



The Possibilities are Endless...

**NO TIME TO SCALE BACK: GLEANING BEST
PRACTICES FOR LIBRARIAN INVOLVEMENT
IN SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION IN
CANADIAN RESEARCH LIBRARIES**

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SETTING THE STAGE

What is
Scholarly Communication?





“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, ACRL Scholarly Communication Roadshow)





LIBRARIANS & SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

Librarians lobby for OA mandates. They write to their representatives in the legislature. They make phone calls and visit. They network and organize. They communicate with one another, with their patrons, and with the public. They launch, maintain, and fill repositories. They write up their experiences, case studies, surveys, and best practices. They pay attention. On average, they understand the issues better than any stakeholder group, including researchers, administrators, publishers, funders and policymakers.

(P. Suber in an interview with R. Poynder, 2011)



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





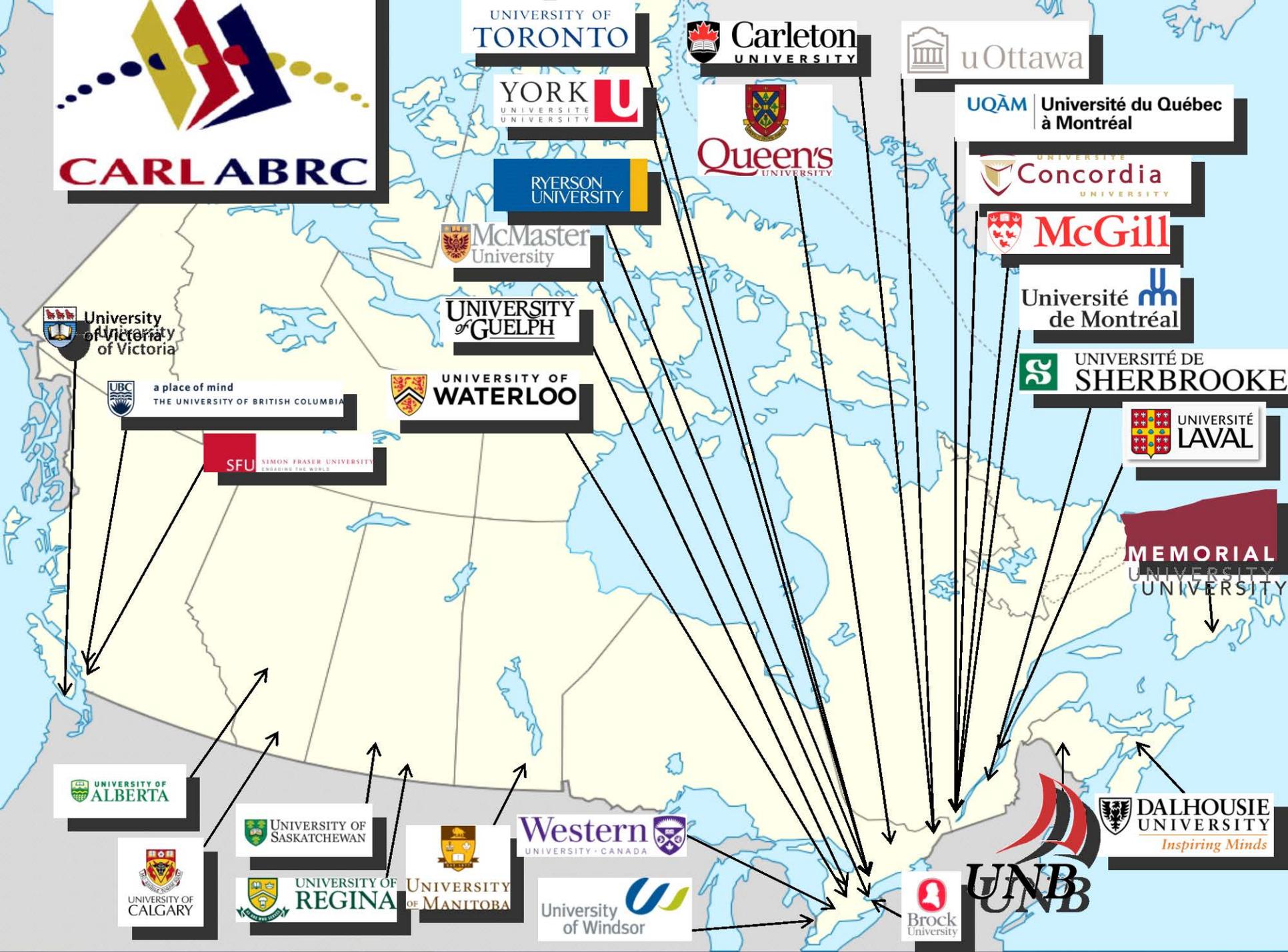
STUDY OBJECTIVES

- To study the scope of scholarly communication activities within Canadian research libraries
- To understand the organizational structures in which scholarly communications plays a role
- To determine challenges and limitations
- To investigate best practices
- To explore future strategies



METHODOLOGY

- Selection of participants
- Ethics review at both institutions
- Consultation on topics to be covered
- Telephone interviews
- Coding with NVIVO
- Analyzing the results



INSTITUTION SIZE BASED ON ENROLMENT (FTE) (SOURCE: CARL STATISTICS 2009/10)

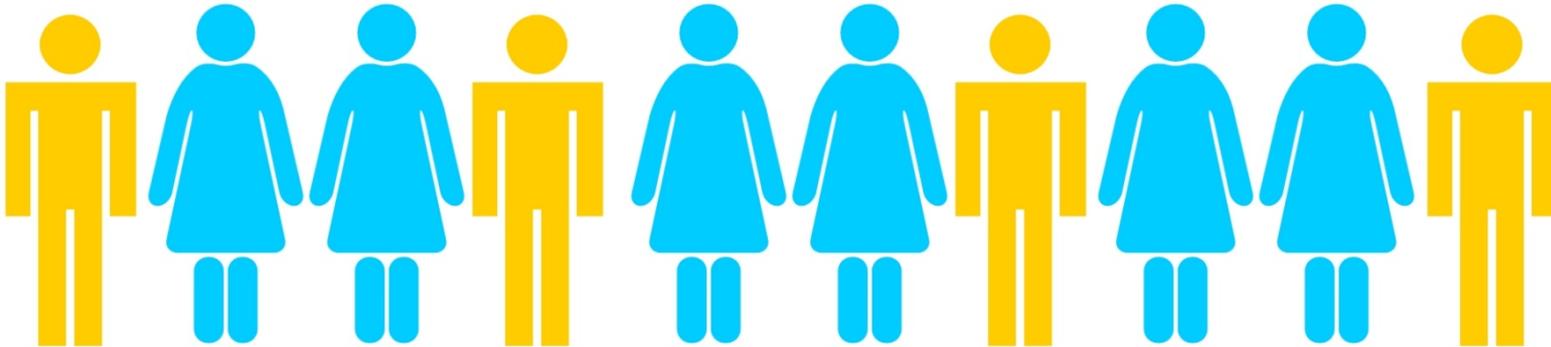
<u>Size</u>	<u># of participants</u>
Large (25,000 +)	14
Medium(10,000 – 25,000)	14
Small (0 – 10,000)	1



