

CARL Executive Director's Report

Tabled at the CARL Board Meeting, September 13, 2023

The following provides an overview of selected activities undertaken or supported by the CARL Office since the May 29, 2023, report to the Board. All past reports are available on the CARL website's [Publications page](#).

Continuing Special CARL Activities to Support Institutions

Friday Zoom Calls for Directors

Although suspended over the summer, we plan to reinstitute the opportunity for directors 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.

Policy and Public Affairs

Copyright

The Prime Minister's recent cabinet shuffle resulted in the Minister of Canadian Heritage, a key player in the copyright portfolio, being moved out of that role. It appears that the new minister, Pascale St-Onge, will continue the legislative agenda of the previous minister, including the push to 'fix' the educational publishing market by eliminating fair dealing for the purpose of education. Access Copyright has been very active in its lobbying for this undesirable change.

CARL [issued a communiqué](#) in early August to respond to recent media coverage on educational copying, which has been misrepresenting the Canadian education sector and universities in particular. The focus of this misinformation is on fair dealing and the use of course materials in classrooms.

CARL's continued engagement in the post-secondary education roundtable's [Fair Dealing Works](#) campaign has resulted in a revised copyright clearance flowchart, updated data on collections expenditures and circulation data, renewed testimonials on the importance of fair dealing, and a collective 2-page leave behind for government officials. The PSE group has continued to meet with government officials and we are working on a fall lobbying campaign to maintain education as a fair dealing purpose and to quash the idea of a mandatory tariff.

With increasing media exposure on educational fair dealing, CARL is working its key messaging to be ready to speak on the matter in a consistent and clear manner.

Federal Government Activities

CARL submitted [a brief](#) as part of the Federal government's 2024 pre-budget consultation. The brief reiterates the need for funding initiatives through targeted federal agencies to foster increased production and use of Open Educational Resources (OER) in post-secondary education and an increase to Library and Archives Canada's base budget to accelerate transition of documentary heritage and federal government record-keeping to the digital environment. In addition, CARL called on the government to continue current funding within the Canada Book Fund to assist the Canadian publishing industry to create born-accessible materials for people with print disabilities; to invest significantly to ensure an AI and Data Commissioner is sufficiently resourced to monitor developments, oversee activities, and respond to issues expediently; and to increase the Digital Research Alliance of Canada funding allocation for 2025-2030 to enhance high-performance computing infrastructure, harness research software innovation, implement a national PIDs Strategy, deliver networked pan-Canadian data stewardship services, and expand training capacity in the Canadian DRI ecosystem.

Marrakesh Treaty Implementation

The primary focus of the group's work throughout the summer has been writing the final report. The Task Force last met in June and its final task will be to review and approve the final report so that it can then be shared with CARL and ARL members and beyond.

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 15 and the application review panel will be meeting shortly to review them.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Under the leadership of new Chair Selinda Berg and VPO-EDI Aditi Gupta, the EDI Working Group held a sixth webinar of the Inclusion Perspectives series, featuring library colleagues with intersectional identities, which took place August 23rd. They also published the first in a series of monthly features celebrating the outstanding work and contributions of Indigenous, Black and racialized library colleagues, those with disabilities, and those of marginalized or minorities genders, sexual identities, religious and cultural groups.

On August 22, ARL, CARL, and Ithaka S+R released an issue brief on redressing relationships with historically Marginalized communities. This new publication provides four focused examples about specific institutions that have worked to address the imperative to redress their relationships with historically marginalized communities.

CARL Professional Development Offerings for Library Directors

Following the same format as the employee relations sessions, Susan Cleyle, CARL VPO for Leadership Development Initiatives, organized a directors-only session on budget challenges, which took place on June 16. Due to the sensitive nature of these topics, these sessions are confidential and in camera. Planning for ALLI 2024 will begin in the fall.

Librarians' Research Institute (LRI)

The successful 2023 LRI (jointly hosted by uOttawa and Carleton) was held June 12-15 and 29 participants completed the program. The 2024 French-language LRI will be held at ULaval and a call for peer mentors will be circulated in the fall.

CARL Statistics Program

A large milestone in the development of the survey tool was achieved in July, which now allows users to access multiple years of survey forms and opened the database to allow data for 2021-22 and 2022-23 academic years. The goal is to collect the data for these two years by the end of 2023 which would allow the most recent data to be available to participating institutions in early 2024.

The data analysis for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 survey periods have been analyzed and CARL is now waiting for the anomalous data identified to be corrected by the respective institutions.

Work on a revised publication format has begun and the reports will be made available once all anomalous data has been corrected.

K. McColgan will convene a workshop at the 2023 Canadian Library Assessment Workshop to provide an overview of the new survey tool and its functionality, and will engage participants in further development of the survey definitions.

