CARL's submissions. Prior to this, in November 2021, the Privacy Commissioner announced plans to launch public consultations in March 2022 to examine how the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada (OPC) could enhance engagement with stakeholders on guidance and advisory work and to seek views on the procedural safeguards that should apply to the exercise of new order making powers.

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, the Government launched pre-budget consultations with a due date for submissions of February 25, 2022. During the consultation period, the government plans to hold virtual roundtables with diverse groups of people from a range of communities, regions, sectors and industries, including those who continue to be deeply affected by the pandemic. We are currently reviewing [CARL's brief](#) submitted to the previous government for Budget 2022 for modifications or enhancements to the recommendation presented there.

On February 3, the Government released its report *“What We Heard: The Government’s proposed approach to address harmful content online.”* Many of CARL’s positions are reflected in this candid report, and the Government has committed to re-studying the issue.

### **Marrakesh Treaty Implementation**

The Task Force and Working Groups continue to meet regularly to discuss needs related to metadata, systems requirements, delivery models, and beneficiary communities’ needs. A meeting was held with the pilot institutions’ Disabilities Services Offices (DSOs) and librarians charged with accessible formats to explore some of the challenges they face. The conversation proved to be a valuable information session amongst the different institutions and as such, we are exploring facilitating one or several community-of-practice calls with DSO and library representatives from the US and Canada. The Task Force continues to meet once monthly, and the committees continue their work on metadata standards, systems requirements, and beneficiary needs.

## **Management, Advancement and Assessment of Research Libraries**

### **CARL Research in Librarianship Grant**

The call for applications to the 2022 student category of the grant was posted on November 11, with a March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline. The call for applications to the 2022 practicing librarian category of the grant will be posted in April.

### **Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**

Under the leadership of L. O’Hara, Chair, and M. Kumaran, CARL VPO for EDI, the EDI Working Group hosted a successful third webinar of the Inclusion Perspectives series, which featured Indigenous library colleagues and attracted 145 attendees and 123 additional views on YouTube.

The CARL Diversity and Inclusion Study closed on October 27<sup>th</sup>. 21 CARL member libraries participated. Participation rates varied between 20% and 60% with an average of 34%. CARL received a first draft of the national insights report produced by CCDI on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Results will be presented to members shortly and there will be an opportunity to discuss the data collection process and areas for improvement for subsequent diversity and inclusion studies.

As of February 1<sup>st</sup>, Victoria Ho, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian at the University of Manitoba, will succeed Maha Kumaran as CARL VPO-EDI. The new VPO and the refreshed EDIWG membership will meet for the first time on February 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Competencies**

CARL has struck a small Competencies Promotion Advisory Group, which will advise on the production of video profiles for the competencies and other promotional activities.

## **Academic Librarians' Leadership Institute (ALLI)**

Susan Cleyle, CARL VPO for Leadership Development Initiatives, has been working with the Gardiner Center to reschedule ALLI, which is now expected to take place June 6-12, 2022, in St-John's, Newfoundland. A call for participants inviting previous applicants to reconfirm their interest will be circulated shortly.

## **Librarians' Research Institute (LRI)**

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**

Institutions continue to gather and submit 2019-2020 data through the survey instrument. Owing to continued pandemic strains, there have been significant delays with many institutions in completing the data submissions. We continue to work with these institutions to submit their data and plan to be closing the survey soon in order to open the collection of the 2020-2021 data.

Work continues on phase two of the project, the development of the administrative reporting functions. We have already received many comments on the improved functionality of the new interface and are working to develop a greater end-user experience.

## **Library Impact Working Group**

CARL's Library Impact Framework was approved by the membership at the CARL FGM and posted to the CARL website on December 14<sup>th</sup>. A CARL webinar presenting the framework is scheduled for February 15<sup>th</sup>.

## **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 webinar, a panel on library assessment perspectives, took place on April 23, 2021, and a second webinar on UX and Assessment was held on January 12<sup>th</sup>.