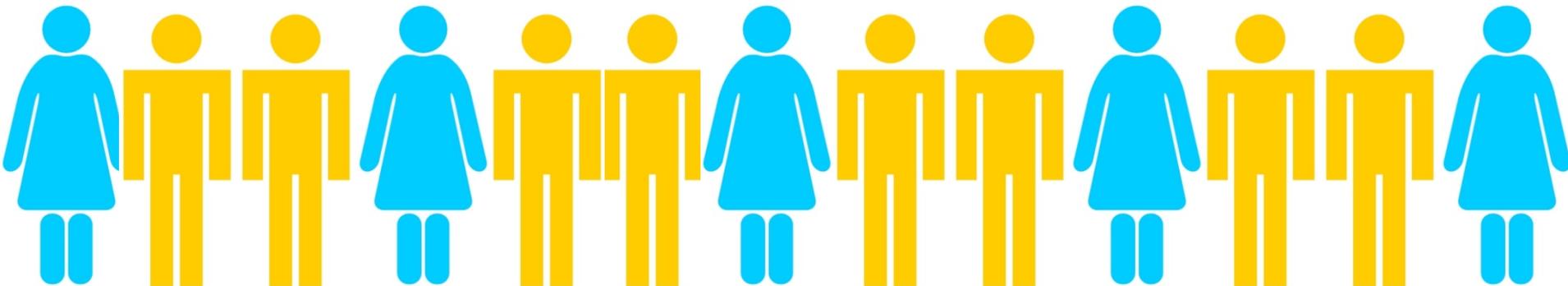
6 University Librarians / Directors



10 Associate University Librarians / Associate Deans / Associate Directors



12 Scholarly Communication Librarians / 1 Liaison Librarian





JOB TITLES OF RESPONDENTS

- University Librarian/Director General
- Assoc. University Librarian/Assoc. Dean/Assoc. Director
- Head, Access Services, Head, Tech Services,
- Liaison Librarian
- SC Librarian/ SC Coordinator/ SC Services
Coordinator/SC Librarian & Copyright Officer/Head-
Research Enterprise & SC
- Digital Initiatives Librarian, OA Librarian, E-scholarship,
E-publishing & Digitization Coordinator, Director,
Electronic Text Centre



THE TOPICS

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

EVENTS THAT SHAPED RESPONSES

ACCESS





**Selected results pertaining to
librarian roles in scholarly
communication**





SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION IN CANADIAN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

- Institutional repositories
- Journal publishing
- Digitization
- Promotion & Advocacy
- Open Access Author Funds
- Support for Public Access Policies (i.e. CIHR)
- Copyright



DEVELOPING AREAS

- Research data management
- Open Monograph publishing
- Digital humanities
- Research impact and publication metrics

LIBRARIAN ROLES

- Job responsibilities pertaining to SC
 - Reporting structure
 - Organizational models
 - Emerging roles
- 

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Scholarly communication advocacy & promotion
 - Institutional repository management, advocacy & promotion
 - E-publishing – hosting journals, ETDs, open monographs
 - Digitization – managing e-text centres, building digital archives
 - OA author fund allocation
 - Copyright advisory
 - Research impact & publication metrics consultation
 - Digital Humanities support
- 



INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES

- All 29 CARL institutions have IRs. Libraries and Archives Canada requires ETDs by 2014.
- DSpace is the most common solution, E-prints, Digital Commons are other solutions.
- Managed in-house, a few are out-sourced



E-PUBLISHING

- Journals – Synergies, using OJS, called “transformative” by building capacity to host journals in 21 institutions
- Érudit developed in-house and managed by 3 Québec institutions for French language publications including ETDs
- Less used publishing solutions – BePress
- Digitization projects – digital containers, digital archives, e-texts. Funded by institution or by partnering with community



OA AUTHOR FUNDS ALLOCATION

- More than half of CARL institutions have OA author funds or support memberships with BMC, PLoS and Hindawi
- Some are pilots
- Others are planned or under consideration
- A couple of libraries had discontinued BMC membership



COPYRIGHT ADVOCACY

- Librarian roles may include advising on copyright and promoting author rights in the context of the IR.
- Librarians are members of copyright committees. In one case, the Senate Copyright Committee which included librarians was responsible for a campus OA resolution.
- Copyright expertise may reside in the library. A University librarian was also the institution's Copyright Officer. An AUL was active on CLA and CARL copyright committees.



NEW FRONTIERS IN SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

- Research Data Management – seen as a future role for librarians. Need for infrastructure and training.
- Digital humanities – new hiring is taking place in this area of scholarly communication
- Research impact and publication metrics – a growing need. Librarians talk about supporting faculty in knowledge mobilization and research influence.
- Digital preservation and Digital assets management



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES

- Departmental responsibility – collections, bibliographic services, technical services
- Reporting structures – AUL Collections, UL
- New structural alignments – Scholarly Communication & Copyright, Library & Cultural Services



ORGANIZATIONAL MODELS

- Committees
- Teams
- Scholarly Communication Librarian
- Subject/Liaison Librarian



