

CONZUL STRATEGIC PLAN 2009-2010

Introduction

CONZUL (Council of New Zealand University Librarians) represents the eight university libraries in New Zealand. The terms of reference attached as Appendix One.

CONZUL acts collectively to improve access for students and staff of the New Zealand universities to information resources required to advance teaching, learning and research.

Members are:

- University of Auckland
- AUT University
- University of Waikato
- Massey University
- Victoria University of Wellington
- University of Canterbury
- Lincoln University
- University of Otago

This plan identifies areas where we can collaborate effectively within the New Zealand university environment to enhance our services in the digital age, and how we will strengthen services from our libraries over the next two years.

The Environment

See Appendix 2: University Libraries in the 21st century – environment scan.

The Strategies for 2009 -2010

- Increase engagement with the needs of Māori and Pasifika students and staff.
- Improve access to library resources.
- Develop staff capability and culture.
- Improve services through benchmarking and quality assessment.
- Improve library space.
- Engage with partners in collaborative relationships.

Goals

1. *Increase engagement with the needs of Māori and Pasifika students and staff*
 - Share information and strategies for example on recruitment and retention of Māori and Pasifika library staff, and information literacy strategies.
 - Collaborate on projects to expose and promote Māori and Pasifika research and scholarship.
2. *Improve access to library resources*
 - Ensure best value for purchased content through CEIRC and CONZULAC.
 - Develop and share content through Te Puna and OCLC.

- Develop institutional repository content and make available through KRIS.
- Share information and strategies about the promotion of information literacy skills for both students and staff.
- Support and monitor opportunities and development in the area of scholarly communications, including open access, creative commons licensing and data reuse.
- Investigate emerging technologies which will improve access and delivery.
- Respond to changes in research practices including e-research.
- Investigate and support as appropriate collaborative digital projects.

3. *Develop staff capability and culture*

- Developing staff capability collaboratively through CONZUL sponsored meetings.
- Sharing information and promoting opportunities for staff development and training.
- Investigate models for workforce planning and gather data in regard to the ageing library staff cohort.

4. *Improve services through benchmarking and quality assessment*

- Collective monitoring and evaluation of services and performances
- Review efficacy of the New Zealand University Library Statistics.
- Develop a closer relationship with the CAUL Best Practice Working Group and participate in its initiatives.

5. *Improve library space*

- Develop a preferred model for collaborative storage of low-use research materials
- Share plans for learning spaces within our library buildings.

6. *Engage with partners in collaborative relationships*

- Engage with the NZVCC and communicate regularly on matters relating to libraries and library service.
- Engage with the National Library of New Zealand through such groups as the Te Puna Strategic Advisory Team to the National Librarian, KRIS Governance Group, Strategic Advisory Group to the National Librarian.
- Engage with ITIC (Information and Communications Technology Committee) on matters of common interest.
- Engage with CAUL (Council of Australian University Librarians) on a wide range of issues relating to academic libraries and their services, in keeping with the Memorandum of Understanding between CAUL and CONZUL.
- Meet with the two association representing professional librarians, LIANZA and Te Rōpu Whakahau.
- Lobby and make submissions to other organisations, including government agencies.

**NEW ZEALAND VICE-CHANCELLORS' COMMITTEE
COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND UNIVERSITY LIBRARIANS (CONZUL)
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Purpose

1. CONZUL's mission is to act collectively to improve access for students and staff of New Zealand universities to the information resources required to advance teaching, learning and research.
2. CONZUL shall meet to further this end and to provide advice to the New Zealand Vice-Chancellors' Committee (NZVCC) on any matters relating to or affecting the university libraries. It shall report to the NZVCC and shall undertake any specific tasks as may be requested from time to time.
3. CONZUL will assist the universities to meet their commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi through partnership with tangata whenua, for supporting Māori education and research.

Membership

4. CONZUL shall be a committee of the NZVCC.
5. The membership of CONZUL shall be the University Librarian of each member university of the NZVCC.

Chair

6. The CONZUL Chair shall normally be selected on the basis of seniority in the position, not having been the Chair before, and normally having been a member for a minimum of two years.
7. The term of office of the Chairperson shall normally be two years from 1 January.
8. The Deputy Chairperson is selected on the same terms as the Chairperson, the Deputy Chair shall serve for two years before becoming Chair.

Meetings

9. CONZUL shall meet twice a year.
10. Meetings may be held by teleconference.
11. Non-members may be invited to attend all or part of meetings.
12. The travel expenses of each member shall be met under the current policy of the NZVCC for equalising such expenses between universities.

Decision-making

13. Decisions shall be made by consensus where possible.

Appendix 1

14. If a vote is necessary, each member institution shall have one vote.
15. The Chairperson shall have a deliberative but not a casting vote.

General

16. CONZUL shall be serviced through the secretariat of the NZVCC, under the overall direction of the Executive Director.

University libraries in the 21st century – environment scan

The expanding world of digital and print information represents a major challenge, but is a major opportunity for university libraries, and user expectations are high.

Although some users may turn to the internet first for their information enquiries, the second step is often the library where carefully selected and authoritative information resources (both print and digital) are available.

Book publishing¹ continues to increase each year. Since 1995, new titles have increased by 17% for the large publishing houses and 14% for the university presses. At the same time, the amount of digital information continues to expand. It is estimated that by 2011, the amount of digital information produced will be ten times that produced in 2006.

The impact of the internet and the availability of electronic information have resulted in university libraries offering a number of new services including preservation of significant websites, access to digital images, virtual reference and online interlibrary loan. Libraries have digitised important resources including theses, developed web services and offered increasing e-content, whilst continuing their value print collections, storage projects and major building re-development.

Although lending statistics are static, onsite use of libraries is increasing with door traffic counts. Use is made of information commons computers and the wireless networking for laptops, and library space is used for working in groups and for individual study. Information literacy (skills) programmes are offered, and exhibitions are held. Libraries in universities are public spaces, usually centrally located, with long opening hours, and with a real sense of community.

Changes in information technology are resulting in differing user expectations, and in the need to be continually reviewing our services. Users are no longer just consumers of content, but creators and producers of content and this user participation and the development of an open information environment presents university libraries with an opportunity to facilitate the organisation of the content produced within its own institution and its dissemination to the wider world. The speed and inter-relationships between different sources of digital information (whether it be library content, websites, search engines, wikis or blogs) has created wider research opportunities for our users and researchers, with ready accessibility.

University libraries will continue to change our capabilities and services so our users can take full advantage of our content, collections, services and expertise. [See also the *Library and information industry future trends to 2015* document on the CONZUL website: <http://www.nzvcc.ac.nz/files/u2/2007-05-future-trends.pdf>]

¹ <http://www.publishingcentral.com/articles/20060516.23-2748.html?si=1>