



Q: What power does CAUL have to get reduced pricing from publishers, and how can it increase or better use that power?

Answer: CAUL Procurement leverages the collective to emphasise the buying power of all CAUL member institutions in procurement negotiations. This approach has achieved significant cost savings over the years but is most apparent recently, when CAUL negotiated price freezes across nearly all consortium agreements resulting in significant savings for 2021 and 2022. CAUL has also negotiated recompense from publishers as part of issue resolutions, improved license terms, and negotiated more favourable Open Access terms. By constantly gathering feedback from Content Coordinators, CAUL is able to inform publishers as to the impact on their business for less than favourable pricing and product terms.

Q: Every month we collect 'CAUL statistics' for our institution. What happens with these statistics? How are they used? Is there anywhere we can view/compare statistics from other institutions?

Answer: CAUL statistics can be downloaded from the CAUL website <https://www.caul.edu.au/programs-projects/statistics-services> and will shortly be available via interactive dashboards on Tableau Online for CAUL Member institution staff with a login for CAUL's Tableau instance. Member institutions use the data in a variety of ways, for benchmarking and to demonstrate impact. CAUL will be increasingly offering analysis of the data moving forward.

Q: These committees seem quite interesting, but outside of this session are opaque to most library staff who may have unique, innovative and diverse contributions to share. Can CAUL open up the application process for participating in these committees?

Answer: In addition to what Kate mentioned in the verbal answer, CAUL only has two committees - the others are project teams, working groups and advisory groups. Calls for EOIs for participation in project teams, working groups and advisory groups are usually distributed directly to the university librarian or equivalent via the Council email list. It is expected that the UL/equivalent will forward these messages as appropriate and encourage staff to express interest. With regard to the two committees, when vacancies arise at the end of membership terms, EOIs are called

from the relevant representative groups (eg Content Coordinators via their email list) and also via the Council email list. In future, when EOIs are invited beyond the UL/equivalent group, these may also be sent to the Deputy ULs Network email list, as appropriate. We also recommend subscribing to the CAUL Newsletter, where calls for EOIs are often included. [Sign up here](#).

Q: How is CAUL funded?

Answer: CAUL is funded by annual membership fees paid by each of the 47 Council Members. Further funding comes from the annual consortium levy that is also paid by the 47 Council Members as well as the 14 active external consortium participants. A very small proportion of funds comes from event income which essentially covers costs associated with events.

Q: Does CAUL have any future project plans around Bibliometrics/Scientometrics & the PID research infrastructure?

Answer: Not at this stage. If this is a priority for your institution, please raise the topic with your University Librarian for discussion at our strategic planning sessions in September.

Q: Given the important financial/strategic implications of research publishing/OA research and the advocacy and outreach required, has CAUL considered moving this area out of a project approach and forming an ongoing Scholarly Communications committee/working group instead?

Answer: For many years CAUL previously had an ongoing committee known as the CAUL Research Advisory Committee (CRAC) that focused on this and then moved that into the ongoing strategic program "Advancing Open Scholarship" with a number of associated projects underway at different times to address emerging needs. CAUL also works very closely with Open Access Australasia in OA advocacy as well as directly with various stakeholders including government departments, funding agencies and the academies. We have to date found this programmatic approach to be highly successful as it allows a balance of strategic engagement and practical work, and plan to continue working in this way.

Q: How strong are connections between CAUL and ALIA on some of the broader strategic project groups and CoP?

Answer: CAUL has an office located in ALIA House in Canberra and has a very close working relationship with ALIA, with representatives on various panels including reaccreditation, library design awards and contributes to research projects conducted by ALIA such as the recent "Greening the Library" initiative. We meet regularly with ALIA on a range of issues and both associations keep each other looped in on key initiatives. Many CAUL Board Members, Council and National Office staff are also active members of ALIA.

Q: Quick question -will recording be made available afterwards? would love to share this with other staff unable to be here today

Answer: Yes, the recording, along with a copy of the slides is available is available on the event page on the CAUL website

Q: A question for Kate Davis, Do you hope to run any Tableau sessions for those clients/members who are interested in knowing more about Tableau?

Answer: CAUL won't provide training in Tableau itself but will provide orientation to the CAUL analytics in Tableau for those in member institutions with a Tableau licence

Q: CAUL seems to be using surveys as a way of making decisions. They do not always cover all the issues or nuances. Sometimes an open and frank discussion about factors affecting the sector is a more effective way of exploring an issue?

Answer: CAUL uses surveys to gather information that is then analysed and considered in order to inform approaches. In a virtual context, surveys are a helpful way to efficiently gather background information to guide synchronous discussions, but are not a complete solution. Decisions are not made on the basis of surveys alone and important decision making includes consultation with all Council Members as has occurred with the formulation of positions on a range of topics of relevance to the sector. Open and frank discussions have been held both virtually and in person at Council meetings in recent years.

Q: Some of our researchers have asked how many R&P articles have already been accepted – so they know how quickly the opportunities are disappearing

Answer: CAUL is in the process of setting up feeds from Airtable to the Read & Publish LibGuide that will show updates on the number of articles already accepted and the anticipated dates when caps may be reached based on current publishing data.