COMMITTEES - EXAMPLES

Campus

- ✓ University Steering Committee
- ✓ Tri-Campus Scholarly Communication Committee
- ✓ Campus Library Advisory Committee
- ✓ Campus Copyright Committees
- ✓ OA Policy Working Groups

Library

- ✓ Scholarly Communications Library Committee
- ✓ OA Week Committees





TEAMS

- Teams may have specialized functions – scholarly communications, e-science, digitization
- Advantages are expertise and dedicated members
- Disadvantages when they work in isolation and lack flexibility in membership



SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION LIBRARIAN

- Point person
- Resident expert, keeps up with issues
- Takes referrals
- May be full-time , more commonly part of a another position.
- Growing tendency to broaden out to involve liaison roles



SUBJECT/LIAISON LIBRARIAN

- Subject specialist
- Front-line person, attending faculty councils, departmental meetings
- More opportunities to promote SC and advocate among faculty
- Help operationalize grant requirements e.g. CIHR OA policy
- SC generally not explicitly part of job responsibilities, occasionally a line in job descriptions.



SKILL REQUIREMENTS

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



CHALLENGES

- Lack of trained personnel
- Librarian turnover
- Workload of librarians
- Budget woes
- Language diversity
- Disciplinary differences
- Geographic divide
- Reinventing the wheel
- No formal assessment strategy



DISCUSSION

- Methodology
 - Interviews vs survey
 - What worked
 - What did not work
- Comparison of study with ARL Spec Kit results



RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- More diversion of funding needed toward scholarly communication priorities
- New hiring in strategic areas
- Making provision for retraining and developing expertise



BEST PRACTICES

- Diffusion of knowledge on SC issues
- New skills for new times
- Developing a community of practice
- Leadership starts at the top
- Librarians need to participate in research cycle

DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE ON SC ISSUES

- The real issue is time. The liaison librarian is such a busy role. The kind of advocacy that is needed takes time. If I could give my librarians anything it would be more time....and the confidence to speak of the issues. UL
- Liaison librarians need to have an understanding of SC issues inside and out. They may know that serials prices continue to escalate. They may know about OA. I am not sure if they are aware about how important it is. SC Librarian
- SC has to be like emerging technologies. One person can spearhead it but all of us need to know something about it. Just like one person at an institution can't be the only one understanding how twitter works, you cannot have one person at an institution knowing how publishing works. SC Librarian

NEW SKILLS FOR NEW TIMES

- We need strong technical- skills and competence in programming..... In terms of engaging faculty, we need issue awareness, knowledge of terminology, differences in disciplines, and curiosity.
SC Librarian
- I wish our liaison librarians had more knowledge. They have so much on their plate but understanding the nuances, having a better grasp of the issues, and more background would be great. UL
- Librarians need to understand metrics and research impact beyond ISI impact factor. They also need political acumen: the ability to engage people in ways that make sense to them, make it seem like it is their agenda.
AUL
- Librarians need to be visible, be seen, be able to communicate and have the influence. They need to be comfortable making a cold call.
UL



DEVELOPING A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

How are we sharing and working together?

- 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





LEADERSHIP STARTS AT THE TOP



Who is
Leading
scholarly
communication?

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





LIBRARIANS NEED TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH CYCLE



Do you take time to conduct research?



- 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
- We emphasize research among our librarians and are developing our campus profile as researchers not just librarians. We hire “scholar librarians”. As each new librarian is hired, we articulate to them that research is an expectation and that we will find ways to support this work. AUL



WHAT WILL THE FUTURE LOOK LIKE?

- Collaboration: No longer optional
- The Librarian: components of the old skill set no longer valuable. Dramatic retooling required.
- Data Management:
 - Key roles: preserving and curating data, advocating for open access.
- The librarian: role will change to more of an “informationist” (with focus on big data) and a “collaborationist” (connecting researchers with other researchers, grant funding, etc.)

Transforming the Research Library Workforce: A Scenarios Approach . ARL Fall Forum. October 11, 2012. *Jon E. Cawthorne (Boston College), Vivian Lewis (McMaster University), Xuemao Wang (University of Cincinnati)*



KEY REFERENCES

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