From the University Librarian

6 APRIL 2023

Professor Diane Kirkby’s Lecture, celebrating 150 years of maritime unions in Australia: ‘Here to Stay!’ Militancy and Longevity in Australia’s Maritime Labour History was terrific.

Yumma Darruwa Ngunnawal

Welcome to Ngunnawal country.

The Vice Chancellor has released a very important statement on the Voice to Parliament:

In 2017, following an extensive process of consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, the Uluru Statement from the Heart called for ‘the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution’.

With an historic referendum to enact this call planned for 2023, the Australian National University Council unreservedly supports enshrining an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice in the Constitution, recognising its alignment with the University’s national mission.

The Council acknowledges that differing views exist within the University community and that the University is a place where respectful informed debate and freedom of expression are actively encouraged.

ANU Press and open access

Fast-growing open-access journals stripped of coveted impact factors

This article in Science reports on a current crisis in OA publishing. “Nearly two dozen journals from two of the fastest growing open-access publishers, including one of the world’s largest journals by volume, will no longer receive a key scholarly imprimatur. On 20 March, the Web of Science database said it delisted the journals along with dozens of others, stripping them of an impact factor, the citation-based measure of quality that, although controversial, carries weight with authors and institutions. The move highlights continuing debate about a business model marked by high volumes of articles, ostensibly chosen for scientific soundness rather than novelty, and the practice by some open-access publishers of recruiting large numbers of articles for guest-edited special issues…19 Hindawi journals and two MDPI titles.”
The Council thanks the Academic Board of the University for its work and guidance, and acknowledges that it also unreservedly supports enshrining an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice in the Constitution.

I encourage you all to read the paper prepared by the First Nations Portfolio entitled ‘Responding to Common Concerns about an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.’

ANU COVID-19

Thanks to Shere for more information about University’s requirements relating to COVID 19. Only one area needs to do a COVID inspection each month on a rotating basis. This month’s inspections did not identify any issues. If you see supplies of hand sanitiser or masks are running low do let the relevant people in your building know.

Please read all the messages from the University about COVID 19.

All COVID updates will be communicated to staff and students via the weekly On Campus email newsletter. You can find previous staff On Campus and student On Campus editions here.

Do watch ANU news for announcements about ANU policy and practice.

SIS Staff meeting

A big thank you to Ms Sheren Al-Obaidi, Senior WHS Consultant Safety Management Systems and Audit and Prof Royston Gustavson, Dean, Academic Quality for speaking to us at the staff meeting this week.

Sheren gave great insights into incident management and Figtree – more details about her tip for changing settings to see information in Figtree more easily will be in the next newsletter. Here is the guide to risks and hazards Sheren recommended. Using sharks to illustrate the difference here is an image from Scimoms:

Figtree user guides can be found here.

Professor Royston Gustavson, Dean (Academic Quality) provided great insights into his role and the activities around academic equality at ANU. You can see more about AQAC here and about Royston here.

WHS

A reminder that Christian West is our policy lead.

US Affordable College Textbook Act (H.R.1811/S.978)

The Affordable College Textbook Act (H.R.1811/S.978) has been reintroduced in both chambers of the U.S. Congress. The bill aims to reduce the cost of textbooks by expanding the use and awareness of open educational resources at college and university campuses. The bill is sponsored by Senators Dick Durbin (D-IL), Angus King (I-ME), Tina Smith (D-MN), and Kyrsten Sinema (I-AZ) as well as Representative Joe Neguse (D-CO). Read more in SPARC’s press release.

Society and university journal publishers gradually progressing towards new OA models

Assessing the findings of a recent survey into the publishing practices of independent academic publishers, Danielle Padula, head of marketing and community development at Scholastica, finds these publishers to be moving incrementally towards fully open access models while still working to identify the options with the best long-term growth potential in the wake of recent funder initiatives, such as Plan S and the OSTP ‘Nelson Memo’ in her latest blogpost.

New titles

Wehali: The Female Land Traditions of a Timorese Ritual Centre

Authored by: Tom Therik
Thank you so much to staff in the Hancock Library for their very good actions last week to assist in a situation. Thank you in particular to Clare Borchers and Josh Bell.

