



Canadian
Library
Association Association
canadienne
des bibliothèques

CONVERSATIONS WITH SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION LIBRARIANS: RESULTS OF A CARL- FUNDED STUDY

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SHOW OF HANDS



SETTING THE STAGE

What is
Scholarly Communication?



The Scholarly Communications System incorporates and expands on the more familiar concept of scholarly publishing and includes both informal and formal networks used by scholars to develop ideas, exchange information, build and mine data, certify research, publish findings, disseminate results, and preserve outputs. This vast and changing system is central to the academic enterprise.

(Lee Van Orsdel - ACRL Scholarly Communication Roadshow, 2012)





Scholarly communications covers a broad range of activities, including the discovery, collection, organization, evaluation, interpretation, and preservation of primary and other sources of information, and the publication and dissemination of scholarly research.

(Collyer & Waters - Mellon Foundation Annual Report, 2008)





“Scholarly communications” is the process by which scholarship is produced, supported, managed, and communicated, and includes all those involved in supporting the life-cycle of scholarship.

(Joy Kirchner, University of British Columbia
ACRL Scholarly Communication Roadshow)



Research libraries ensure for researchers convenient and permanent access to scholarly resources by managing already-available information and the promotion of effective and sustainable communication of new information. To achieve this, CARL plays a leading role in transforming scholarly communication in Canada.

Scholarly Communication

- Digitization
- Open Access
- Resources for Authors
- Institutional Repositories
- Canadian Institutional Repositories
- Research Collections
- Research Data Management
- Scholarly Communications Committee
- Data Management Sub-Committee
- CARL / CRKN OA Working Group
- CARL Open Access Advocacy Toolkit

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News

Open letter to Stephen Harper on LAC

Ottawa, May 22nd 2013 - CARL wrote an open-letter to Prime Minister Stephen Harper, asking that he consult the next head of Library and Archives Canada. [More...](#)

CARL notes Daniel J. Caron's departure

Ottawa, May 17th 2013 - CARL notes the departure of the Librarian and Archivist of Canada. [More...](#)

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CARL E-lert

E-lert / Cyberavis

email



CARL STRATEGIC PLAN 2010-2012

1. Transform Scholarly Communication
2. Influence Public Policy
3. Advance the Research Library





REASONS FOR THE STUDY

- Academic Librarianship in Crisis
- Scholarly Communication – An Evolving Landscape
- How will this impact Academic Librarians?

CARL Research in Librarianship Grant 2011-2013





STUDY OBJECTIVES

- To investigate the scope of SC activities within CARL
- To understand the organizational structures
- To determine challenges and limitations
- To explore future strategies

THE INITIATION OF THE STUDY

Research Grants

CARL UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF INFORMATION

Grant Des

2012

3D Printing
University)

Digital arch
Victoria)

Connect



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RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Organization: York University
City: Toronto/Guelph
Province/State: ON
Country: Canada
Category: Library (Academic)
Job type: Part-time
Duration: Temporary
Student job: Yes
Description and duties:

Study of Librarian Roles in Promoting Scholarly Communication
The research assistant will assist with a Canadian Association of Research Libraries (CARL) funded research study that is examining trends in support of scholarly communication in Canada.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- To undertake database research and literature review of relevant academic journals, reports and other publications, specifically with respect to librarian roles in promoting scholarly communication in Canada.
- To prepare a report on the literature review findings, written succinctly and in compliance with APA's writing guidelines.

EXPECTED OUTCOME:

- An annotated literature review and 1 page report (10 pages max)

Qualifications:

- Must be a current library and information science graduate student.
- Demonstrated ability to prepare well-written, succinct reports.
- Demonstrated knowledge of how to conduct literature reviews, including familiarity with using university library catalogues and academic referencing styles.
- Demonstrated knowledge of bibliographic management tools.
- Interest in scholarly communication (prior familiarity with the topic a strong plus)..
- Ability to work independently and meet deadlines.