## **Support to Research Production, Preservation and Dissemination**

### **Research Data Management**

On December 16th, S. Haigh sent CARL's financial investment survey findings to Nizar Lidak, CEO of the Alliance, and was followed with an update and the survey report to all members on January 20. CARL is an affiliate member of the Alliance and S. Haigh represented CARL at Alliance member update on January 15.

## **Open Scholarship Infrastructure**

Updated Canadian publisher information is now available through the Sherpa Romeo database.

CRKN members have been notified of the products in the third round of pledging (ArXiv, DSpace, and Redalyc/AmeliCA), and 25 members have pledged support. The uptake for Redalyc garnered 15 supporters, however, DSpace was the service with the lowest support. All three services were happy to apply CRKN's bands to their pricing tiers.

S. Haigh is representing the SCOSS Board on upcoming SCOSS webinars that are aimed at South American and North American markets, and which will be showcasing the three new endorsed products.

## **Open Repositories**

This working group's current 2-year mandate was meant to end in December 2021 but given the projects underway and additional work to be done to consider a transition to a community-supported community of practice, the co-chairs are recommending that the current term be extended by 1 year, ending instead in December 2022.

Following up on the October 26th webinar, *Looking for a needle in a haystack: Increasing the international visibility of Canadian research through the CARL-OpenAIRE collaboration*, two more opportunities for those involved in the management of Canadian open repositories or research outputs to learn about options for having their repository's contents reflected in OpenAIRE were organized. This included a workshop on November 26<sup>th</sup> and a less formal discussion session on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

CARL's Open Repositories Working Group's Task Group on Community Building, Engagement, and Outreach also organized a two-part series for the Canadian repository community on repository workflows. This included a demo presentation of Shareyourpaper.org held on January 25 and a community call held on February 8.

## **Open Education**

With the help of VPO Ann Ludbrook (Ryerson), the Open Education Working Group (ORWG)'s Community of Practice Task Group continued its Open Education Cross-Canada Coffee Chats series. The November chat featured a discussion on whether the pandemic moved the dial on open education. The January chat featured presentations about what institutions are planning for Open Education Week.

## **Preservation**

The Advancing Research Committee discussed the report prepared by the Digital Preservation Working Group (DPWG) "Key Issues Impacting Digital Preservation in Canada - 2021" at its January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting and will be striking a working group to further develop strategic initiatives in the area and help inform the work of the DPWG.

The Canadian Web Archiving Coalition (CWAC) hosted a virtual CWAC Symposium on January 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> featuring a keynote from Brewster Kahle, founder and director of the Internet Archive.

## 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 OLA Superconference, CCR Townhall with Funders, IARLA Webinar on EDI, LAC Stakeholders' Forum, RBC Law, Accounting, and Banking Update, UdeM EBSI webinaire – conférencier principal G. Berthiaume, OLA Copyright Symposium.

### CARL Member Transitions

On January 10<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Dianne C. Keeping began her role as Dean, Memorial University Libraries.

### Staff

In December 2021, Lise Brin left the CARL team to accept a position as University Librarian at the Université de Saint-Boniface in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and Maha Kumaran ended her term as VPO-EDI. As of February 1, Victoria Ho, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian at the University of Manitoba, will be succeeding Maha Kumaran in this role. The search for a new senior program officer is currently underway.

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; temporary support to Advancing Research Committee;
- *Julie Morin – Program Officer:* Support to Strengthening Capacity Committee and Assessment Committee; E-lert 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.

#### *Visiting Program Officers (part-time)*

- *Pascal Calarco – VPO, Marrakesh Treaty Implementation*
- *Susan Cleyle – VPO, Leadership Development Initiatives*
- *Corey Davis – VPO, Digital Preservation*
- *Victoria Ho – VPO, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion*
- *Rowena Johnson – VPO, Digital Access Policy*
- *Ann Ludbrook – VPO, Open Education*
- *Victoria Owen – VPO, Marrakesh Treaty Implementation*
- *Mark Swartz – VPO, Copyright and Privacy*

*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,  
February 9, 2022