

CONZUL Statement on Open Scholarship

Open scholarship, which encompasses open access, open data, open science, open educational resources, and all other forms of openness in the scholarly and research environment, is changing how knowledge is created, preserved and shared. Open scholarship and FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable) scholarly practices underpin the integrity of research, its efficient dissemination to researchers, students, policy makers and to the wider public and facilitates faster scientific discovery and problem solving.

A commitment to open scholarship contributes to research impact through the principles of transparency, global access and flexible reuse and will maximise the visibility of researchers and the outputs of their research.

Open scholarship provides opportunities to champion indigenous perspectives, knowledge and wellbeing. We acknowledge and respect the right of Māori (iwi, hapū and whānau) to maintain autonomy and control over access to taonga and intellectual property, under Te Tiriti o Waitangi articles. That is, Māori retain rangatiratanga (full authority) over their taonga. Equitable access to published research will be provided in genuine partnership and consultation with individual creator(s) and contributors, their iwi, hapū and whanau, this is essential to the ora (health/wellbeing) of iwi, now, into the future and in the spirit of the articles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Open scholarship is a global movement to which Australasian universities have already contributed substantially. CONZUL recognises the need, however, for ongoing action at the institutional level in coordination with relevant national, regional and global funders, policy makers and organisations.

To maximise the benefits of Open and FAIR scholarship, CONZUL and its members affirm the need for clear policies and specific practices on open scholarship at member institutions, and nationally and internationally through governments, funding bodies and other institutions. Implementation of these policies should be accompanied by the development and ongoing support of required open infrastructure and through comprehensive, ongoing training and support for staff and students.

CONZUL recognises that Open and FAIR scholarly practices are continually innovating and this requires ongoing collaboration between libraries, funders, policy makers, publishers, and our research communities. CONZUL and its members therefore commit to action, including providing resources, to advance open scholarship in the following areas: advocacy, competency, publishing, infrastructure, content acquisition and educational resources.

1. Advocacy

- Nominate a leader to drive strategy for open scholarship at each member institution.
- Participate in the open scholarship debate and policy development.
- Raise awareness of the benefits of open scholarship, quality, and peer review activities.
- Actively support open scholarship initiatives.
- Actively seek opportunities to champion indigenous perspectives and knowledge

2. Competency

- Provide training and development for professional and academic staff members, researchers and students to enable them to adopt, adapt or create open scholarship practices, including working in genuine partnership with Māori with regard to indigenous knowledge sharing and access.

3. Publishing

- Actively work with our research communities to adopt open scholarly publishing practices especially Green OA through existing well established institutional repositories.
- Support incentives that align with open scholarship throughout the scholarly publishing lifecycle.
- Support appropriate licensing and author rights management.
- Support methods that acknowledge and respect the right of Māori to maintain autonomy and control over taonga and intellectual property.

4. Infrastructure

- Actively support the development of future-focussed, innovative open infrastructure, with the aim of having interoperable discovery systems, taking into account the diversity of open scholarship content and disciplinary differences.
- Apply the FAIR principles to open scholarship outputs to ensure they are Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable.

5. Content acquisition

- Negotiate with publishers and vendors a transparent commitment to open scholarship including full disclosure in contracts/licences.

6. Educational Resources

- Support the adoption, adaptation or creation, and sharing of Open Educational Resources (OERs) at member institutions.

Note: This Statement is based on the CAUL Statement on Open Scholarship (2019) and CONZUL acknowledges the contribution of CAUL colleagues.

Further Resources

For further information about Open Scholarship please talk to your University Librarian or read more [here](#).