Let's just get on with it – 'open' in Australia in 2019

CAUL Research Repositories Community Days
Rydges Sydney Central
28 October 2019
#CAULRD2019

Slides available:
https://www.slideshare.net/DannyKingsley/lets-just-get-on-with-it-open-in-australia-in-2019

Dr Danny Kingsley
Scholarly Communication Consultant
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Last year I gave a talk

- It was the 10 year meeting of Repository Fringe, so I called it "That was then, this is now. What's next?"
- That talk went into detail about where we have been and where repositories are now and some future predictions
- It was three months before Plan S was announced
- I'm not repeating that talk. You can check it out here https://www.repository.cam.ac.uk/handle/1810/277677
- Today I am focusing on where we are at in Australia in relation to the open agenda

Much ink has been spilled over Plan S

Disproportionate

"Australia is now responsible for roughly 4% of the total scientific output in the WoS, despite having only 0.3% of the world's population and 1.6% of world GDP."
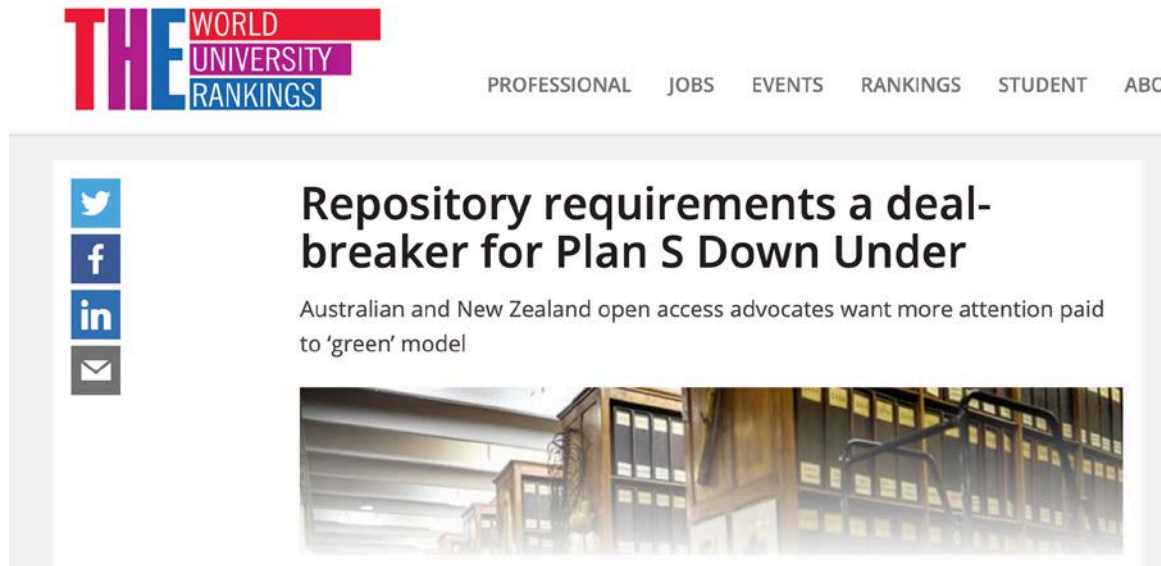https://www.iru.edu.au/news/australian-researchers-productivity-boom/

0.8% of commentary on Plan S relates to Australia

Two articles from a UK news outlet

Repository requirements a deal-breaker for Plan S Down Under

Australian and New Zealand open access advocates want more attention paid to 'green' model

(24 Feb 2019)

Australian funders urged to join Plan S open access drive

Research agencies tight-lipped about global initiative, but are talking behind the scenes

(2 April 2019)

