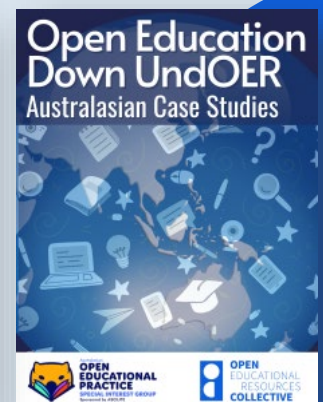
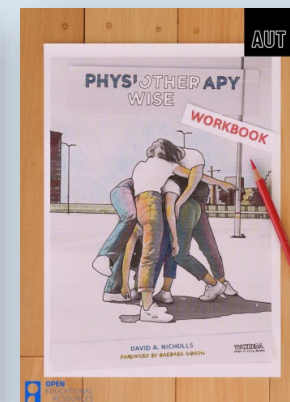
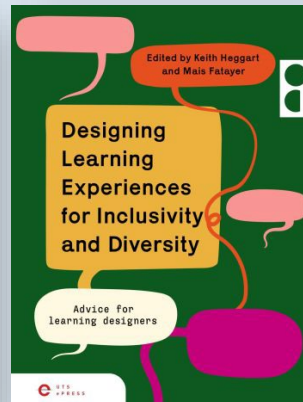
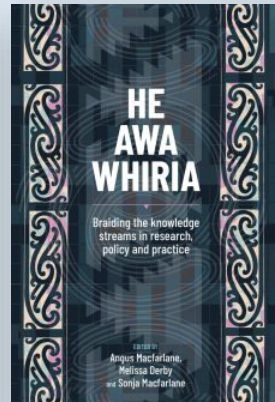
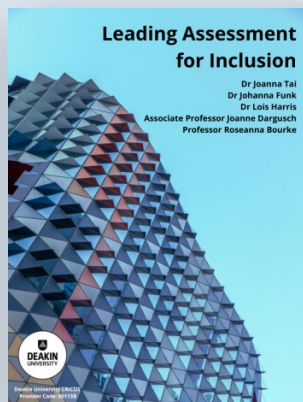
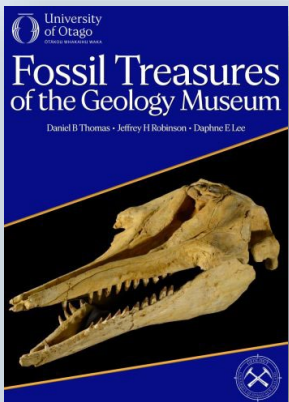


OER Collective Celebration

12 Dec 2025

Speakers: Kylie Percival, Dr Fiona Salisbury, Ash Barber, Sara Roberts, Dr Ruchini Jayasinghe, Dr Ravindu Kahandawa, Samara Rowling, Lisa Grbin, Jane Angel



Acknowledgement of Country

On behalf of CAUL, I acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Kaitiaki of the lands on which we live and work across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

I acknowledge the contributions made by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, Māori and First Nations colleagues to CAUL and CAUL Member institutions in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. CAUL recognises Māori as tangata whenua and embraces Te Tiriti o Waitangi. CAUL is committed to working in partnership with First Nations colleagues.

I extend my respect to all Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander, Māori, and First Nations people here today.

OVERVIEW

- OER Collective foundations – Dr Fiona Salisbury
- OER Collective today – Ash Barber

OER Collective vignette – Sara Roberts
He Awa Whiria



OER Collective vignette – Dr Ruchini Jayasinghe & Dr Ravindu Kahandawa
Building Cost Planning



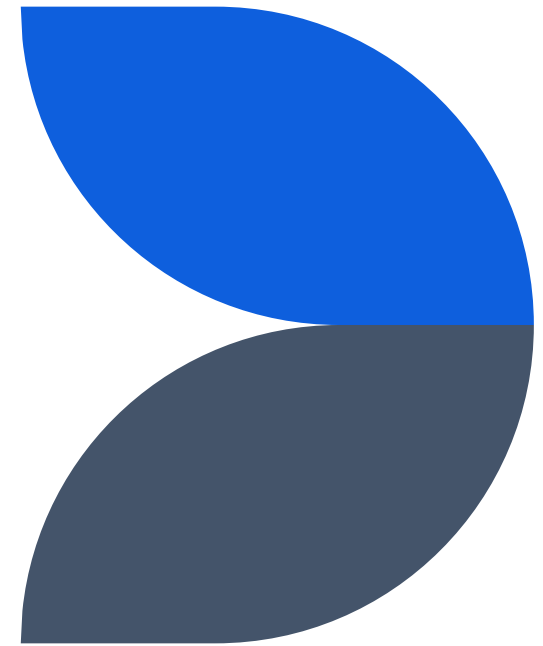
- Open Textbook Publishing in Australia – Samara Rowling
- OERC Publishing Workflow and group reflection – Lisa Grbin

- OER Collective transition updates – Jane Angel
- Closing – Ash Barber



The session is being recorded.

