QUT

Queensland University of Technology

CAUL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2008 NOMINATION

I would like to nominate **Paula Callan**, *eResearch Access Coordinator* at QUT Library for the CAUL Achievement Award, 2008. Paula has made an outstanding contribution to support the CAUL goal of: *maximising information resources available to researchers... and in supporting Libraries in their wider scholarly communication roles.*

After many years' work at QUT as a liaison librarian, Paula gained national prominence after she was appointed to the innovative position of QUT ePrint Archive Project Officer in 2003. This was one of the earliest university repositories to be established and at that time, libraries were just becoming aware of the possibilities of showcasing their institutional research output from their own digital repositories. There were no roadmaps to follow when Paula initiated the QUT ePrint service. In some ways, her task was assisted by QUT's global leadership in mandating the deposit of its researchers' final refereed versions of their published papers into the repository. In other ways, such a mandate was seen by many in universities and research institutes as a policy almost impossible to implement. Paula used the mandate as a way of opening the discussion with senior academics and researchers. Her key achievements were lowering the barriers to make it easy for researchers to deposit their works. Along with this, she demonstrated the benefits to researchers in making their work available on open access so that it could be readily discovered and accessed by other scholars with the prospect of this leading to increased rates of citation. By 2008, QUT ePrints contained over 10,000 research papers, most of them in full text. Paula's work with QUT ePrints has been internationally acclaimed as a model of a successful university repository.

As part of her work on repositories, Paula has become a voice for open access – nationally and internationally. She is well known in these forums from open access discussion lists and through numerous formal presentations at conferences and seminars. She is consulted by other libraries nationally and internationally on both how to establish successful repositories and on open access. In July 2008, Paula was invited by the ARC to be a member of the Excellence in Australian Research (ERA) Indicators Development Group to advise the ARC on the suitability of a range of potential metrics and measures for the forthcoming national research assessment exercise. Paula has won three of the QUT Vice Chancellor's Outstanding Contribution Awards.

For the past two years, Paula has been collaborating with the legal researchers from the ARC funded OAKLaw Project on the development of the OAKList database and from November, 2008 will assume responsibility for leading the further development of this tool. The OAKList database is linked to the SHERPA database of publishers' policies on the deposit of researchers' papers in institutional repositories. It is used by digital repository managers to ascertain whether or not publisher permission is required before a deposited work can be made freely available online. It is now available to all libraries. She is an authority on copyright management in repositories.

In 2006, Paula's position changed in name and in scope to become the eResearch Access Coordinator for QUT. Once more, Paula is working across organisational boundaries with High Performance Computing, the Library and the Office of Research to develop an eResearch Support Service at QUT, assisting researchers to organise, manage and make their data discoverable to other researchers.

Through her professionalism, capacity to work across boundaries, innovative problem solving skills and her willingness to share with others Paula has made a significant contribution to CAUL's strategic goals in her contribution to research.

Judy Stokker
Director, QUT Library

30 October 2008