Two statements from AOASG & CAUL
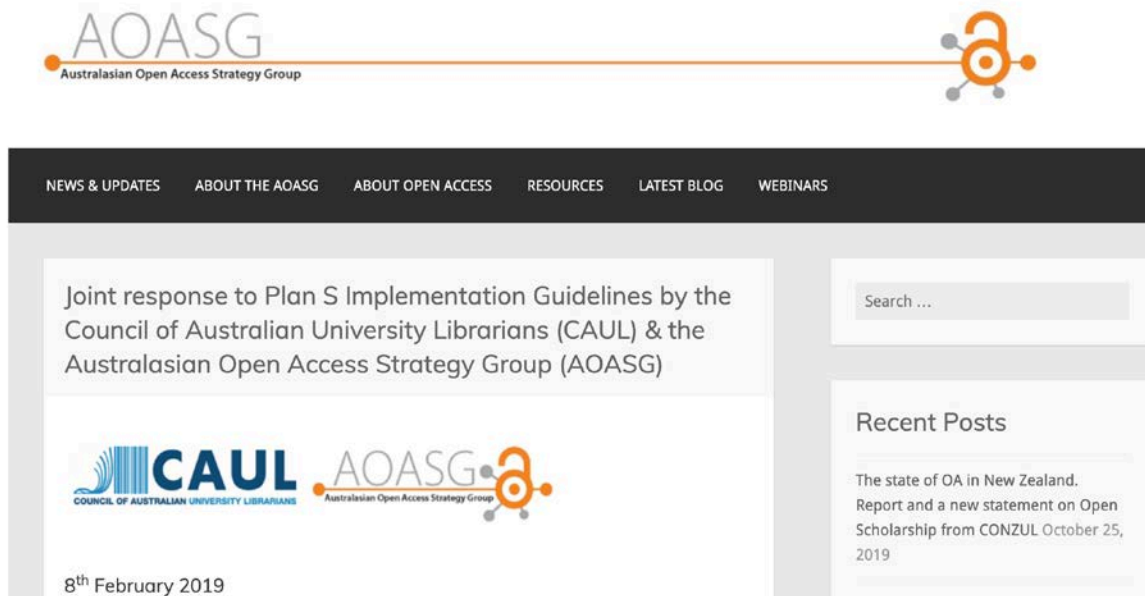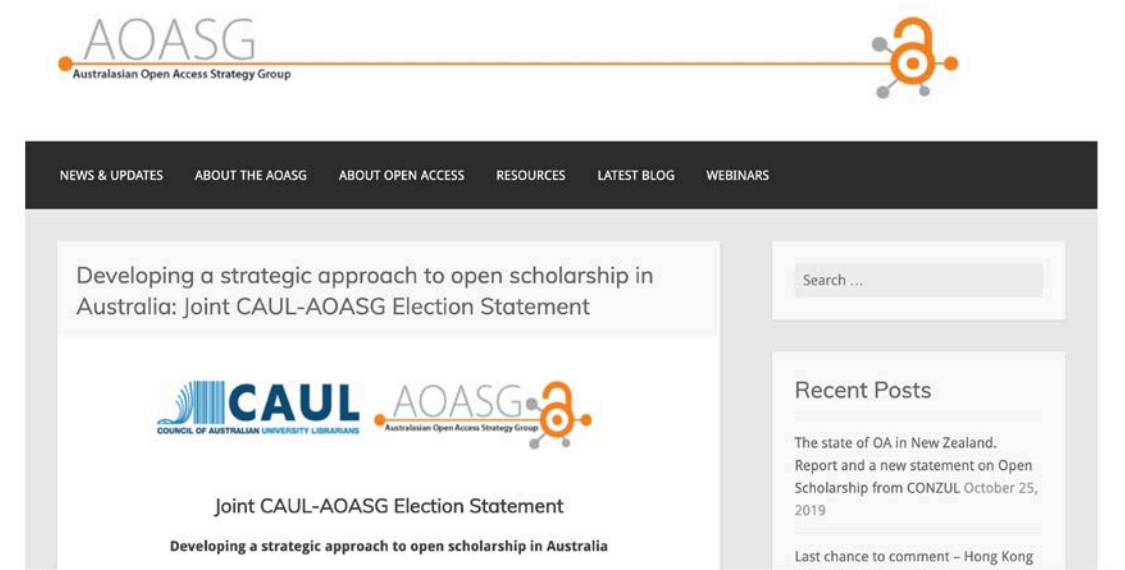
Two commentaries from researchers

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.5694/mja2.50281
(18 Aug 2019)

https://theconversation.com/all-publicly-funded-research-could-soon-be-free-for-you-the-taxpayer-to-read-111825 (28 Feb 2019)

Plan S is a funder-led initiative

- In 2017-2018, in Australia:

- National Health and Medical Council (NHMRC) - about $943 million in funding https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/annual-report-2017-2018

- Australian Research Council (ARC) - $758 million in funding https://www.arc.gov.au/policies-strategies/policy/annual-reports-australian-research-council

What works with policies?

COMMENT · 24 OCTOBER 2018

Do authors comply when funders enforce open access to research?

The first large-scale analysis of compliance with open-access rules reveals that up to one-third of articles are not free to read, report Vincent Larivière and Cassidy R. Sugimoto.

Vincent Larivière & Cassidy R. Sugimoto ✉

Effective policies are mandates, monitor compliance, impose sanctions and do best where infrastructure is available.

https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-07101-w

How do these policies stack up?

NHMRC requires that any peer-reviewed publication arising from NHMRC supported research must be made openly accessible in an institutional repository or other acceptable location (e.g. publisher website, subject repositories) within a 12-month period from the date of publication. This policy applies to all publications from 1 July 2012 except for peer-reviewed conference papers where it applies from 15 January 2018.

NHMRC acknowledges the importance of making research data publicly accessible and therefore strongly encourages researchers to consider the reuse value of their data and to take reasonable steps to share research data and associated metadata arising from NHMRC supported research.

https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/resources/open-access-policy

Any Research Output arising from ARC Funded Research must be made Openly Accessible within a twelve (12) month period from the Publication Date.

For the purposes of this policy, Research Outputs do not include research data and research data outputs. Research data arising from ARC Funded Research are addressed separately under the ARC's data management requirements. Further information is available on the Research Data Management page.

https://www.arc.gov.au/policies-strategies/policy/arc-open-access-policy-version-20171

The ARC does not require that full, detailed data management plans be submitted for assessment, but from 2020 will require that such plans are in place prior to the commencement of the project. Currently, the ARC does not mandate open access to data.

https://www.arc.gov.au/policies-strategies/strategy/research-data-management

What about universities?

- Of the 41 universities in Australia, fewer than half (18) have a policy or statement on open access. Very few mention data.

- Of the Group of Eight universities, only four have an OA policy, and one of them is:
  - "authors should adhere to the open access requirements of relevant funding bodies"

- http://roarmap.eprints.org

- https://aoasg.org.au/open-access-policies/

Kingdom for a policy?

So what's the problem here?