It will be available after the event along with the slides and links shared.



OER COLLECTIVE FOUNDATIONS

Dr Fiona Salisbury

Executive Director, Library Services
Western Sydney University



2020 – A shared dream for OER

- Libraries taking a lead in facilitating, coordinating, guiding and enabling the creation of open textbooks
 - Develop and test strategy for co-creation across institutions to produce open textbooks
 - Identify high value/high impact/high enrolment subject areas for co-creation
 - Pull potential authors together across institutions
 - Tailor collaborative output for Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand
 - Evaluate process and use and build future business case for collaborative creation of open textbooks
- Developing guidelines and principles for collaborative or institutional creation of open textbooks using Pressbooks
- Delivering how-to webinars for library staff to promote understanding and support institutional OER advocacy



2021 - CAUL OER Collective Pilot Objectives

1. Build infrastructure, capacity and achieve tangible outcomes to move the OER agenda forward at a national level.
2. Allow member institutions to publish their own textbooks in disciplines of their choosing.
3. Facilitate collaborative authoring and publishing of open textbooks in targeted priority disciplines, with a preference for the inclusion of local and/or indigenous content.



OER Collective Model



PLATFORM
Space to publish open
textbooks



CAPACITY BUILDING
Build library staff and
academic skills &
knowledge



COMMUNITY
Communities for
authors and library
staff



GRANTS
To support authors in
writing open
textbooks



GUIDES



TRAINING



CHECKLISTS



EMAIL LISTS



MEETINGS



SLACK SPACES

OER Collective = People

- OER Collective Governance Group
- OER Collective Pilot Project Team
- CAUL Members
- OER Collective Champions
- OER Collective Communities of Practice
- Authors
- Students



A Game changer – OER Collective Pilot outcomes in the first 18 months...

- Australasian-wide community
- Librarians and academics as open publishing partners
- Increased commitment to OER
- Building momentum and critical mass
- 31 members across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand
- 26 Books in progress
- [15 OER Collective Grants](#)
- 200+ attendees at Communities of Practice for librarians and authors
- [CAUL OER Publishing Workflow](#)
- [OER Collective Administration Guide for Library Staff](#)
- OER Professional Development program sold out
- OER Collective branding
- OER Advocacy Toolkit

Ongoing Value and Recognition

- Leadership:
 - National scale
 - Platform
 - Grants
- On the ground:
 - Community, connection, peer support
 - Guides
 - Professional development
- 2024 OEGlobal Collaboration Award
 - Exceptional commitment to fostering collaborative open practices within the academic community of Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.



