

CARL Executive Director's Report

Tabled at the CARL Board Meeting, January 23, 2024

The following provides an overview of selected activities undertaken or supported by the CARL Office since the November 27, 2023, report to the Board. All past reports are available on the CARL website's [Publications page](#). Owing to an unusually late Fall General Meeting and early January Board meeting, coupled with the CARL office closure for the holidays, this report is somewhat abridged.

Policy and Public Affairs

Copyright

The deadline for the Government of Canada's consultation on generative AI tools and their implications for copyright holders was extended to January 15, 2024. CARL submitted [its comments](#) on December 15th positing that: AI generated works do not meet the threshold for copyright protection; a new TDM exception should be implemented and apply to both commercial and non-commercial uses; current provisions in the Copyright Act already address infringement and liability, and provide a mechanism for claims related to an AI-generated output, when that output closely replicates an original work that is already protected by copyright; and, the government should not restrict the use of AI, unintentionally or otherwise, until court decisions can guide legislative change. To do otherwise would hamper innovation and the emergence of responsible practices.

Federal Government Activities

On December 1, 2023, CARL representatives met with government officials at Canadian Heritage and Innovation and at Science and Economic Development Canada, and with Brian MacKay, Senior Policy Advisor to the Minister of Canadian Heritage. Discussions included copyright, current practices in acquiring and using electronic course materials, open educational resources, and creator remuneration. There is no information at this time when any formal consultations on the *Copyright Act* may begin.

Management, Advancement and Assessment of Research Libraries

CARL Research in Librarianship Grant

The 2023 winners of CARL's Research in Librarianship Grant were announced on September 28. The call for applications to the 2024 cycle will be announced in the spring.

In December, Julie Morin presented on the CARL grant program during a panel on crafting successful grant proposals (part of the Building Librarian Research Skills webinar series).

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Under the leadership of Chair Selinda Berg and VPO-EDI Aditi Gupta, the EDI Working Group updated their terms of reference for the 2024-2025 term. These were approved by SCC and included in the call for new members circulated on December 14. Current members have also been asked to confirm whether they wish to continue participating on the WG.

CARL Professional Development Offerings for Library Directors

Susan Cleyle, CARL VPO for Leadership Development Initiatives, Julie Hannaford, and CARL staff continue to meet with the Gardiner Centre to plan for the next ALLI, which will take place in June 2024.

Librarians' Research Institute (LRI)

The 2024 French-language LRI will be held June 3-6 at ULaval and a call for peer mentors was circulated on November 27.

CARL Statistics Program

Collection of the 2021-22 and 2022-23 academic years is still underway with an extended deadline for January. Some of the changes implemented to the collection database include flagging anomalies immediately to the user at the time of data entry. It is hoped that this process will significantly expedite the production of publications.

Support to Research Production, Preservation and Dissemination

Open Access - Share Repositories Infrastructure

The MoU with OCUL and UofT Libraries for a National Institutional Repository Service to be hosted by Scholars Portal was signed. Planning for the Technical Pilot phase is underway with Scholars Portal, and on January 23, 2024 CARL will convene regional consortia representatives and U of T) to commence discussion of its governance and financial model. S. Haigh, G. Harder and K. Shearer submitted a proposal to present the project and broader Canadian developments at Open Repositories 2024.

Preservation

The Digital Preservation Working Group, chaired by Geoff Harder while Dale Askey is on leave, is meeting monthly, with several new members in place. Initiatives underway include a review of the Terms of Reference, a presentation by and meeting with William Kilbride of the Digital Preservation Coalition, and planning for a summit to be held later this year.

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

Following two successful events in the fall of 2023, the steering committee, led by co-chairs Thane Chambers (University of Alberta) and Laura Bredahl (University of Waterloo), has organized a Community of Practice event for February on responsible research evaluation. Planning is underway for two subsequent events to be held in April and May. The book club concluded its series in December.

Canadian Repositories Community of Practice

Under the leadership of co-chairs Pascal Calarco (University of Windsor) and Emily Hopkins (University of Saskatchewan), the steering committee has organized a practice-based event for February on metadata and is currently planning a spring Community of Practice event. ..

Knowledge Synthesis

The CARL Knowledge Synthesis Working Group, led by Zahra Premji (University of Victoria) is completing the final report based on their 2023 Needs Assessment survey.

Library Publishing Community Engagement Team

A robust steering committee for this new community of practice was selected in December following a call for expressions of interest. The first meeting of the steering committee is scheduled for February.

Support to Teaching and Learning

Advancing Teaching and Learning Committee (ATLC)

The ATLC continues to focus its attention on digital dexterity and generative AI. The Digital Dexterity task group is revising its newly-drafted Digital Dexterity Framework and workshopping it with select librarians. The AI task group is compiling a resource of teaching and learning initiatives at CARL member libraries and continues to explore how best CARL might serve practitioners in this area.

Open Education

The [Francophone Summit OER Report](#) from April 2023 was finalized in December and is now available in French and English. Planning for the OER National Strategy Indigenous OER mini-summit, to be held at UBC in February, has been underway. Three preliminary virtual events, including a plenary session, will be held in the coming weeks.

Generative AI Primer

The function-based [Generative Artificial Intelligence: a primer for CARL institutions](#) was completed in December, following its review at the CARL Fall General Meeting. CARL

Outreach & Administration

Friday Zoom Calls for Directors

Directors have the opportunity every other week to update each other informally 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.

Conferences, Events, International Meetings

Since the last report, CARL staff have attended events, workshops, webinars and international meetings including: Licensing Privacy Summit, ARL-CNI Focus Groups on AI, SPARC Member Update and Reception, and Coalition for Networked Information (Washington, DC); IARLA, OLA Copyright Symposium; OLA Superconference.

CARL Member Transitions

There were no CARL member transitions during the period covered in this report.

Staff

As of January 1, 2024, Susan Haigh became Chair of SCOSS's international board.

Effective February 1, 2024, Susan will become chair of CPIDAC, the Canadian PIDs Advisory Committee.

Susan has been invited to speak along with other IARLA associations' executive directors at the May 2024 ARL member meeting in Boston. The theme is 'stronger together.'

CARL circulated a [job posting for a Communications and Project Officer](#) on January 5. The deadline to apply is January 21.

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 and Teaching and Learning Committee; E-lert co-editor.

Visiting Program Officers (part-time)

- *Susan Cleyle – VPO, Leadership Development Initiatives* (September 2021 - September 2024)
- *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)
- *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 (Sheri Farahani) – Human resources*

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Haigh,
January 23, 2024