Library Impact Framework Working Group

Under the leadership of Chair Mark Robertson, the group is working on next steps to further promote the Library Impact Framework, including a workshop at the Canadian Library Assessment Workshop.

Canadian Library Assessment Workshop

The planning committee, under the leadership of Sharon Murphy, continues to meet regularly to prepare for CLAW 2023, which will take place October 23-25 at Western University. The program has been finalized and registration opened on August 24.

Support to Research Production, Preservation and Dissemination

Open Repositories

Geoff Harder continued his work advancing national open infrastructures, most recently refining the MoU and engaging in productive discussions with Scholar's Portal. He completed his term as VPO on August 31st.

Preservation

CARL is represented by Gwen Bird on North/Nord, the Canadian Shared Print Network, where current activities include a Government Documents project, a Canadian University Press project, and initiatives stemming from the Indigenous Works working group. CARL has provided \$5k/year over the last three years, with a view to continuing or increasing this in the next funding cycle.

Canadian Bibliometrics and Research Impact Community of Practice (BRI CoP)

The group is being led by co-chairs Thane Chambers (University of Alberta) and Laura Bredahl (University of Waterloo). In June, the group held a Community of Practice event on

Data Visualization, a recording of which is available on CARL's YouTube channel. Over the summer, the steering committee has been planning its next Community of Practice event, to be held on September 12. The book club has continued to meet monthly through the spring and summer.

Canadian Open Access Action Plan – stakeholder group

CARL has responded to the consultation survey issued as part of the review of the Tri-Agency Open Access Policy on Publications and shared this response with members.

Canadian Repositories Community of Practice

Under the leadership of co-chairs, Pascal Calarco (University of Windsor) and Emily Hopkins (University of Saskatchewan), the group hosted a successful community call in June with Geoff Harder on shared infrastructure for repositories. A recording of the event is available on CARL's YouTube channel. The next Community of Practice event is scheduled for September 27th, and the steering committee is planning a further event for later in the fall.

Knowledge Synthesis

The CARL Knowledge Synthesis Working Group, led by Zahra Premji (University of Victoria) with Stéphanie Gagnon conducted a survey geared at understanding the current level of activity, expertise, and needed support for knowledge synthesis (KS) at CARL institutions. Analysis of the data generated by the 137 responses is currently underway.

Support to Teaching and Learning

Advancing Teaching and Learning Committee (ATLC)

The ATLC held its second meeting on May 30 in Calgary, followed by a third meeting on June 15. Areas of interest include Open Education and generative AI.

Open Education

The Open Education Cross Canada Coffee Chats continue. The theme of the June call was *Highlight on Indigenous Open Education*, and it featured presentations on three exciting Indigenous OER projects.

CARL Administration & Outreach

Conferences, Events, International Meetings

Since the last report, CARL staff have attended many events, workshops, webinars and international meetings including: PIJIP Users' Rights Forum, CSAE webinar "Indigenous History 101", ABC Copyright Conference, invitational tour of the Nunavut Archives in Aylmer, QC, IFLA LPD – 10 years of the Marrakesh Treaty, 88th IFLA WLIC in Rotterdam, CFLA media training, virtual OAI13. S. Haigh was a speaker at IFLA on the MLAS Advocacy Impact Evaluation Project.

June 26th to July 5th, 2023, CARL conducted an English-language study delegation to Canada's northern territorial capitals, in which participated 16 CARL directors and 2 staff. The tour started in Ottawa and then 3-4 days were spent in Iqaluit, Yellowknife and Whitehorse on many meetings, site visits, and cultural awareness tours. The Northern Study Delegation report will be presented at the Fall General Meeting in Montebello.

CARL Member Transitions

Andrea Kosavic was named Interim Dean of Libraries at York University effective July 1, 2023.

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;
- *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;
- *Elizabeth Kalbfleisch – Project Officer*: Support to Advancing Research Committee; E-lert co-editor;
- *Graham Lavender – Project Officer*: Support to Advancing Teaching and Learning Committee; E-lert co-editor.

Visiting Program Officers (part-time)

- *Susan Cleyde* – VPO, Leadership Development Initiatives (September 2021 - September 2023)
- *Ravit David* – VPO, Copyright (September 2022 – September 2023)
- *Aditi Gupta* – VPO, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (April 2023 -April 2024)
- *Rowena Johnson* – VPO, Digital Access Policy (September 2021 – September 2024)
- *Ann Ludbrook* – VPO, Open Education (October 2021 – August 2024)
- *Gabriela Mircea* – VPO, Metadata and CARL Collaboration with OpenAIRE (August 2023-August 2024)
- *Karen Nicholson* – VPO, Teaching and Learning (April 2023 - October 2023)
- *Amanda Wakaruk* – VPO, Copyright (July 2022 – July 2024)

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

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Haigh,
September 13, 2023