

Council of New Zealand University Librarians (CONZUL)
Kaunihera o nga Kaimahi Whare Pukapuka i nga Whare Wananga o Aotearoa

CONZUL STATEMENT ON OPEN ACCESSⁱ

12 September 2005

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.

**CONZUL believes that the economic, social and cultural interests
of Aotearoa New Zealand will be advanced
by the rapid adoption of open access to research and scholarly literature**

CONZUL has considered IFLA's *Statement on Open Access to Scholarly Literature and Research Documentation*ⁱⁱ (copied below) and is committed to contributing to international initiatives to promote sustainable models of open access to scholarly literature, wherever possible.

It recognises that this requires systems of academic 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 the future.

CONZUL recognises that:

- Digital communications offer opportunities for more effective academic publishing.
- Research is increasingly conducted globally by collaborations facilitated by grids of communications and computing power. Access to shared information resources will assist such endeavours.
- Open access to the outcomes of research will enhance the profile of universities and national research programs, contribute to the further advancement of knowledge, and recognise the public contribution to the funding of research.
- Maintaining the quality and authority of academic publishing and the integrity of the scholarly record is of critical importance through any evolution.
- Access to information builds informed communities and contributes to the elimination of social and economic disadvantage.

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

CONZUL will work towards:

- Building infrastructure, such as institutional repositories, that advance open access.
- Raising awareness of the principles and practice of open access publishing within New Zealand research institutions.
- Implementing public policies that ensure fair use of copyrighted information for educational and research purposes.
- Cooperating with the New Zealand government agencies to improve access to scholarly information, and to maximise the amount of information in the public domain

ⁱ Draws strongly on CAUL (Council of Australian University Librarians) Statement on Open Access with which CONZUL wishes to be aligned.

<http://www.caul.edu.au/scholcomm/OpenAccess2004.doc>

ⁱⁱ <http://www.ifla.org/V/cdoc/open-access04.html>

IFLA Statement on Open Access to Scholarly Literature and Research Documentation

IFLA (the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) **is committed to** ensuring the widest possible access to information for all peoples in accordance with the principles expressed in the [Glasgow Declaration on Libraries, Information Services and Intellectual Freedom](#).

IFLA acknowledges that the discovery, contention, elaboration and application of research in all fields will enhance progress, sustainability and human well being. Peer reviewed scholarly literature is a vital element in the processes of research and scholarship. It is supported by a range of research documentation, which includes pre-prints, technical reports and records of research data.

IFLA declares that the world-wide network of library and information services provides access to past, present and future scholarly literature and research documentation; ensures its preservation; assists users in discovery and use; and offers educational programs to enable users to develop lifelong literacies.

IFLA affirms that comprehensive open access to scholarly literature and research documentation is vital to the understanding of our world and to the identification of solutions to global challenges and particularly the reduction of information inequality.

Open access guarantees the integrity of the system of scholarly communication by ensuring that all research and scholarship will be available in perpetuity for unrestricted examination and, where relevant, elaboration or refutation.

IFLA recognises the important roles played by all involved in the recording and dissemination of research, including authors, editors, publishers, libraries and institutions, and advocates the adoption of ... open access principles in order to ensure the widest possible availability of scholarly literature and research documentation

This statement was adopted by the Governing Board of IFLA at its meeting in The Hague on 5th December 2003.

ⁱⁱⁱ The following definition of open access publication has been taken from A [Position statement by the Wellcome Trust in support of open access publishing](#) (<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/en/1/awtvispolpub.html>) and was based on the definition arrived at by delegates who attended a meeting on open access publishing convened by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in July 2003.

An open access publication is one that meets the following two conditions:

1. The author(s) and copyright holder(s) grant(s) to all users a free, irrevocable, world-wide, perpetual (for the lifetime of the applicable copyright) right of access to, and a licence to copy, use, distribute, perform and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works in any digital medium for any reasonable purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship, as well as the right to make small numbers of printed copies for their personal use.
2. A complete version of the work and all supplemental materials, including a copy of the permission as stated above, in a suitable standard electronic format is deposited immediately upon initial publication in at least one online repository that is supported by an academic institution, scholarly society, government agency, or other well-established organisation that seeks to enable open access, unrestricted distribution, interoperability, and long-term archiving.

An open access publication is a property of individual works, not necessarily of journals or of publishers.

Community standards, rather than copyright law, will continue to provide the mechanism for enforcement of proper attribution and responsible use of the published work, as they do now.