Academic Quality Advisory Committee
AQAC met last week with a range of fascinating papers including:

- Implementation of Working Party and Review
- National Access Scheme (Adjustment Factors) Report 2021
- CRS and CRN Grades Analysis Report Semester 1 & 2 2021
- Courses Not Taught at Least Once Over the Past Three Years Report
- Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse WP Report
- Graduate Awards Disestablishment
- Disestablishment and Creation of Graduate Awards
- College Approved Amendments.
- Academic Integrity Incident Report
- Managing Word Limit Penalties in Assessments
- Modifications to the EAS

Chifley Library – 3000 students in between 9 and 5 on Monday 27 March
We are thrilled to see so many students using the Library. Staff celebrated the more than 3000 visitors Monday week ago. Vanessa baked a fabulous cake and other staff also contributed (amazing cumin biscuits!) to the morning tea.

Open repository

New arXiv Labs integrations provide insights into the academic “influence” of researchers and enable reproducibility through access to data and code

Stephanie Orphan reports that arXiv “recently rolled our two new integrations—DagsHub and Influence Flower—to provide our users with access to data, code, and other materials underlying research and present a map of influence for individual articles on arXiv, respectively. Congratulations to the ANU team led by Minjeong Shin that developed Influence Flowers. Read the post here.

Realities of Academic Data Sharing (RADS) Initiative Featured on Improving Data Engagement and Advocacy (IDEA)
The Realities of Academic Data Sharing (RADS) Initiative is a collaboration of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and six academic institutions involved in the Data Curation Network (DCN). The project, supported by a grant from the US National Science Foundation (NSF) EArly-concept Grants for Exploratory Research (EAGER) program, is looking at three research questions:

- Where are funded researchers across these six institutions making their data publicly accessible and what is the quality of the metadata?
- How are researchers making decisions about why and how to share research data?
- What is the cost to the institution to implement the federally mandated public access to research data policy?

The IDEA: Improving Data Engagement and Advocacy podcast recently interviewed members of the RADS team to discuss the project and takeaways it has surfaced to date. Listen to the 35-minute episode about RADS.

Open GLAM
The OpenGlam Survey, co-developed by Andrea Wallace and Douglas McCarthy, has been running for four years. The Survey now lists 1,424 institutions that have published open access data, from Aruba to Venezuela, with the total volume of surveyed open data exceeding 80,000,000 digital objects. This blog post details their recent work restructuring, checking and cleaning the data; highlights new data points that they hope to enrich (e.g. Rights Statement Compliance), and includes updated visualisations generated from the whole survey.

New research resources

- The effectiveness of touchscreen-based attentional bias modification to thin body stimuli on state rumination
- When is a Project Successful?
viewing and sharing. The sessions on Indigenising libraries with Sue Roberts, CAUL Board Director, University Librarian and Director, Te Tumu Herenga, University of Auckland Lisa O’Hara – Vice-Provost (Libraries) and University Librarian, University of Manitoba, Chair, CARL Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Working Group Kim Tairi – University Librarian, Auckland University Of Technology Manuhiri Huatahi – Kāiārahi, Te Tumu Herenga, Libraries and Learning Services, University of Auckland Rangiuruhia McDonald – Pou Ārahī at Te Whare Pukapuka (The Library), University of Waikato and AI with Prashant Pandey, CAUL Board Director, Director of Library Services, Flinders University Kim Valois – Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), Information and Digital Services, Flinders University Dr Guy Curtis – Senior Lecturer, School of Psychological Science, University of Western Australia were excellent.

CAUL is hiring – Director, Strategy & Analytics (maternity cover) and Engagement & Administration Officer (maternity cover).

Copyright

The high-level summary of the first meeting on 23 February has been published on the Attorney-General's Department website at: Ministryal Roundtable on Copyright | Attorney-General's Department (ag.gov.au).

Submissions to the Copyright Enforcement Review have closed and ALACC, UA, CAUL, publisher group, collecting societies and experts have indicated they made submissions so I expect there will be more than 100 for the Department to work through.

The UA/CAL working group has been formed and is intended to engage in good faith in the process set out in clause 8.3 of the Remuneration agreement. The group is determining a terms of reference and scope which are foundation blocks for the work to be done this year.

The case Hachette Book Group, Et Al v. Internet Archive, Et Al has reached an important point with Judge Keoltl issuing an opinion this week on controlled digital lending that “no case or legal principle supports that notion”. You can see links to a wide range of articles here (it will continue to be updated) and there is an excellent article in Inside Higher Education here. US and indeed Australian legislation does not contain any concept of controlled digital lending although it does have fair use and this is a complex area.