Figure 1: higher education enrolments, overseas students, 2008–2018
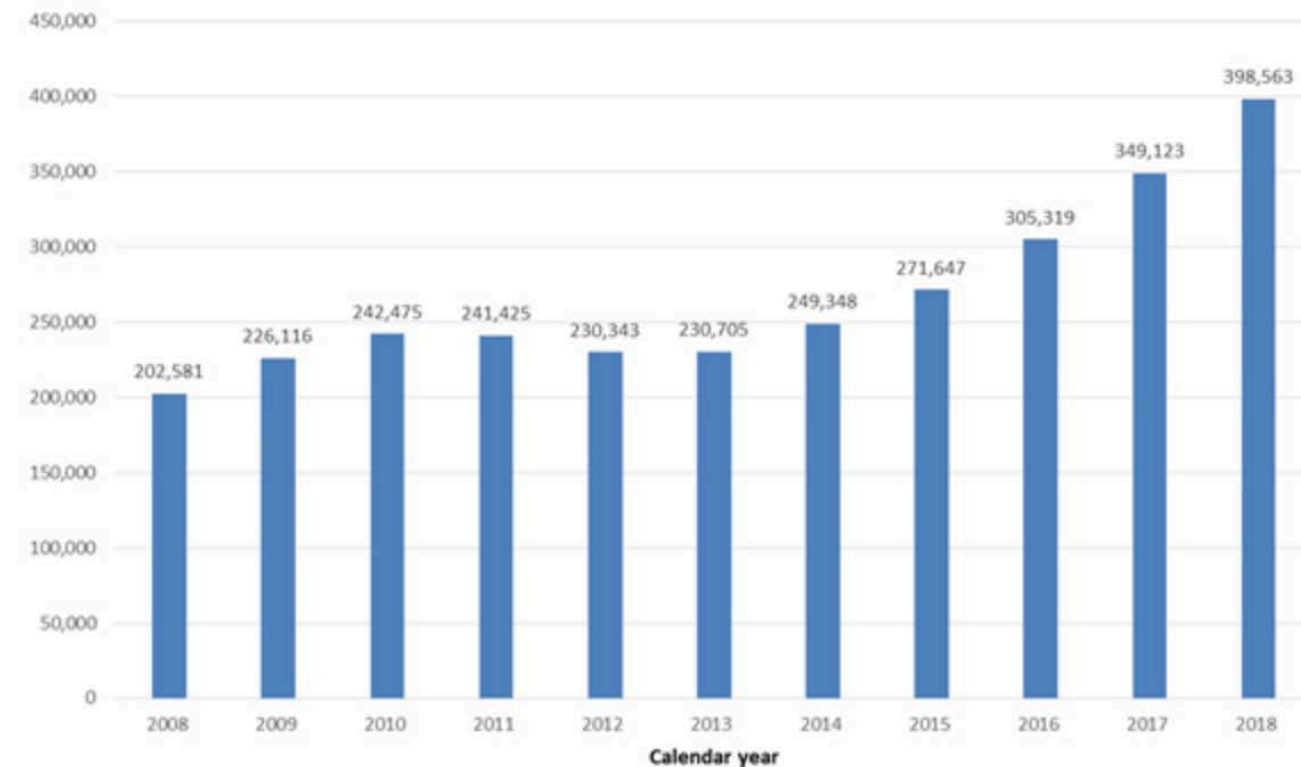
Source: DoE, *Basic pivot table 2015–2019*, December 2018.

It's not the students, it's the risk

Financial risk

Australian universities can't rely on India if funds from Chinese students start to fall
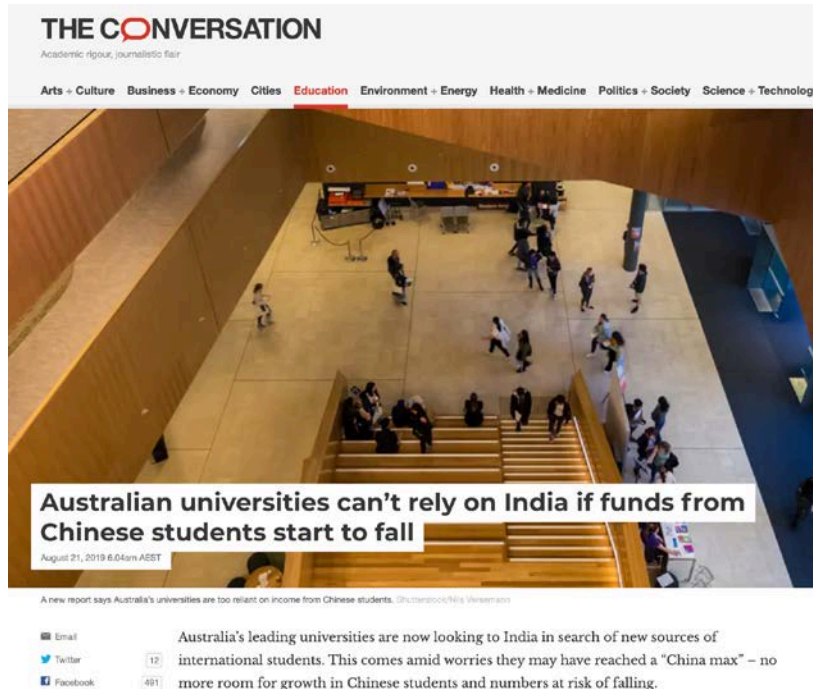
Standards risk

Academics: We've lowered standards for international students

By Unconventional Economist in Australian Economy at 9:30 am on January 24, 2019 | 63 comments

By Leith van Onselen

The Victorian Government yesterday called for a review of entry requirements into Australian universities after growing evidence has emerged that foreign students with poor English language proficiency are badly eroding education standards

