

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:

- Christina Winter, SCWG Chair, University of Regina (SK 2019/07-2023/06)
- Victoria Eke, Concordia University (AB, 2021/07-2024/06)
- Kate Langrell, University of Saskatchewan (SK 2019/07-2023/06)
- Erin May, Thompson Rivers University (BC, 2021/07 -2023/06)
- Ali Moore, Simon Fraser University (BC, 2021/07 -2023/06)
- Tara Stephens-Kyte, University of British Columbia (BC, 2021/07 -2023/06)
- Andrea Szwajcer, University of Manitoba (AB, 2022/07-2024/06)

Activities Since the Last Report

1. Member Updates

As of July 1, the SCWG welcomed one new member to the working group: Andrea Szwajcer. Many thanks to outgoing member Christie Hurrell for their many valuable contributions.

2. Scholarly Communications SkillShare Event

Since spring 2018, the working group has organized an annual scholarly communications professional development event for COPPUL members. Due to ongoing concerns posed by COVID-19, the 2022 event was again held virtually and attendance to the event was expanded to include all interested Canadian academic librarians and library staff.

This year's SkillShare took place on Thursday, April 28 from 10AM-1PM (MT). It included four lightning talks, a panel on transformative agreements, and an interactive session on scholarly communications resources, tips, and tricks. The program and session descriptions can be found on the COPPUL website - <https://coppul.ca/scwg-blog/2022-skillshare-schedule-session-descriptions/>.

90 librarians and library staff from across the region registered for the event and 70 attended throughout the day. A post-event survey received 13 responses and respondents reported that the event met or exceeded expectations. Participants appreciated the variety of presentation formats and topics and length of the event. As for future events, many participants would like the event to continue to be held virtual, but there was also support for a return to the in-person format.

A big thank you to all of the presenters, participants and working group members for making this event a success. The format for the 2023 event will be discussed in the fall.

3. SCWG Website

Content on the SCWG Wordpress site has been migrated to the new COPPUL website. The latest submission to the blog is a write-up of the regional meet-up that took place in Edmonton and a summary of scholarly communications activities that are occurring at Edmonton post-secondary institutions.

4. Getting Started in Scholarly Communications Resources

In response to continued requests, the group is developing a list of resources for members who are new to the field of scholarly communications. This will be completed by the end of the 2022-23 year.

5. Research Roundup & Member Updates

For a second year, the group sent out a request to academic librarians and library staff across Canada to submit information about recent articles and conference presentations relating to scholarly communications. The list of research activities has been posted to the SCWG website - <https://coppul.ca/scwg-blog/research-roundup2021/>.

6. COPPUL Newsletter Contributions

The SCWG Chair continues to provide the Executive Director with bi-monthly updates about the SCWG's activities for inclusion in COPPUL newsletters.

7. Read and Publish

Kate Langrell served as the SCWG Liaison for COPPUL's Read and Publish deals. On May 11th, Kate and Carol Stephenson presented at the CKRN webinar "An Introduction to Transformative Agreements in Canada". The recording can be found here <https://vimeo.com/710838132>.

8. COPPUL OER Standing Committee

Christie Hurrell was the SCWG representative to the COPPUL OER Standing Committee until June 2022 and a new representative will be selected in the fall. Christina Winter met with the members of the committee to discuss the SCWG's connection to and involvement with open education activities.

2022-2023 Work Plan

The SCWG is planning to continue to meet remotely on a monthly basis from September 2022 to June 2023. Meetings will be focused on completing the following initiatives:

1. Western Canada Scholarly Communications SkillShare Event

The SCWG is planning a sixth event for spring 2023. A date and location will be determined and announced later this fall. Due to the ongoing uncertainty of COVID-19, we are uncertain whether the event will be held online or in-person but we are considering the possibility of alternating the format of the event so that it would be held in-person every other year.

COPPUL members are encouraged to let any member of the SCWG know of any topics they would like included in the program. Based on the feedback from this year's event, it was suggested that the theme

in our next Skillshare could be library publishing. A call for sessions will go out to members by early winter term 2023.

2. Website/Blog

We will continue to encourage COPPUL members to submit their ideas for blog posts and would like to start a new series that will highlight new and ongoing scholarly communications activities at COPPUL institutions.

3. Getting Started in Scholarly Communications Resources

The group continues to develop a curated list of resources for members with an interest in learning more about scholarly communications and becoming more involved with others working in this area of librarianship, including Slack channels, listservs, conferences, and other types of events.

4. Research Roundup & Member Updates

For a third year, the group plans to send out a Google Form to academic librarians and staff across Canada to collect information about recent articles, reports, presentations and other forms of dissemination relating to scholarly communications. Additionally, they will ask for any relevant updates from member institutions about new services and initiatives. This information will be collated and shared with COPPUL membership.

5. COPPUL Newsletter Contributions

As begun in spring 2021, the SCWG Chair will continue to provide the Executive Director with monthly updates about the SCWG's activities for inclusion in COPPUL newsletters shared through the COPPUL listserv to help facilitate communication and information sharing.

6. Increase Collaboration with COPPUL working groups

In 2021-2022, SCWG members worked with and presented to several COPPUL working groups committees. We hope to continue this work and increase our collaborations in 2022-2023. One example would be asking the COPPPUL OER group to see if they would like to do a session for the Schol Comm SkillShare day.

7. Survey of Schol Comm Librarians' Perceptions of TAs

Investigate the possibility of running a survey about transformative agreements amongst schol comms librarians.

Submitted by Christina Winter (SCWG Chair), August 15, 2022