

CARL Executive Director's Report

Tabled at the CARL Board Meeting, April 24, 2022

The following provides an overview of selected activities undertaken or supported by the CARL Office since the February 9, 2022, report to the Board. All past reports are available on the CARL website's [Publications page](#).

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. Attendees update each other on changes and decisions at their institutions and draw advice from their peers.

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

The Strategic Planning Committee -- Brett Waytuck (Chair), Mark Asberg, Beth Namachchivaya, Mark Robertson, and Vivian Lewis (Ex-officio), with support from Susan Haigh and Katherine McColgan -- continued to meet through the winter and spring of 2022 to analyze the comments received through our various consultation processes.

A draft plan was circulated to members to provide additional feedback for consideration at its April 20th meeting. The penultimate version forms part of the Board's April 24th meeting package and will be discussed with the entire membership at the strategic planning session later the same day.

Policy and Public Affairs

Budget 2022 - Copyright

The Government tabled Canada's 2022 Budget on April 7, 2022. It announced that the government will introduce in the Budget Implementation Bill the amendment to the *Copyright Act* to extend the general term of copyright protection from 50 to 70 years after the life of the author. This signals that a full review of *The Act* will not be undertaken at this time. CARL and TSA will request some meetings with officials and Ministers' offices to ensure that only term extension (and no other amendment) is included in the Budget Implementation Bill.

In addition, the Government noted it will "work to ensure a sustainable educational publishing industry, including fair remuneration for creators and copyright holders, as well as a modern and innovative marketplace that can efficiently serve copyright users". CARL will continue to actively advocate on behalf of our members in this matter.

Budget 2022 - Funding Announced

We were especially pleased to see recommendations made by CARL in were recognized in this budget: \$25M in additional funding for Library and Archives Canada to support the digitization of the federal Indian Day School System documents; \$1 billion for the Universal Broadband Fund to improve high-speed Internet access in rural and remote areas; and \$27M over the next five years to support the work of CELA and NNELS in advancing equitable access initiatives.

Federal Government Matters

Bill C-18 *An Act respecting online communications platforms that make news content available to persons in Canada* reached first reading by committee on April 5, 2022. We are concerned with the potential copyright related precedent regarding links being compensable and the implications for misinformation and disinformation and will likely prepare a Communiqué outlining our concerns.

On March 16, Canadian Heritage Minister, Pablo Rodriguez, announced the launch of a targeted call for proposals totaling \$2.5 million to fund initiatives that help people identify misinformation and disinformation online. The fund will be managed through the Digital Citizen Initiative, a program that was launched in 2020 to "support democracy and social cohesion in Canada by enhancing and/or supporting efforts to counter online disinformation and other online harms and threats". While this is a targeted fund for some ongoing initiatives, CARL and the Canadian Urban Libraries Council (CULC) have expressed our interest in this area and have been invited to submit a proposal when the general call for proposals is issued later this spring.

The House of Commons Finance Committee tabled its pre-budget report on March 21. CARL is pleased to see an item in our brief to support a national infrastructure for open educational resources has been recognized in the recommendation to support "open educational resources to train all students, faculty and staff on the history of Indigenous peoples and the legacy of residential schools, Indigenous rights, legal and health issues."

Controlled Digital Lending

A working group of CFLA (of which CARL is represented) has been working for several months analyzing the implementation of controlled digital lending in Canada. The paper Controlled Digital Lending of Library Books in Canada is an adaptation of A Whitepaper on Controlled Digital Lending of Library Books by David Hansen and Kyle K. Courtney. It was [published in SSRN](#) in February for open peer review; comments are requested by the end of April 2022.

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. There have been several meetings discussing delivery models, campus needs, DSO functionality, intersectionality with programs such as ACE and FRAME and the groups has been making presentations at various conferences and meetings. A fulsome report of the Pilot Project activities is available in the CARL spring meeting package.

Management, Advancement and Assessment of Research Libraries

CARL Research in Librarianship Grant

The call for applications to the 2022 student category of the grant closed on March 31st and application will be reviewed shortly. The call for applications to the 2022 practicing librarian category of the grant will be circulated in late April.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Victoria Ho, Social Sciences Liaison Librarian at the University of Manitoba, succeeded Maha Kumaran as CARL VPO-EDI on February 1st. The new VPO and the refreshed EDIWG membership met for the first time on February 9th and have scheduled recurring monthly meetings.

The EDI Working Group is in the process of planning a fourth webinar of the Inclusion Perspectives series, which will feature library colleagues with disabilities. The group has also drafted a definition of 'belonging' to be added to CARL's definitions for equity, diversity, and inclusion, and has struck a task group to work on highlighting EDI-related resources and events and BIPOC library employees on the CARL website.

CCDI's final report on CARL's Diversity and Inclusion Study was presented to participating Library directors on April 11th. Pending approval, the report will then be posted to the CARL website.