He who pays the piper calls the tune

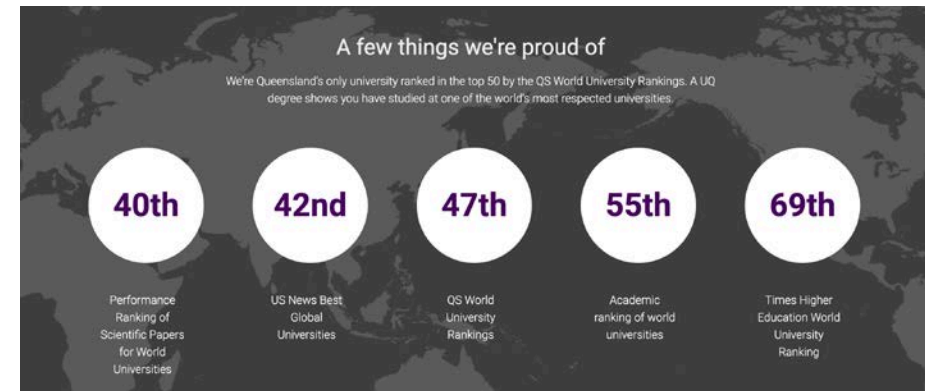- At Uni of Sydney in 2017, the fees from Chinese students totaled $500 million dollars or one fifth of its total annual revenue.
  - https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-08-21/australian-universities-too-dependent-on-chinese-students-report/11427272
- The complete Australia-wide allocation of research funding from ARC and NHMRC in 2017-2018 was ~$1,700 million

Rankings rule

Cause & Effect

Indicators and Weights for ARWU

Criteria	Indicator	Code	Weight
Quality of Education	Alumni of an institution winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	Alumni	10%
Quality of Faculty	Staff of an institution winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals	Award	20%
	Highly Cited Researchers	HiCi	20%
Research Output	Papers published in *Nature* and *Science**	N&S	20%
	Papers indexed in Science Citation Index-Expanded and Social Science Citation Index	PUB	20%
Per Capita Performance	Per capita academic performance of an institution	PCP	10%
Total			100%

* For institutions specialized in humanities and social sciences such as London School of Economics, N&S is not considered, and the weight of N&S is relocated to other indicators.

http://www.shanghairanking.com/ARWU-Methodology-2019.html

https://www.griffith.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0034/169873/research-and-innovation-plan.pdf

Griffith UNIVERSITY

Research and Innovation Plan

2017-2020

completion and the publication of thesis-based research in the primary literature. The University will also continue to provide financial incentives for publications in the prestige journals Nature and Science which contribute significantly to the University's performance in international ranking schemes. Consideration will be given to expanding this scheme

At least that's a carrot. This is a stick

Level E academics in engineering would need to punch out eight publications a year in well-regarded journals and generate $158 000 in research income. In agriculture and vet science the quota is 11 publications and $288 000. In the humanities, the numbers are not as large, four publications and $83 000 for a Level E in history and archaeology – although two publications and $31 000 might strike career commencers at Level A as an ask.

https://campusmorningmail.com.au/news/murdoch-us-great-expectations-for-researchers/

Union response:

from the document.

19. The proposal presents an extremely narrow view of academic career success, which crushes diversity and disadvantages women, who are more likely to have an interrupted career and work part time due to caring responsibilities. We believe it will directly impact on Murdoch's attempts to become accredited under Athena SWAN. The discretionary use of 'relative to opportunity' in workload allocation is insufficient to address this.

http://www.nteu.org.au/article/Academic-Career-Framework-Change-Management-NTEU-Concerns-21645

And this didn't help

POLITICS FEDERAL UNIVERSITY FUNDING

Former education minister vetoed $4.2 million in recommended university research grants