Ethics



THE TOPICS

1. Review of SC initiatives & services
2. Organizational structure
3. Advocacy & Promotion
4. Assessment
5. Skills requirement & professional development
6. Barriers & Challenges
7. A vision for the future of SC in Canada & beyond





CARLABRC

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Carleton UNIVERSITY

uOttawa

YORK UNIVERSITY

Queen's UNIVERSITY

UQAM | Université du Québec à Montréal

RYERSON UNIVERSITY

Concordia UNIVERSITY

McMaster University

UNIVERSITY of GUELPH

McGill

Université de Montréal

University of Victoria

a place of mind THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO

UNIVERSITÉ DE SHERBROOKE

SFU SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITÉ LAVAL

MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

Western UNIVERSITY - CANADA

DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY Inspiring Minds

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

University of Windsor

Brock University

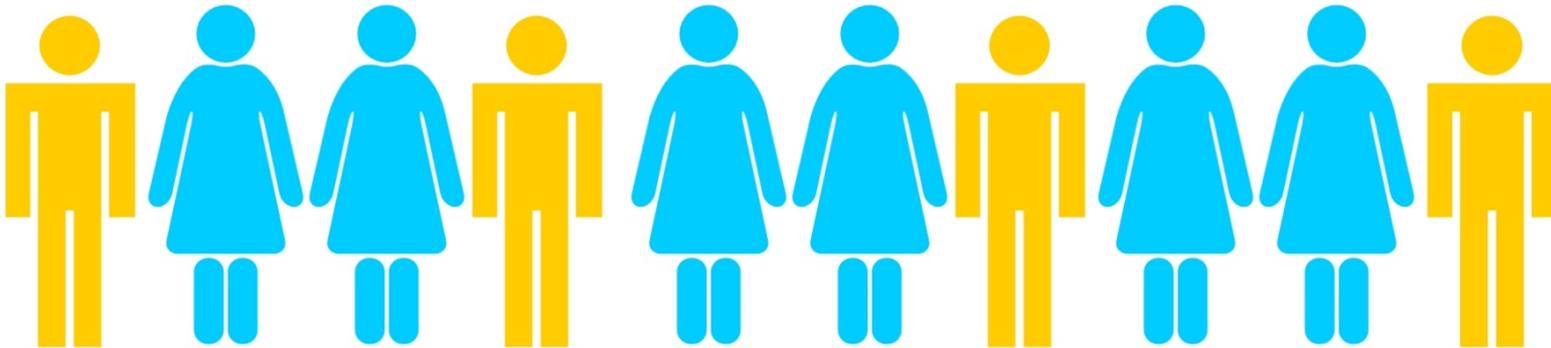
UNB



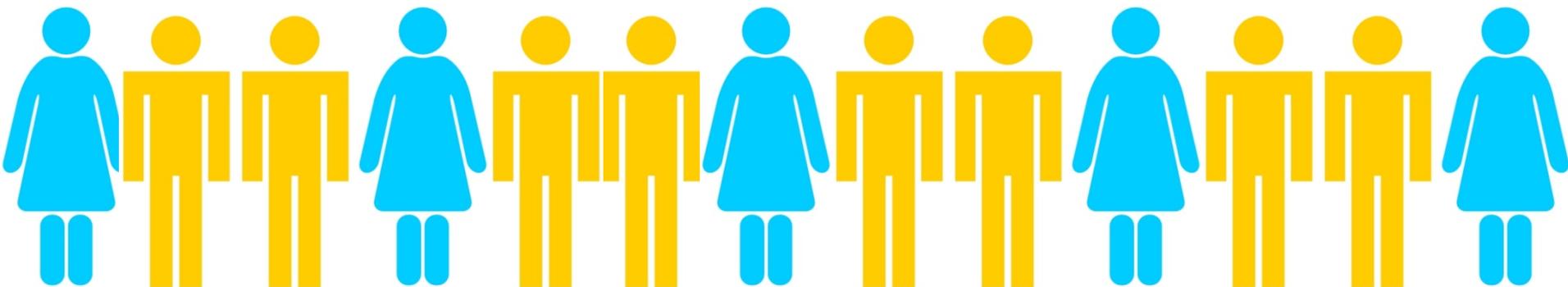
6 University Librarians / Directors



10 Associate University Librarians / Associate Deans / Associate Directors



12 Scholarly Communication Librarians / 1 Liaison Librarian



RECORDING AND ANALYSIS



Hired a graduate student to *code and analyze* interviews for connections, recurring themes, novel approaches, and great quotes.

EVENTS THAT SHAPED RESPONSES

ACCESS





Your guesses about
our findings?