Chifley Library Hail repair updates

The latest updates are online.

Thank you to F&S and CC – for the first time in 4 years there were no leaks from the roof in this the rain over the past fortnight!

The leaks through the windows and in Underhill remain.

- Perceived Control and Intergroup Discrimination
- Mapping Spatial Variations of Hi Turbulent Properties in the Small and Large Magellanic Cloud
- Sex Trafficking' as Epistemic Violence

Keeping up to date

The fight for libraries, 'the heart' of democratic freedom

Libraries have become 'battlegrounds for other political motivations,' says Oxford’s Richard Ovenden in a broadcast.

AI

Last year CSIRO released an interesting report. Good data on publishing as well as the role and development of AI. Read it here.

Data Protection in the New Frontier of Generative AI: Insights from Legal Experts: Hosed by: Will Howe, Director of Data Analytics, Clayton Utz, Steven Klimt, Partner, Banking & Financial Services and Lyndal Sivell, Special Counsel, IP & Technology, Clayton Utz discuss data privacy concerns in the new frontier of generative AI. Watch it now.

Academic Publishers Are Missing the Point on ChatGPT – a blogpost on the Scholarly Kitchen suggesting AI can be helpful but new policies are needed from publishers.

AI in in Publishing: The (US) Authors Guild has drafted a new model clause to prohibit the use of an author’s work for training artificial intelligence technologies without the author’s express permission. Authors and agents can request this clause be added to their contracts. Read more here.

AI in Higher Education: The Librarians’ Perspectives. A new report from Helper Systems is based on a recent survey of 125 US university librarians. ChatGPT is the focus of the introduction. The key findings are:

- 37% of participants are currently offering AI products to their researchers or considering it (think TDM)
- 8% believe students who use AI products are cheating. In comparison
- 12% said AI is unethical for professors to use for research and 14% for professionals to use on the job
- 50% say students who use AI products are not cheating. In comparison, 42% said AI is ethical for professors to use for research and 53% for professionals to use on the job
- Major concerns regarding AI in higher education include cheating, eliminating or reducing critical thinking and originality, and replacing human jobs.
Trove funding secured
Great news! The Albanese Government has committed to provide $33m over the next 4 years to maintain Trove, with $9.2m ongoing and indexed funding from July 2027. See The Guardian story here.

Feedback
Dear Megs
Thank you very much for your willingness to take the time to sort out these contents. This is very helpful to my essay. It is my honor to participate in your academic guidance. If there is a score, I am willing to give you a full score. You even deserve a better honor!
Thank you once again!

Just a short note to say that in the past few months, I've had two articles published which would normally be paywalled, but are completely OA thanks to the CAUL agreement. Thank you so much for all you've done to make our work more accessible!

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Roxanne Missingham
Director, Scholarly Information Services

Using the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy to revise a for-credit, online course
Lucinda Ward and Thomas Kmetz’s article in the Journal of Library & Information Services in Distance Learning describes a recent revamping of a three-credit-hour course at the library at Morehead State University. The modernization meant both committing to asynchronous delivery and adopting the ACRL Framework as the course’s learning objectives. Read the article here.

Sage acquires Epigeum
An interesting industry development.

The Publisher Playbook: A Brief History of the Publishing Industry’s Obstruction of the Library Mission
Kyle K. Courtney and Juliya M. Ziskina have written this short monograph which has been released as a preprint by Harvard Library Office for Scholarly Communication. It is interesting to see some of the early discussions and cases. There are areas where I would challenge the interpretation which probably means it is important to read it. Read the preprint here.

College & Research Libraries News
The April 2023 issue of College & Research Libraries News (C&RL News) is now freely available online both as a full issue PDF and as individual articles. Articles include:

Coming events

ALIA Information Online 2023
When? 17-18 May 2023
Where? Online
More details here.

Open Repositories 2023
When? 12-15 June 2023
Where? Stellenbosch, South Africa
More details. The theme for the conference will be Repositories unlocked for machine and humankind. Click here for more information.

ARDC

Shaping Research Software: An Interview with Dr Marcel Keller
ARDC spoke with Dr Marcel Keller, a Senior Research Scientist at CSIRO’s Data61. Dr Keller is a cryptographer working on multi-party computation and the maintainer of MP-SPDZ, a framework implementing multi-party computation. MP-SPDZ is written in C++ and Python.

See more here.