By **Michael Koziol**
October 26, 2018 — 10.44am

221 View all comments

Former education minister Simon Birmingham vetoed $4.2 million in recommended university research grants, the first time a minister has used such powers in more than a decade.
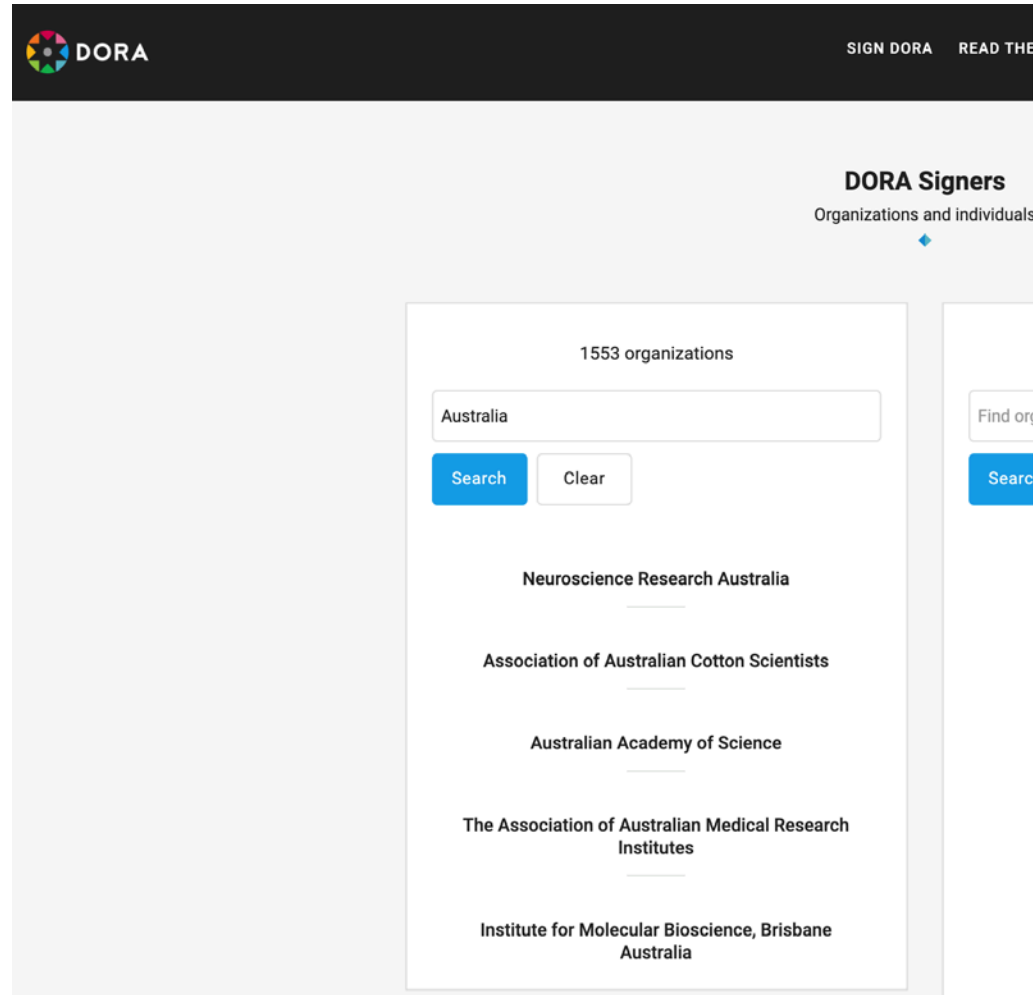
Senator Birmingham blocked federal funding for 11 projects in the humanities and the arts at leading research universities last financial year, a move Labor has dubbed as "politicisation".

The vetoed grants included nearly $1 million for a project called "Writing the Struggle for Sioux Modernity", $391,574 for "Price, Medals and Materials in the Global Exchange", $330,466 for "Legal Secularism in Australia", $336,000 for "Soviet Cinema in Hollywood Before the Blacklist, 1917-1950" and $162,000 for "Beauty and Ugliness as Persuasive Tools in Changing China's Gender Norms".

https://www.smh.com.au/politics/federal/former-education-minister-vetoed-4-2-million-in-recommended-university-research-grants-20181026-p50c3a.html

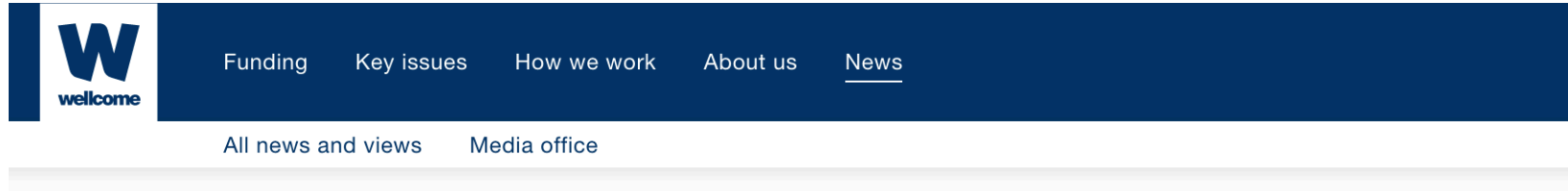# No Australian universities have signed

Well this is depressing

OK so let's do something about it. A call to arms if you will. So, what levers do we have to start effecting change?

Lever?

News | 31 May 2019

Wellcome updates open access policy to align with cOAlition S

Following a large consultation, we have updated our open access (OA) policy so it now aligns with Plan S. The changes will apply from 1 January 2021.

- Wellcome-funded organisations must sign or publicly commit to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA), or an equivalent. We may ask organisations to show that they're complying with this as part of our organisation audits. This is a new requirement to encourage organisations to consider the intrinsic merit of the work when making promotion and tenure decisions, not just the title of the journal or publisher.

https://wellcome.ac.uk/news/wellcome-updates-open-access-policy-align-coalition-s

Relatively minor player here

Lever – The need for transparency (2016)

TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE

Australian neuroscientist Bruce Murdoch nearly went to jail for making up data

By **Amy Ellis Nutt**
April 5, 2016 – 6.25am

Scientific integrity took another hit on Thursday when an Australian researcher received a two-year suspended sentence after pleading guilty to 17 fraud-related charges. The main counts

https://www.smh.com.au/technology/australian-neuroscientist-bruce-murdoch-nearly-went-to-jail-for-making-up-data-20160405-gnydf6.html

'Brazen' UQ research fraudster Caroline Barwood given suspended sentence

Posted 25 Oct 2016, 7:44pm

Former medical researcher Dr Caroline Barwood has avoided jail after being convicted of fraudulently applying for research grants.

The District Court in Brisbane heard Barwood's conduct had brought "embarrassment and discredit" to the University of Queensland and academia in general.

The court was told Barwood, who was a Parkinson's disease researcher at the University of Queensland, falsified her involvement in a pilot study that never actually existed.