RESULTS/FINDINGS

1. Review of SC landscape, initiatives & emerging services
2. Organizational structure
3. Promotion & Advocacy
4. Assessment
5. Skills requirement & professional development
6. Collaboration
7. Barriers and challenges
8. Future Hopes and Aspirations



THE SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION LANDSCAPE

- All 29 CARL Libraries have an IR – ETDs are a major driver
 - ✓ Most use DSpace. A few use outsourced solutions such as Digital Commons
- 22 host journal publishing programs
 - ✓ ie. Synergies and Érudit
- Digitization projects – heritage material, unique text collections, digital archives



SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES

- Open Access Policies
 - ✓ 1 institutional, 1 faculty, 1 departmental, several librarian, other commitments to OA
- Open Access Publishing Author Funds
 - ✓ more than 1/2 have either a dedicated fund or OA publisher memberships e.g. BioMedCentral, PLoS, Hindawi
- Publishing Innovation Funds
 - ✓ offered by 2 institutions
- Libraries are supporting members of SPARC, arXiv, DOAJ



NEW FRONTIERS

- Digital Humanities
- Research Data Management
- Open Monographs
- Publication Metrics





ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- Most respondents indicate that the AUL Collections is responsible for Scholarly Communication
- Some respondents are attached to Bibliographic, IT or Technical Services Departments
- Some SC librarians report directly to UL
- Others manage electronic text centres or e-scholarship centres
- Structural alignments – Copyright & SC, Centre for SC, Libraries & Cultural Resources



ASSESSMENT

- Journal Use Statistics
- Hits and Downloads of Items in IR
- Number of attendees attending an event
- Faculty surveys
- Environmental scans of researcher needs
 - *Respondents agreed that more standardized assessment was needed



SKILL REQUIREMENTS

- Knowledge of the Issues
 - ✓ (incl. copyright, author rights)
- Programming Skills
- Metadata Expertise
- Participating in the Research Cycle
- Communication Skills
- Presentation Skills



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- In-house library workshops
- Webinars
- Professional Association Conferences
- ACRL Scholarly Communication Roadshow
- SPARC, ARL, CARL events





THE FUTURE



BARRIERS TO SC SUCCESS IN CANADA

- Absence of strong policy mandates from granting agencies
- Federal/provincial issues
- Economic sustainability of newer models
- Differences within the disciplines
- Faculty apathy (IR deposits)
- Tenure and Promotion issues



FUTURE DIRECTIONS AKA DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Communities of Practice
 - ✓ Communication, Sharing, Messages
 - ✓ Skills Development
 - ✓ Assessment
2. Leadership
3. Librarians as researcher



COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

We need to get ourselves in order. We are trying to help scholars communicate and we don't even communicate with each other.

AUL

Why we are reinventing the wheel at every institution? Is it because we think we are special snowflakes? It is killing me.

SC Librarian





COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

The biggest problem in Canada is that it is so difficult to connect with other Canadian librarians. When I meet other Canadians it is in committee work in the US. I don't meet them in Canada. There is something very wrong with that.

I would love to see CARL be more of a model like ACRL or ARL where it is not just a directors group. We need others in other positions to be involved in committee work and working groups. That is how you really connect with others in your country. Those kinds of committees are also where you do really important global work.

SC Librarian



How can we
build a
community of
practice?





ASSESSMENT WOES

We are not doing a lot of hard targets. We are doing a lot of tracking. enough to say that we are making progress and we are moving forward.

It is too soon to do any real assessment. It is just perception and feelings right now. Very subjective.

There just aren't any Canadian benchmarks out there.

How can we improve assessment of Scholarly Communication in Canada?





HUNGER FOR LEADERSHIP AT THE FEDERAL LEVEL



What is preventive us from developing an umbrella group like JISC?

If we look at the US and UK, Australia, and we can see that Canada does not have its act together CARL is taking the lead but we are still spinning our wheels. We are talking to ourselves and to the converted. I envy that the UK has JISC and all the foundations in the US with funding mandates. AUL

It is great that the granting agencies are supportive but there is no teeth to their requirements. They have a huge role to play. Perhaps through CARL we could apply more pressure to them to get more clout to their policies. SC Librarian

There is more that we can accomplish if we orchestrate this as a country and not just as a bunch of individual institutions. SC Librarian



HUNGER FOR STRONGER LEADERSHIP

We can't just stay inside the library. We need to be out where the publishers, and the researchers are doing the work.

SC Librarian

At the institution, Library Directors and ULs are essential participants. They need to be involved. After all, they have the ears of the President, the deans, the provost and... the donors.

UL





LIBRARIAN AS RESEARCHER

Librarian as researcher needs to be emphasized if we want to be taken more seriously in the academy. UL

Librarians need to be scholarly. It is hard for librarians to speak to faculty about their publications if they have no personal experience in it. AUL



Do you take time to conduct research?





LIBRARIAN AS RESEARCHER



Do you have research responsibilities?

Under our Directors leadership, we emphasize research among our librarians and are developing our campus profile as researchers not just librarians. We hire “scholar librarians”.

We have written it into our review process (and are working to add it to the Collective Agreement) As each new librarian is hired, it is articulated to them that research is an expectation and that we will find ways to support this work.

AUL





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Questions or
comments?



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