

CARL Executive Director's Report

Tabled at the CARL Board Meeting, January 31, 2023

The following provides an overview of selected activities undertaken or supported by the CARL Office since the November 14, 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

Attendees continue to update each other every other week on changes and decisions at their institutions and to 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

A slightly changed committee structure including the launch of a fifth committee, Advancing Teaching and Learning, was approved during the CARL Fall General Meeting, enabling better alignment with the 2022-2025 Strategic Focus. All members were asked to reconfirm their committee selection. The new committees will begin to meet as of the beginning of March.

Policy and Public Affairs

Copyright

On December 30, 2022 the Canadian Federal Government implemented legislation to extend the term of copyright from life of the author +50 to life of the author +70 years. The extension was granted without any mitigating measures to address the fact that no works in Canada will enter the public domain for the next 20 years. CARL has drafted a frequently asked questions document to help guide the library community in the implementation of term extension and is now seeking the government's input and support for the guide.

“Controlled Digital Lending of Library Books in Canada” [was published](#) in The Partnership journal in December 2022. The paper explores legal considerations for how libraries in Canada can lend digital copies of books and is adapted, with permission, from “A Whitepaper on Controlled Digital Lending of Library Books” by David R. Hansen and Kyle K. Courtney. The paper considers the legal and policy rationales for the process in Canada, as well as a “variety of risk factors and practical considerations that can guide libraries seeking to implement such lending, with the intention of helping Canadian libraries to explore controlled digital lending in our own Canadian legal and policy context.” The paper is being translated into French.

Hearings are underway with the House Standing Committee on Industry and Technology to discuss Bill C-244, An Act to amend the Copyright Act (diagnosis, maintenance and repair). Representatives from the Canadian Federation of Library Associations (CFLA) appeared before the committee to discuss the importance of the interoperability of software-enabled products and applications and the essential role that libraries and archives play in providing access to many objects and devices that control access to collections and enable innovators using these tools. Presenting that when software is rendered obsolete, no longer supported, or deemed unprofitable by a vendor, valuable information will be lost and or made inaccessible if modifications cannot be legally made to preserve access to content. In addition, the ability to repair the technology that is increasingly necessary for access to information or to use it in conjunction with other equipment to meet user needs should not be prohibitive and should not cost more than the replacement of the device or software.

Federal Government Activities

General lobbying activities slowed during December and January since the House and the Senate both rose on December 16, 2022 and are only scheduled to return at the end of January.

On November 17th, 16 CARL members, along with CARL staff and visiting program officers, engaged in 10 meetings with MPs and government officials as part of CARL Fall Hill Day. While discussions primarily focused on copyright, topics such as open educational resources, CARL's 2023 pre-budget brief, and CCPERB were also discussed. Temple Scott Associates (TSA) is working to schedule 16 additional meetings with those who indicated an interest to meet with CARL and its members, but who were unavailable on Hill Day.

Marrakesh Treaty Implementation

The Implementation Working Group is working to implement the testing phase at the University of Florida/Florida Virtual Campus, Cornell University, York University, and Université de Montréal. This implementation would bring together different discovery layers (EBSCO Folio, OCLC WMS, and Primo) to test the discovery and exchange capabilities. The Beneficiary Working Group held its first of two meetings with beneficiary communities on January 12th. The meeting was held with students at the University of Florida and York University to gather information on users experiences on finding alternate format materials. The next meeting is being planned with faculty and staff at the same institutions.

Management, Advancement and Assessment of Research Libraries

CARL Research in Librarianship Grant

The call for the 2023 cycle of the student category was postponed, allowing SCC to consider possible changes to this offering. The call for the practicing librarian category will be circulated in the spring.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Under the leadership of Lisa O'Hara (WG Chair) and Victoria Ho, CARL VPO for EDI, the EDI Working Group organized a fifth webinar of the Inclusion Perspectives series, featuring library colleagues from the 2SLGBTIAQ+ Community. The webinar is scheduled to take place January 24th. New EDIWG work plan items were approved at the November SCC meeting and

a call for a replacement VPO-EDI was posted on January 18th. V. Ho's term ended in January 2023 but has agreed to continue in this role until a replacement has been selected.

CARL Profession Development Offerings for Library Directors

Based on feedback received via a survey of directors' interest in professional development opportunities on select themes, Susan Cleyle, CARL VPO for Leadership Development Initiatives, and Julie Morin drafted a workplan which included a successful new member orientation breakfast at the CARL FGM. The next two-part session will be a panel and discussion on labour relations hot topics (one virtual and one in-person at the CARL AGM).