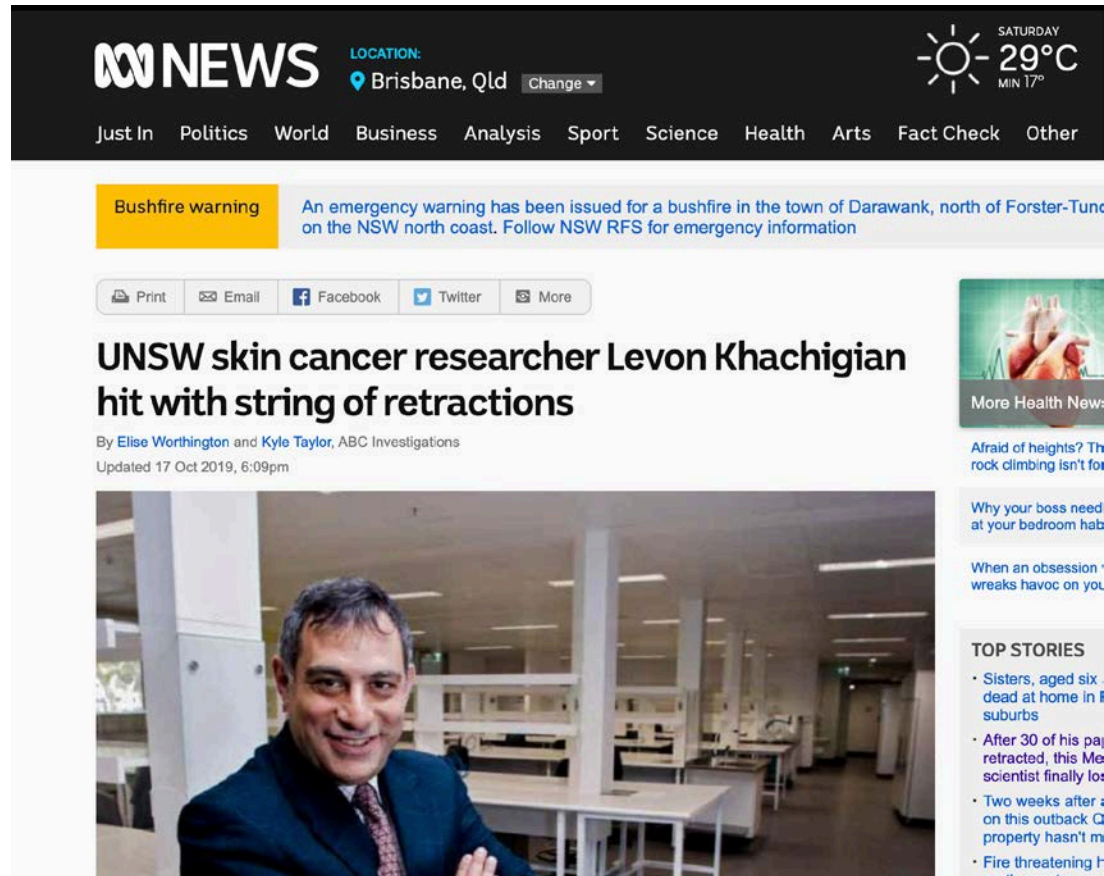She also dishonestly claimed authorship of published research articles.

PHOTO: Caroline Barwood's two-year jail sentence was wholly suspended. (ABC News)

RELATED STORY: 'Brazen' UQ research fraudster given suspended sentence

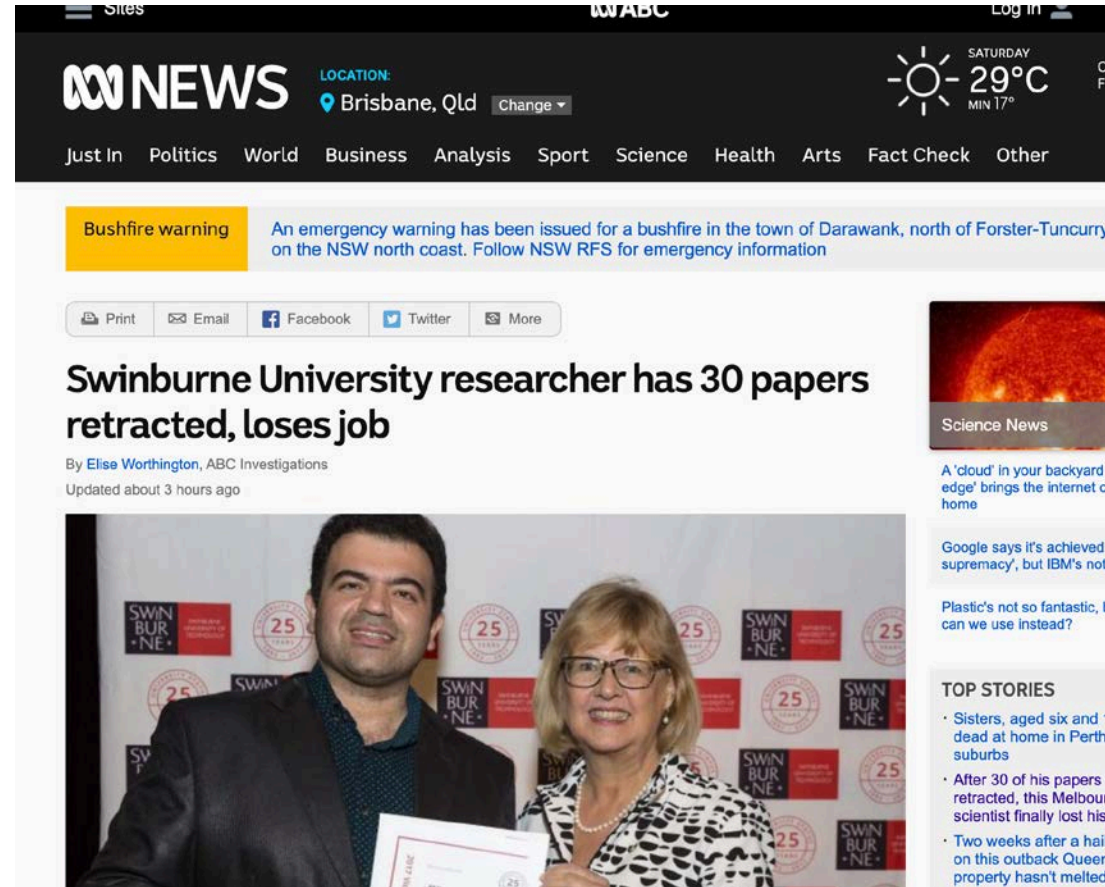https://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-10-25/uq-dr-caroline-barwood-avoids-jail-on-fraud-charges/7963178

