CAUL
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIAN UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS

Strategy 2023-2025

Version 1 | 14 March 2023

CAUL Council Members are located throughout Australia and Aotearoa/New Zealand. CAUL acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and the contributions made by Indigenous people to both CAUL and CAUL Member institutions in Australia and Aotearoa/New Zealand. We pay our respects to Elders, past, present, and emerging, and all Indigenous people. CAUL is committed to partnering with Indigenous people for positive outcomes.

Background

Mission

The Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) is the peak collegiate body for the leaders of university libraries in Australia and New Zealand. CAUL facilitates connection and collaboration, and optimises its collective knowledge, expertise, and resources, to achieve strategic outcomes at scale in priority areas for the university library sector. CAUL is the trusted voice of the university library sector in the region.

Values

We are a values-led organisation. CAUL is:

- Inclusive
- Open and transparent
- Ethical
- Collaborative
- Participative
- Progressive

How we achieve outcomes

To achieve its strategic priorities, CAUL will:

- **Deliver**: We will deliver robust and sustainable services that respond to the diverse needs of Members and Member institutions
- **Advocate**: We will advocate to government and other key stakeholders to advance our strategic agendas
- **Represent**: We will develop sector responses and public policy statements on issues of key importance to Members
- **Partner**: We will partner with key stakeholders in the library, broader GLAM, and higher education, and cultural sectors to achieve strategic outcomes
- **Connect**: We will connect Members and Member-institution staff through events, professional development, projects, and communities of practice
- **Work at scale**: We will prioritise work that is best done at a sector-wide scale, or that can be done once, centrally, for the benefit of all
- **Challenge**: We promote and facilitate discussion amongst Members, challenging current ways of thinking and working to drive innovation
- **Lead**: We provide leadership for the university library sector through development of policy, principles, and best practice statements
- **Empower**: By bringing Members together to address issues and priorities of shared concern, we leverage collective strength and capability, thereby empowering all Members to succeed.

Foundations for the future

Creating solid foundations will be a core focus of CAUL's activities in 2023-2025. This will include development of new revenue streams to support sustainable resourcing of CAUL's services now and into the future, continued strengthening of National Office capability, and an ongoing focus on enhancing communication with stakeholders. The sustainability of CAUL's services will be a key consideration as we take the organisation's strategic priorities forward.

Services

Analytics Service

The CAUL Analytics Service delivers sector-level aggregate data and analysis, and related services, to support Members in benchmarking, decision making, evaluation, demonstration of value and impact, and advocacy within and across institutions.

Strategic priority
Mature CAUL's Analytics Service through establishing effective governance, continued modernisation of the CAUL Statistics and the Analytics offering more generally, improving processes, and developing fee-for-service analytics products.

Content Procurement Service

The Content Procurement Service negotiates agreements on behalf of Member institutions to deliver optimal value to Members, including the best possible pricing models and the most favourable terms, through an assertive and coordinated approach. The Content Procurement Service delivers significant benefits of cost avoidance and saves time by streamlining procurement workflows. In addition to delivering value to Members through favourable terms and pricing, CAUL is focused on enabling libraries to leverage their existing subscription spend to facilitate increased open access publishing and providing supporting infrastructure for communication and reporting for open access agreements.

Strategic priority
Consolidate CAUL's Content Procurement activities through reviewing and streamlining processes, pursuing new agreements in identified focus areas, and reviewing the portfolio of sustainable agreements to deliver optimal value for Members. CAUL will evolve existing open access agreements. We will enable and support Members in their procurement activities.

Professional Learning Service

CAUL has a long history of providing professional development for the university library sector. In 2023-2025, CAUL will develop a reinvigorated Professional Learning Service that aims to provide specific, contextualised professional development opportunities, events and communities of practice in high priority areas as identified by CAUL Members.

Strategic priority
Develop a cohesive CAUL Professional Learning Service that delivers fee-for-service professional development opportunities that are needed by the sector to ensure a future-fit university library workforce and a skilled and effective pool of future leaders.

Strategic Enabling Programs

From Decolonisation to Indigenisation*

University libraries recognise the importance Indigenous knowledge plays in the cultural landscape and are striving to counteract the legacy of colonialism. While institutions are making progress in this space, there remain many complex challenges that may be most effectively addressed at the sectoral level. CAUL will facilitate sector-wide initiatives that respond to the contemporary challenges of indigenising our libraries; this will include supporting inclusion of Indigenous people's perspectives in our institutions, and enhancing Indigenous people's representation in our staffing profiles.

* From Decolonisation to Indigenisation is a working title for the program, with the aim being to consult with Indigenous community and academics in 2023 about naming the program.

Open Access

CAUL will undertake sector-wide work that focuses on enablement of open access, that supports institutions in implementing, communicating, delivering, and evaluating their open access initiatives. CAUL will continue to contribute to discourse about transforming scholarly communication practice and infrastructure for open scholarly communications, to engage in national and international policy and strategy discussions, and to advocate for open access to government and other stakeholders. The Open Access Program complements and extends the open access procurement work undertaken by the CAUL Procurement Service, with a broader focus on policy and practice to enable sustainable approaches to open access.

Open Educational Resources

CAUL will deliver a program of engagement and advocacy designed to raise the profile of open educational resources with government and key higher education sector stakeholders. CAUL will lead sector wide initiatives that focus on developing capacity and capability to publish open textbooks and other open educational resources. CAUL will work closely with key stakeholders in the higher education sector to advance open educational resources within the broader open educational practice agenda.

Contact

9 Napier Close | Deakin ACT 2600
Email: caul@caul.edu.au
Web: caul.edu.au