Competencies

CARL struck a small Competencies Promotion Advisory Group, which will advise on the production of video profiles for the competencies and other promotional activities. Christine Walde, Grants and Award Librarian at UVic, volunteered to be featured in a pilot profile which will be presented to the SCC during it's April meeting.

Academic Librarians' Leadership Institute (ALLI)

Susan Cleyle, CARL VPO for Leadership Development Initiatives, has been working with the Gardiner Center to reschedule the inaugural ALLI, which is now scheduled to take place June 6-12, 2022, in St-John's, Newfoundland. A call for participants inviting previous applicants to reconfirm their interest was circulated and 22 participants have been accepted into the program so far.

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

As was reported in February, 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 2021 CARL FGM and posted to the CARL website on December 14th. A CARL webinar presenting the framework took place on February 15th and attracted 55 attendees.

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 continues to plan webinars as part of its on-going series of webinars in lieu of CLAW 2021.

Support to Research Production, Preservation and Dissemination

Research Data Management

The (former Portage, now Alliance) Network of Experts is meeting to develop a charter, proposing its ongoing roles and position within the Alliance governance structure. S. Haigh attended the National Data Services Framework event on March 28 and continues to meet with Lee Wilson to ensure close liaison between CARL and Alliance RDM. As a member of the Canadian PIDS Advisory Committee, she has been participating in consultations related to developing a renewed national PIDS strategy for Canada.

SCOSS – Global Sustainability Coalition for Open Science Services

CRKN members were notified of the products in the third round of pledging (ArXiv, DSpace, and Redalyc/AmeliCA), and 25 members pledged support for a combined total of 268,750 Euros. S. Haigh represented the SCOSS Board on two SCOSS webinars that were aimed at the South American and North American library markets, and which showcased the three new endorsed products. As of April 8, over 4,716,927 Euros have been raised globally now by SCOSS's unique pledging approach.

Open Repositories

Given the projects underway and additional work to be done to consider a transition to a community-supported community of practice, the Open Repositories Working Group's original 2-year mandate was extended by 1 year, ending in December 2022.

Following the implementation of some fixes by FRDR curators, the 2020 Canadian Repository Inventory Data was published on February 11. At its last meeting the ORWG agreed to re-circulate the call for 2021 data, emphasizing new edit privileges and drawing attention to new fields.

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 February chat featured a discussion on in-house OE publishing support. The March chat was conducted in French and featured presentations on recognizing OER in tenure and promotion. The sub-committee on francophone OER hosted two additional sessions in celebration of open education week: Derniers développements pancanadiens en éducation ouverte et libre [Latest PanCanadian Open Education Developments] and Panel sur les plateformes REL canadiennes [Panel on Canadian OER Platforms].

Preservation

The *Creating Digital Preservation Capacity Through Human Resource Development at Canadian Academic Libraries* report is being finalized; the other product of the last work plan is due for completion this summer. At the April meeting, members attended a presentation by BAnQ and began discussions on strategic planning, director/stakeholder engagement, and resourcing digital preservation work.

The report of the Canadian Web Archiving Coalition's (CWAC) virtual symposium on January 26th and 27th featuring a keynote from Brewster Kahle, founder and director of the Internet Archive, was prepared, translated and added to the CWAC page on the CARL website.

CARL Administration & Outreach

Member Site Visits

On March 25th, S.Haigh visited – and very much enjoyed – the campuses and libraries of Université de Montréal (the Science Library this time) and Université du Québec à Montréal. Stéphanie, Frédéric and Susan also had a lunch meeting that day with Tanja Niemann, Érudit/Coalition Publica.

Conferences, Events, International Meetings

Not surprisingly, there have been fewer conferences to attend, as most 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: NISO Webinar - Skills Development for 21st Century Knowledge Workers; PSE Copyright Roundtable; CFLA AGM; NIKLA AGM; SPARC member briefing; SCOSS webinars (x2); SCOSS Board meeting; Alliance Network of Experts meeting; Canadian PIDs Strategy Consultation; COPPUL Spring Meeting; Indigenous Languages Preservation webinar; National Data Services Framework Summit.

CARL Member Transitions

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

As of April 1, Rebecca Graham completed her term and transitioned to leave, and Amanda Etches became Interim University Librarian.

Staff

On March 21st CARL welcomed Dr. Karen Nicholson as new Senior Program Officer for a one-year full-time secondment from her position as Manager, Information Literacy, at the McLaughlin Library, University of Guelph.

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;
- *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.
- *Julie Morin - Senior Program Officer:* Support to Strengthening Capacity Committee and Assessment Committee; E-lert co-editor;
- *Karen Nicholson - Senior Program Officer:* Support to Advancing Research Committee; E-lert co-editor;

Visiting Program Officers (part-time)

- *Pascal Calarco - VPO, Marrakesh Treaty Implementation*
- *Susan Cleye - 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, Ujwal Ganguly)* - 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,
April 24, 2022