Lever – The need for transparency (10 days ago)

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2019-10-17/unsw-skin-cancer-levon-khachigian-allegations-and-retractions/11585768

Lever – The need for transparency (On Saturday)

Arguments for Open Research

Unlocking Research
University of Cambridge Office of Scholarly Communication

Home   Blog archive   Upload your manuscripts

The case for Open Research: the mis-measurement problem

🕓 July 11, 2016   📁 Uncategorized   👤 Office of Scholarly Communication

Let's face it. The biggest blockage we have to widespread Open Access is not researcher apathy, a lack of interoperable systems, or an unwillingness of publishers to engage (although these do each play some part) – it is the problem that **the only thing that counts in academia is publication in a high impact journal**.

- The case for Open Research: solutions? – 2 August 2016
- The case for Open Research: does peer review work? – 19 July 2016
- The case for Open Research: reproducibility, retractions & retrospective hypotheses – 14 July 2016
- The case for Open Research: the authorship problem – 12 July 2016
- The case for Open Research: the mis-measurement problem – 11 July 2016

https://unlockingresearch-blog.lib.cam.ac.uk/?p=713

At least one person is using the 'R' word

nature > world view > article

nature

WORLD VIEW · 19 FEBRUARY 2019

To move research from quantity to quality, go beyond good intentions

Australian chief scientist Alan Finkel calls for formal action to bake in better research practices.

Alan Finkel

https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-00613-z

THE CONVERSATION
Academic rigour, journalistic flair

Arts + Culture   Business + Economy   Cities   Education   Environment + Energy   Health + Medicine   Politics + Society   Science + Technology

'There is a problem': Australia's top scientist Alan Finkel pushes to eradicate bad science

September 12, 2019 10.44am AEST

Australia's Chief Scientist Alan Finkel. AAP

https://theconversation.com/there-is-a-problem-australias-top-scientist-alan-finkel-pushes-to-eradicate-bad-science-123374

Pockets of activity

AIMOS

Australian Interdisciplinary Meta-Research and Open Science

The Australasian Meta-Research and Open Science Meeting is hosted by researchers from a range of disciplines (including psychology, statistics, and ecology) with a shared interest in understanding and addressing challenges to replicability, reproducibility and open science.

We welcome interested students and researchers to join us for two days of workshops, hackathons, and presentations about a broad range of open science and scientific reform topics, including: pre-registration and Registered Reports; peer review

Australia & New Zealand Open Research Network

HOME   ABOUT   CODE OF CONDUCT   ARTICLES

WELCOME TO THE AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND OPEN RESEARCH NETWORK
EDUCATION

A HUB FOR OPEN RESEARCH PRACTITIONERS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

https://aimos-2019.netlify.com/ - Inaugural meeting in November
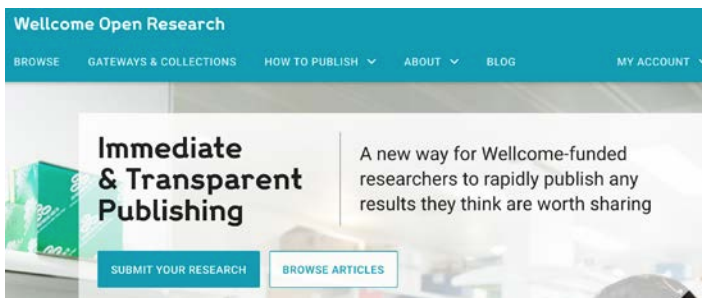
https://www.anzopenresearch.org

Report due early 2020

Five years ago the UK was only starting

- "We can't tell our researchers what to do"
- "On what $%^&ing legal basis are they telling me I have to share my data?"
- "Are you saying we have to back-up our laptops?"
- "But XX university is unique, it's not like other universities"
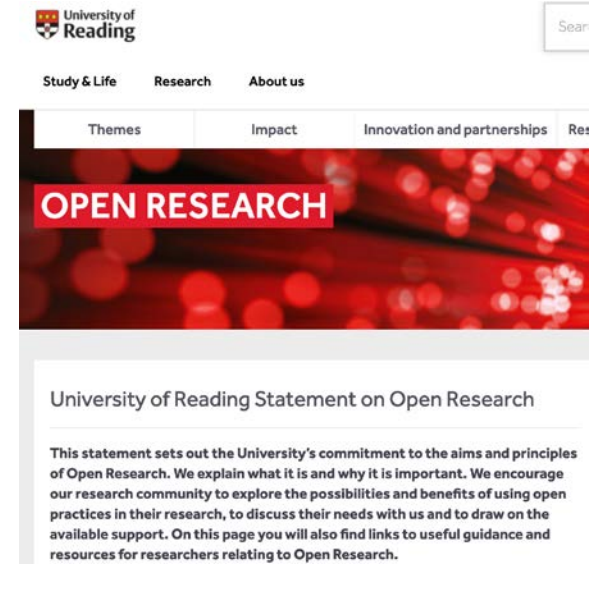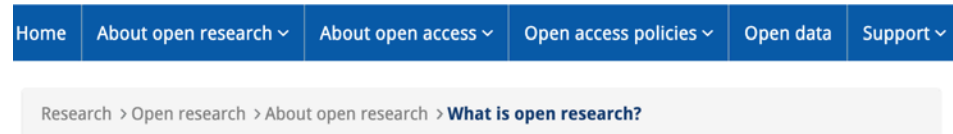- "This is $%^&ing bull$*#@!"