OER COLLECTIVE TODAY

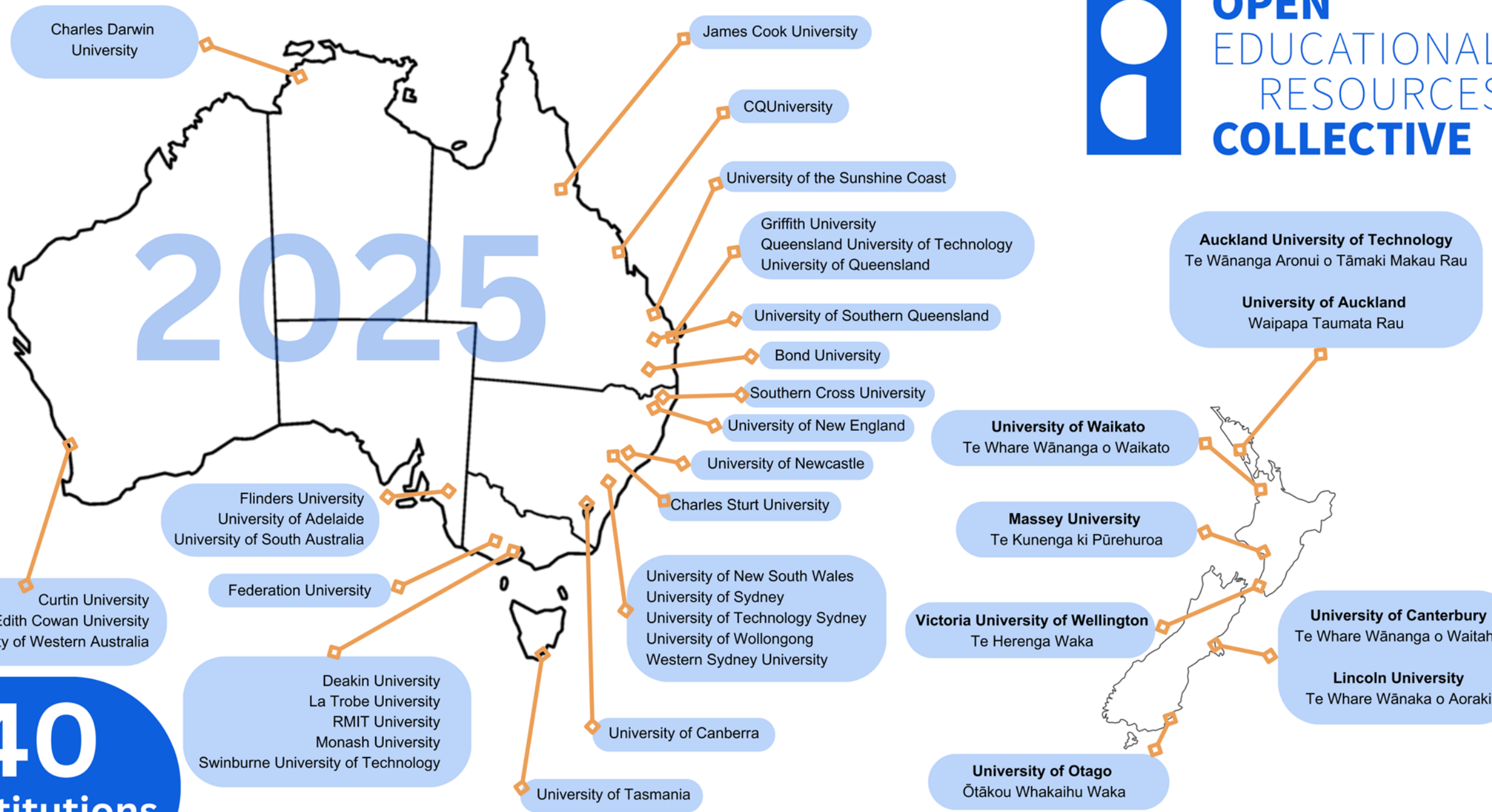


#OERCollective



OPEN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES COLLECTIVE

2025



40 Institutions

Research Skills for Postgraduate Study

A Library Primer

Philip Worthington (Editor),
Catherine Doughty,
Marcus Harvey & Peter Quin

Answering Clinical Questions

FUNDAMENTALS OF FOUNDATION ENGINEERING and their applications

2nd Edition
G. Kouretzis

Mental and Physical Health Dimensions

Paul Cooper
Raymond Tini
Alice Standfield

From Research to Reality

An Implementation Guide
Sharon Mickan

Fossil Treasures of the Geology Museum

David B Thomas • Jeffrey H Robinson • Daphne E Lee

InfoTech Governance, Policy, Ethics & Law

David Tuffley PhD

Beyond Coding

PHYSIOTHERAPY WISE WORKBOOK

ESSENTIAL LEGAL RESEARCH SKILLS in Aotearoa New Zealand

6Ps of CREATIVITY

How to become a creative leader and develop your creative genius

Rouville de Villiers (PhD)

From Search to Source

Finding Reliable Information

Fundamentals of Successful Marketing

An Introduction to Marketing Concepts

Australian Designs Law

Monash University Library Open Educational Resources Program

Guide to Publishing Open Textbooks

Critical Health Psychology

Foundations, Approaches and Applications

Cultural Safety in Health

Professional Practice, Pedagogy & Research

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Unlocking the Power of Data in Healthcare

GenAI for Legal Practice

A Yolŋu Philosophy Reader

Garara Wasamal, Yasunori Hayashi & Michael Christie, editors

ACHIEVING ACCEPTABLE CERTAINTY IN THE WORKPLACE

CHRISTOPHER PEACE

Sarah Riley, Kathryn McGuigan, Eleanor Brittain, Gareth Terry, Aorangi Kora, Stéphan Healy-Cullen, Clifford van Ommen & Don Baken
Editors

Digital Health for Nursing and Midwifery in Australia

INTRODUCING SCOPING AND SYSTEMATIC REVIEWS

Erin Roga and Dr. Karen Pruis

LEGAL RESEARCH SKILLS AN AUSTRALIAN LAW GUIDE

The Art of Writing

A Guide to...