Librarians' Research Institute (LRI)

UOttawa and Carleton agreed to jointly host the 2023 LRI. The dates and list of peer mentors will be announced shortly. CARL is also planning a French-language offering for 2024 in collaboration with two librarians from ULaval.

CARL Statistics Program

After several requests from member institutions, the deadline for the collection of the 2020-2021 statistics has been extended into 2023. Work continues on verifying anomalies from the previous year's collection and technical work on the survey tools and database continue.

The survey related to the use and management of e-reserves was opened in November 2022 and closed in early January. Twenty institutions responded to the survey and the results are being analyzed for consideration in CARL's lobbying activities related to copyright as well as the CARL annual statistics program.

A working group is being struck to review the annual statistics survey questions and instructions. Based on an analysis conducted by C. Cook of the current survey, the working group will be assessing the frequency rate that data will be collected for each element of the report (annually, bi-annually, etc.).

Library Impact Working Group

Under the leadership of Chair Mark Robertson, the group is working on next steps to further promote the Library Impact Framework. The group has reached out to two subject experts about organizing a training workshop.

Canadian Library Assessment Workshop

Western University was selected as the host site for CLAW 2023, which will take place October 23-25, and the programming committee had its first meeting on January 17. A call for proposals will be circulated shortly.

Research Library Opportunities related to University STEM Growth Strategies

As follow-up to the Ithaka Study, which recommended that research libraries increase their strategic alignment with many of their parent institutions' increasing STEM focus, S. Haigh and M. Kennedy (ARL Executive Director) conducted site visits to Northwestern University on November 28 and Purdue University on November 29^h, 2022. STEM-focused site visits at Canadian institutions took place on January 25 and 26, 2023 and included University of Toronto and McMaster University. A short report synthesizing what was learned from the various meetings at each institution will be produced.

Support to Research Production, Preservation and Dissemination

Open Repositories

A call for members of an advisory committee for the Shared Repository Infrastructure Project, led by Geoff Harder, was issued in December. It is anticipated that the first meeting of the committee will take place at the end of January.

Open Education

The Open Education Cross Canada Coffee Chats continue; January's call focused on institutional open education policies.

In December, participants from the National Summit for Open Education, held at York University, in November met online to identify next steps for a national strategy for open education.

Preservation

Using input gathered from CARL directors at the CARL Fall Meeting, the Digital Preservation Working Group began to outline its strategic plan for 2023 in January.

CARL Administration & Outreach

Conferences, Events, International Meetings

Since the last report, CARL staff have attended many events, workshops, webinars and international meetings including:

The Perils of Artificial Intelligence in Academic Publishing, SPARC (Webinar), BLG Annual Not-For-Profit Legal, Accounting, Banking Update, Overview of WIPO and its Activities (focus on the Accessible Books Consortium), OLA Copyright Symposium, CPIDAC December meeting, NIKLA Library Community meeting and Overview of Respectful Terminology Project as well as its January Partner meeting, Alliance Executive Committee meeting, LAC Stakeholders' Forum, IFLA MLAS Elections Information Webinar, Canadian Consortium for Research Funders' Breakfast, Breaking the research silos in Library and Information Science, INKE Gathering 2023, OLA Superconference.

CARL Member Transitions

In January, Jonathan Bengston returned to his role as University Librarian, University of Victoria following his administrative leave.

Staff

CARL posted calls for two Visiting Program Officer positions on January 18th, the first to replace the current VPO-EDI, Victoria Ho (who recently completed her one-year term), and the second for a new VPO for Metadata & CARL Collaboration with OpenAIRE.

A call for two full time Project Officers will also be posted shortly.

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 (on secondment from the University of Guelph);
- *Geoff Harder – Project Director – National Shared Repository Infrastructure* (on secondment from the University of Alberta)

Visiting Program Officers (part-time)

- *Pascal Calarco – VPO, Marrakesh Treaty Implementation* (July 2021 - June 2023)
- *Susan Cleyle – VPO, Leadership Development Initiatives* (September 2021 - September 2023)
- *Ravit David – VPO, Copyright* (September 2022 – September 2023)
- *Corey Davis – VPO, Digital Preservation* (April 2020 - March 2023)
- *Victoria Ho – VPO, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion* (February 2022 -January 2023)
- *Rowena Johnson – VPO, Digital Access Policy* (September 2021 – September 2023)
- *Ann Ludbrook – VPO, Open Education* (October 2021 - October 2022)
- *Victoria Owen – VPO, Marrakesh Treaty Implementation* (July 2020 - June 2023)
- *Amanda Wakaruk – VPO, Copyright* (July 2022 – July 2023)

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,
January 31, 2023