And look at it now
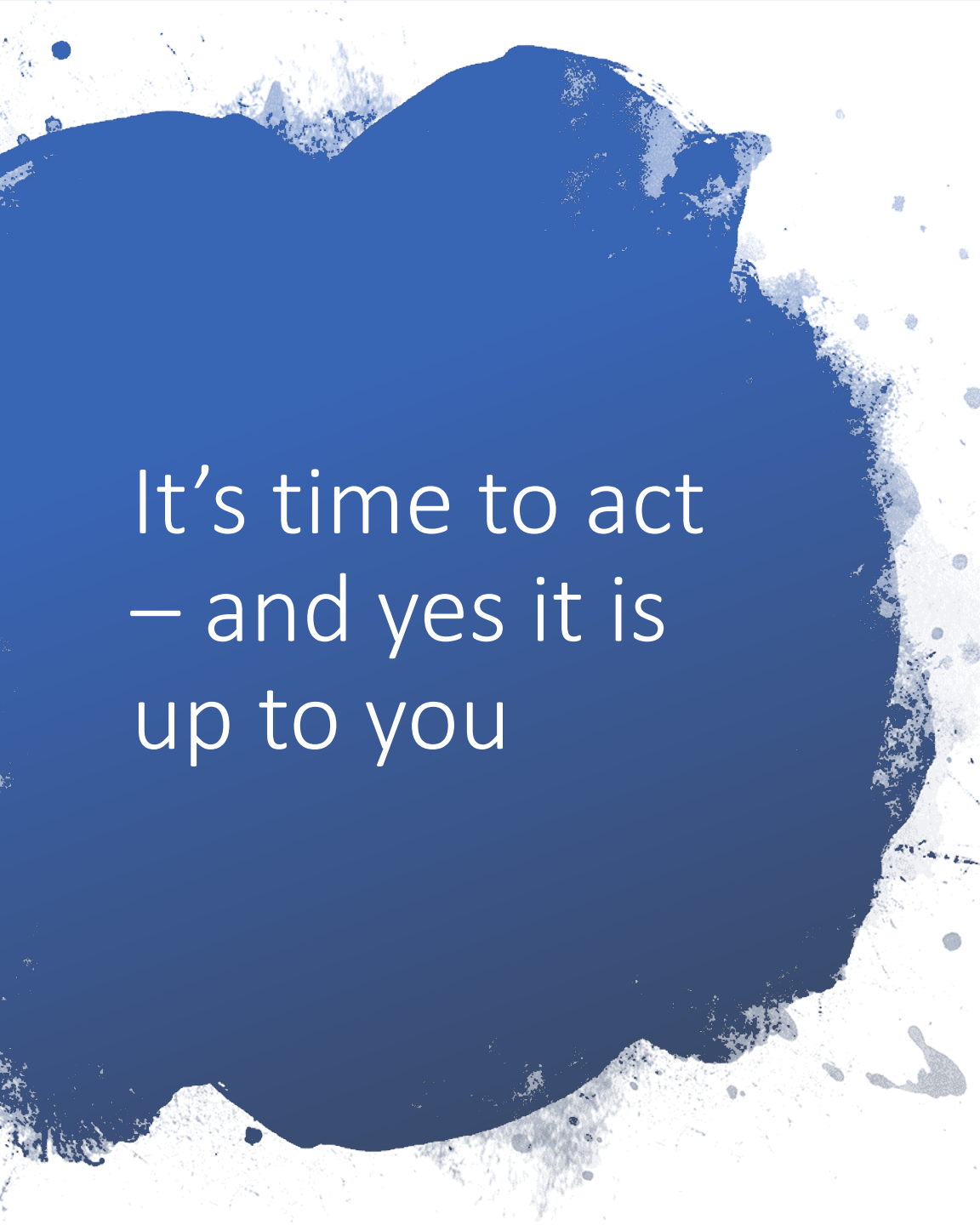
https://www.reading.ac.uk/research/research-environment/open-research.aspx

https://osc.cam.ac.uk/open-research/open-research-position-statement

https://wellcomeopenresearch.org/

http://www.exeter.ac.uk/research/openresearch/about/explained/

It's time to act – and yes it is up to you

- Check out your own policy situation
- How open is your institution? Have you checked?
- Who can you talk to about strengthening policy requirements?
- Who can you lean on as champions in your academic community?
- Join AIMOS and ANZORN
- Useful? "How to introduce and implement policy in your institution and still have friends afterwards" https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZSJdkp7ilHPjRo18fiVZFy5i_MVth40z?usp=sharing
- You are more powerful than you think

Thanks all

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