



STATEMENT ON OPEN SCHOLARSHIP

Context

CONZUL's mission is to act collectively to improve access for students and staff of New Zealand universities to information resources required to advance teaching, learning and research. In this context, Open Scholarship is a core issue for CONZUL.

Open Scholarship is an umbrella term used to describe developments such as open access¹, open science and other "open" initiatives. It reflects the increasingly open nature of access to information, research collaboration, and the sharing and re-use of research data. The free flow of information and ideas underpins excellence in scholarship. It also contributes to the building of informed communities, reduces barriers to learning, facilitates the elimination of social and economic disadvantage and fosters international collaboration and understanding.

Advancing Open Scholarship is dependent on systems of publishing and communication that enable the rapid and affordable dissemination of the outcomes of research and scholarship, and on the preservation of the scholarly record for future use. The support of Open Scholarship by CONZUL recognises that:

Digital communications offer opportunities for the development of more efficient and effective systems for the dissemination of information including academic publishing.

Research is increasingly conducted globally by collaborations facilitated by grids of communications and computing power. Access to shared information resources assists such endeavours.

Open access to the outcomes of scholarship enhances the profile of universities and research programs, contributes to the further advancement of knowledge, and highlights the contributions of research funders.

Maintaining the quality and authority of academic publishing; the integrity of the scholarly record and the rights of creators is of critical importance and integral to open scholarship.

Goals

CONZUL and its members seek to facilitate Open Scholarship by:

Collaborating with researchers, research institutions and publishers to raise awareness of the principles, practice and benefits of open access publishing.

Working with researchers and others to enable appropriate open access to both their published works and their primary research data.

Advocating and implementing policies to ensure fair use of copyrighted information for educational and research purposes.

Contributing to New Zealand Government policy frameworks to improve access to scholarly information through maximising the amount of information in the public domain or otherwise available without economic restriction through open access to publicly funded research findings and data.

Developing infrastructure components, including institutional repositories, that will facilitate open access to scholarly information

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- ¹ Open Access may be achieved in a variety of ways including publication in an open access journal or other open scholarly medium or deposit in an open access repository but its availability must satisfy the definition of open access in the Budapest Open Access Initiative 2002 (<http://www.soros.org/openaccess/read.shtml>):

By 'open access' to this literature, we mean its free availability on the public internet, permitting any users to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of these articles, crawl them for indexing, pass them as data to software, or use them for any other lawful purpose, without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself. The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright in this domain, should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited.

For an overview of Open Access see <http://www.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/overview.htm>

CONZUL acknowledges declarations in support of open access from the OECD, the World Summit on the Information Society, the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA), universities and university groups, research funding organisations, and from many bodies dedicated to the advancement of knowledge and the building of open democratic societies.

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Note: This Statement is based on the CAUL Statement on Open Scholarship (1 Oct 2010) and CONZUL acknowledges the contribution of colleagues in CAUL.