

COPPUL Scholarly Communications Working Group

www.coppul.ca/scholarlycommunications | Report for the March 2021 COPPUL Directors Meeting

About

The Scholarly Communications Working Group (SCWG) was endorsed as a standing committee of COPPUL in March 2012, and has been fully operating since September 2012.

Current members:

- Robyn Hall, MacEwan University (AB, Chair, 2017/05 - 2021/06)
- Elaine Fabbro, Athabasca University (AB, Director representative, 2015/10 - 2021/06)
- Sonya Betz, University of Alberta (AB, 2017/09 - 2021/06)
- Devina Dandar, Royal Roads University (BC, 2017/09 - 2021/06)
- Christie Hurrell, University of Calgary (AB, 2020/07-2022/06)
- Kate Langrell, University of Saskatchewan (SK 2019/06-2021/06)
- Emma Scott, University of Lethbridge (AB, 2020/07-2022/06)
- Christina Winter, University of Regina (SK 2019/06-2021/06)

Activities Since the Last Report

Scholarly Communications SkillShare Event

Since spring 2018, the working group has organized a well-attended annual scholarly communications professional development event for COPPUL member library staff. Due to ongoing concerns posed by COVID-19, the event will be held virtually for a second year.

This year's SkillShare will take place on Thursday, April 29 from 10AM-1PM (MST). It will include six short lightning strike sessions, a presentation on expanding support for open access from the Canadian Research Knowledge Network, and an overview of results from a survey on COPPUL member and affiliate members' scholarly communications activities.

Registration will open to COPPUL members in early March and to all others on April 1. Information about the event will go out through the SCWG blog (<https://coppulscwg.ca>) and COPPUL-I listserv. The event will be capped at 60 registrants and sessions will be recorded for anyone unable to attend.

The event program, presentation materials, and more information is posted at <https://coppulscwg.ca/skillshare>.

Scholarly Communications Survey

In January, the working group sent COPPUL members and affiliate members a follow-up survey to one conducted by the group in 2012. In addition to collecting comparative data on scholarly communications activities over the last decade, the survey asked questions about how COPPUL might support both scholarly communications and open education activities moving forward. The survey received responses from all COPPUL member institutions and a number of affiliates. Our thanks to everyone for participating!

In April, a summary of aggregate results will be shared on the SCWG website and at the aforementioned SkillShare event on April 29. Results will help inform updates to the SCWG terms of reference underway

this term, as well as broader strategic considerations around both scholarly communications and open education moving forward.

Support for Open Education

Alongside other COPPUL groups, SCWG members have been contributing to ongoing discussions about ways that COPPUL can support open education activities at member institutions. SCWG members Christina Winter and Kate Langrell have helped plan the session on open education that is part of the Directors' meeting on March 4 and we look forward to future COPPUL initiatives that may follow.

SCWG Website

Group members have continued to maintain a blog (<https://coppulscwg.ca>), posting information of relevance to COPPUL members on scholarly communications topics, which members can contribute to and follow by visiting the site. Of note, in October Christie Hurrell and Robyn Hall posted about ways that librarians and library staff can contribute to purposeful open access advocacy during annual Open Access Weeks but also throughout the year. And in January Christina Winter took the lead in collecting and posting citations for recent publications, presentations, and other research dissemination on scholarly communications topics coming out of Canada; the group looks forward to doing similar "research roundups" in the future. This spring, expect a few additional blog posts that will correspond with the SkillShare event, highlighting local scholarly communications initiatives of member libraries.

Looking Forward

In addition to updating the group's terms of reference this winter term, the group will be seeking a new Chair from among its current membership, and a few new members, each to begin two-year terms on July 1, 2021. Please keep an eye out for a call for new members in May and encourage staff with an interest in scholarly communications to join this active and engaged group.

Submitted by Robyn Hall (SCWG Chair), February 24, 2021