



CAUL and CSIRO Publishing collaborate to enable Open Access in Australia and New Zealand

Many Australian and New Zealand researchers can now publish research articles as open access in CSIRO-owned journals through new transformative agreements between CSIRO Publishing and CAUL member institutions.

Globally, transformative agreements are being used as a way for the research community, academic libraries, and scholarly publishers to work together to find a financially viable and sustainable path to transition to an open access publishing model.

Early in 2020 representatives of the Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) met with CSIRO Publishing to explore how they might work together to accelerate the move towards Open Access in Australia.

Discussions followed with CAUL facilitating conversations, curating input from the academic library community and sharing their findings with the team at CSIRO Publishing. In return CSIRO Publishing worked on agreements that would be viable and flexible enough to accommodate the variety of institutions involved.

The result is that many CAUL member institutions across Australia and New Zealand now have active Transformative Read and Publish Agreements in place. There is no change to the existing standards for submission or peer-review. Eligible authors are identified by their Ringgold ID and relevant institutional email domain and offered the option of open access for their articles. Choosing the open access option allows authors to publish without incurring any fees for Article Processing Charges.



The transformative agreements are underpinned by fees funded by the CAUL member institutions.

“Finding a viable way to transition the publishing business model to Open Access has been a significant challenge. CSIRO Publishing needed to increase the access to published research while allowing us to maintain the highest standards of peer review and publishing practices. The collaboration with CAUL, whose people have been really good to work with, has been instrumental in progressing this initiative in Australia.” said Andrew Stammer, Director CSIRO Publishing.

Jill Benn, Chair of CAUL and University Librarian at the University of Western Australia, states: “Partnering with CSIRO Publishing for an open access agreement shows the benefit of collaboration between publishers, researchers and libraries. We believe that important Australian

funded research should be available to all, and not hidden and inaccessible behind paywalls. We applaud CSIRO Publishing in taking this initiative in making research outputs openly available. We expect there will be far reaching societal and scientific benefits globally and for Australia, especially where that research addresses challenges specific to Australians.”

The agreement with CSIRO Publishing aligns with CAUL’s position on the end goal of open access to journal articles being universal, immediate open access to the version of record. The agreement is now one of several read and publish agreements, available to CAUL member institutions via CAUL’s Content Procurement Service. CAUL looks forward to partnering further with CSIRO Publishing in working towards more content becoming openly available to all researchers, wherever they may be.

About CAUL

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 (CONZUL). CAUL makes 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.

www.caul.edu.au

About CSIRO Publishing

CSIRO Publishing is Australia's leading science publisher of books, journals, and magazines. We operate as a not-for-profit, editorially independent business unit within the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO). Established as a stand-alone imprint and publishing house in 1995, many of the peer-reviewed journals we publish commenced as early as 1949. The outcomes of science in our publications improve decision making, contribute to the growth of STEM-enabled innovation and enrich lives through access to knowledge.

www.publish.csiro.au