

Open Repositories 2025 Recap

July 9th, 2025 at 1pm EDT / 9 juillet à 13h00 HE

[Registration / Inscription](#)

Having Open Repositories FOMO (fear of missing out)? Join the OR Recap event!

For many years, [Open Repositories](#) (OR) has served as a key point of knowledge sharing and collaboration for repository managers at institutions across the globe. Unfortunately, due to decreasing budgets for professional development and the political situation in the US, many Canadian repository managers are unable to attend this vitally important conference.

Luckily, three Canadian representatives, which include Amber Saundry (UBC), Julia Gilmore (Scholars Portal), Laurence Charest (Université de Montréal), and Pascal Calarco (University of Windsor), will attend OR 2025! During this event, our OR attendees will provide the community with an overview of what they learned at the OR conference, so that we all can gain insights from OR2025.

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Vous souffrez de « FOMO » de la conférence Open Repositories? Rejoignez notre événement récapitulatif de la conférence Open Repositories.

Depuis de nombreuses années, Open Repositories a servi de point clé pour le partage des connaissances et de collaboration pour les gestionnaires de dépôts dans les institutions à travers le monde. Malheureusement, en raison de la réduction des budgets consacrés au développement professionnel et de la situation politique aux États-Unis, de nombreux gestionnaires de dépôts canadiens ne sont pas en mesure d'assister à cette conférence essentielle.

Heureusement, quatre représentants canadiens, soit Amber Saundry (UBC), Julia Gilmore (Scholars Portal), Laurence Charest (Université de Montréal), et Pascal Calarco (University of Windsor), participeront à la conférence OR 2025 ! Au cours de cet événement, nos participants offriront à la communauté un aperçu de ce qu'ils ont appris lors de la conférence, afin que nous puissions tous bénéficier de l'expérience de la conférence de 2025.

Conference slides on Zenodo: <https://zenodo.org/communities/openrepos/>

Add your questions for them ahead of time here / ajoutez vos questions ici:

Notes:

[All OR notes available here](#)

What were some of the most impactful sessions for you?

- Amber Saundry
 - Opening Keynote: Heather Joseph (Executive Director, SPARC)
 - “The role of open access to knowledge in a challenging political landscape”
 - Recognized that many folks are operating in an extraordinarily challenging environment, especially given the interconnected scholarly communications ecosystem
 - Despite recognition of the numerous challenges, she also noted that the scholarly communications community is uniquely qualified to help mitigate some of the current challenges
 - Much of what’s happening at-present reinforces the importance & value of the work we do, and the importance of collaboration (as well as thinking about who we collaborate with & how)
 - What can do now?
 - Don’t back off on openness as enabling strategy
 - Reinforce shared values in international & national policy priorities
 - Continue to advocate that knowledge as a public good
 - Focus on research communication solutions that are open by default, and equitable by design
 - “Our day-to-day work is a potent form of advocacy”
 - Even my seemingly small daily tasks can have impact and contribute to broader advocacy efforts in the short & long-term
- Julia Gilmore
 - AI Harvesting Panel (COAR Survey Results):
<https://zenodo.org/records/15794533>
 - Atmire - From Load Times to Bot Traffic:
<https://zenodo.org/records/15758644>
 - Ben Zhao (Closing Keynote): <https://zenodo.org/records/15790708>
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 - [Impact of AI bots harvesting materials from the repository](#)
 - 80% of web traffic on repositories right now is coming from bots

- FAIR principles: repositories are not accessible if bots bring them down, but not interoperable if bots can't access them
- COAR Survey results, sharing approaches
- What does responsible bot access look like
- Opportunities to share access logs across repositories
- COAR task force (upcoming)
- [Load Time to Bot Traffic](#)
- <https://zenodo.org/records/15790708>
- Laurence Charest
 - Workflows in place for repositories
 - Vireo - OS repository submission platform used at Texas Digital Library (<https://zenodo.org/records/15758445>)
 - Separates workflow of submissions from repository
 - OA Switchboard (<https://zenodo.org/records/15758604>)
 - Carnegie Mellon
 - External sources for metadata import to DSpace
 - Ex: German name authorities (<https://zenodo.org/records/15758556>)
 - OpenAlex
- Pascal Calarco
 - Pre-session: [FAIR Metadata Brightspots](#)
 - By company Metadata Gamechangers
 - Used DataCite corpuses to consider how we implement FAIR metadata practices over time and with changing schemas
 - 'Metadata are richly described with reliable attributes', specifics left to communities
 - Linked Jupiter notebooks to analyze data
 - Interesting, but still have to figure out how to convince administrators to spend the time on this

Question 2: What emerging trends or technologies repository infrastructure or open scholarship stood out to you during the conference?

