



About

The Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) is the peak leadership organisation for university libraries in Australia. CAUL members are the University Librarians or equivalent of the 39 institutions that have representation on Universities Australia and the 8 members of the Council of New Zealand University Librarians.

We make a significant contribution to higher education strategy, policy and outcomes through a commitment to a shared purpose: To transform how people experience knowledge – how it can be discovered, used and shared.

Goals

1. Position university libraries as essential infrastructure for teaching, learning and research in their institutions.
2. Advance open and equitable access to knowledge, information and data.
3. Be a recognised authority on the purpose, value and impact of university libraries in higher education and research.
4. Foster cooperative activity between university libraries in Australia and internationally for the benefit of their students, teachers and researchers.
5. Represent the interests of its members to government, the community and other stakeholders;
6. Promote members' views and values in national and international discourse on relevant issues and public policy developments.
7. Facilitate the sharing of best practice, information and innovation among its members.
8. Foster leadership and professional growth of current and future leaders in university libraries.



Open Scholarship

Open scholarship and FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) scholarly practices support the efficient dissemination of knowledge to researchers, students, policy makers and to the wider public, facilitate faster scientific discovery and problem solving, and underpin the integrity of research.

Open and FAIR scholarly practices are continually innovating. This requires ongoing collaboration between libraries, funders, policy makers, publishers, and our research communities – collaboration that is facilitated by CAUL.

CAUL's Fair, affordable and open access to knowledge program has completed five projects focused on the issues, barriers and opportunities around open scholarship in Australia.

1. The Retaining Rights to Research Publications project investigated the best approach for researchers in Australian universities to retain (non-commercial) rights to their research publications and improve compliance with funder's requirements.
2. The Review of Australian Repository Infrastructure project investigated how repository infrastructure can improve the findability, accessibility, interoperability and re-usability of Australian-funded research.
3. The new Statement on Open Scholarship commits CAUL to advancing open scholarship through a range of initiatives.
4. The Fair Use Advocacy project reviewed and developed materials for communicating the benefits of fair use copyright legislation.
5. The Collection and Reporting of Article Processing Charges (APCs) Information project investigated the cost of APCs to Australian universities.



Digital Dexterity

Digital Dexterity is important for success in education, in the workforce and in life. It includes digital and information literacy, but also encompasses a range of capabilities including ICT proficiency, digital learning and creation, digital collaboration, media and data literacy, and digital identity.

Universities and their libraries have are ideally placed to equip Australians with the skills and higher-order knowledge required to thrive in an increasingly digital world.

CAUL's Digital Dexterity program developed a range of resources to encourage digital dexterity:

1. A Digital Dexterity Framework setting out the capabilities which make up digital dexterity.
2. Identifying champions within each university library who can work within a community of practice to develop skills, share resources and provide feedback to each other.
3. An Advocacy Toolkit that provides a structured way to approach advocating for and engaging with conversations about digital dexterity at an institution.
4. A Digital Dexterity Community of Practice.