- Amber Saundry:
 - Resourcing of shared infrastructure, and the sustainability and viability of these services long-term
 - Interoperability, particularly around the use of open source software/tools & open or international standards (and continuing to expand the capabilities & extent of these)
 - PIDS, controlled vocabularies, need to have those integrated into these schemas
 - Long identified need for units within the library to collaborate

- Collaboration, both internally across units at an institution (or locations within a system), and externally across institutions & research organizations
 - Institution in UK: declining compliance in recent years with deposit in repository, had to bring in communications specialist and simplify guidance and deposit process
- Julia Gilmore
 - OCFL Panel: <https://zenodo.org/records/15758672>
 - OCFL Case Study - University of Leeds: <https://zenodo.org/records/15758503>
 - Oxford Comma File Layout (OCFL) – standardized software agnostic approach to store resources, meeting preservation requirements like fixity checks, identifying loss, etc.; Version 2 planning is in progress
 - Presentations from University of Leeds, Oxford, Zenodo, Harvard, etc.
 - No limit on content or format that can be held
 - Logical file system, human-readable
 - Archivemata doesn't accept this yet, but may be on the horizon
 - DSpace can't export to OCFL yet, but could be possible to do this in the future if an application profile is developed
- Laurence Charest
 - Open scholarship trend: [Publish, Review, Curate model](#)
 - Model that puts repository in the centre of disseminations
 - Directly integrated in Eprints; when researcher submits resource, it triggers COAR notify and researcher is able to ask a specific community of reviewers for feedback; if approved by community, approval and latest comments get into the latest document
 - Transparent about the review process
- Pascal Calarco
 - Third OR conference
 - Deals as much with data repositories as text-based repositories
 - Should be attended by Data Librarian and RDM Librarians, those interested in infometrics
 - Significant DSpace presence now in comparison with the past, less presence from Samvera and Islandora
 - Standards have more visibility than prev meetings
 - Tightly knit international community, lots of representation from Africa

Were there any topics of concern discussed at the conference que tu pense meriter plus d'attention dans l'avenir?

- Amber:
 - Diversification of the types and complexity of projects

- Conversations about indigenous data sovereignty
 - Local Contexts: organization working to 'reassert cultural authority in heritage collections and data', including Traditional Knowledge Labels, Biocultural Labels, and Notices, support for principles like OCAP
- Dataverse is an integration partner with Local Contexts
- Julia:
 - Configurable entities
 - Not a lot of teams describing how they were actually using entities
 - DSpace-CRIS merger announcement expected in the fall - may impact Entities integrations and support available out of box
 - Models for monitoring compliance? OA Switchboard? Presentations on paid subscription services? Interesting given revisions to Triagency policy, what are cost effective means to track compliance that other countries have used
- Laurence:
 - Reproducibility crisis
 - CORE presentation
 - Open Science helps with replication of research
 - Papers need to be linked with datasets and also software used with the research
- Pascal:
 - University of Texas: Running every platform known to man alongside DSpace-Symplectic Elements, etc. , solving problems for different parts of the campuses through these plugins
 - Most institutions don't have the fiscal resources to throw a billion ready-made tools at these problems
 - Lots of interest in the [CRIS project](#)

Questions from the Audience? (1:52 PM)

- Any presentations or discussion on collections as data?
 - FAIR workshop
- Any discussions over supper or lunch
 - Very informal and less opportunities for open networking

Pascal Calarco 1:57 PM



My 4th question was <https://baobab.wacren.net/> is an international African shared repository with head offices in Ghana. The organization, WACRAN, serves 11 countries in West Africa and Central Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Togo). WACREN's mission is to build and operate a world-class network infrastructure, develop state of the art services, promote collaboration among national, regional, international research and education communities and build the capacity of the REN community. They operate several projects and shared infrastructure that starts at internet connectivity throughout the participating countries, digital/virtual learning services, middleware services and of course a shared repository.