Cultural Safety in Health

Professional Practice, Pedagogy & Research

HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

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Editors

OER Collective Grants

2023

Structured approach to funding (\$2.5 to 4.5K) with separate tracks for large and small cohorts, and introduction of Kickstarter grants

2022

Broad categories of OER funding (\$1 to 3K) with focus on high impact, locally relevant content, representation, and emerging disciplines

2024

Targeted focus on health sciences and Indigenous Knowledges, while continuing Kickstarter grant program

2025

Introduction of large Collaborate grant, Adopt+ grants to boost OER adoption and creation of ancillary resources, and Wildcard grant



oercollective.caul.edu.au/grants

2025-26 GRANT ROUND RECIPIENTS

In the 2025-26 OER Collective Grant Round, seven grants were awarded across five categories, totalling \$25,000.

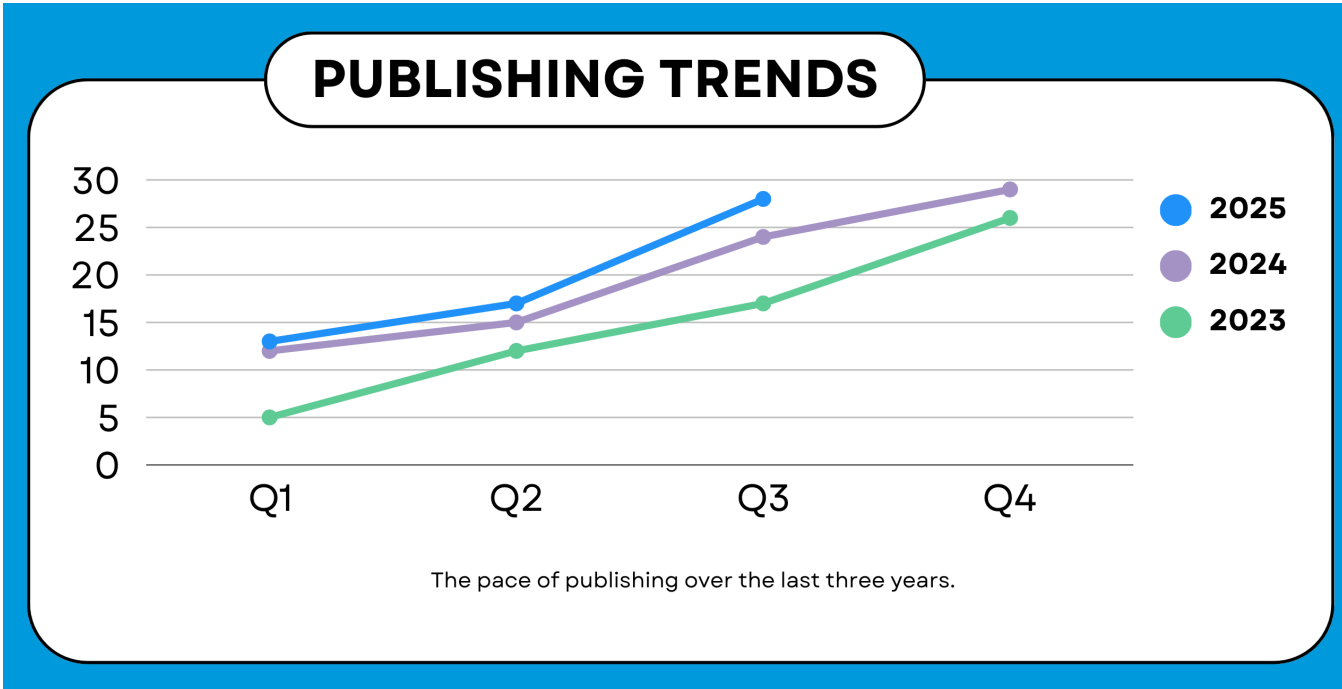
Use the links below to read about the OER projects funded in each category:

- [Category: Adopt+](#)
 - Supplementary Resources to Support the Adoption of the OER Textbook *Becoming a Climate Conscious Lawyer: Climate Change and the Australian Legal System*
- [Category: Wildcard](#)
 - The Art of Re-Learning: A Guide to Academic Readiness
- [Category: Leap](#)
 - Midwifery Solidarity and Feminism
- [Category: Collaborate](#)
 - Mental Health Essentials: Transitioning from Student to Practitioner
- [Category: Create](#)
 - Learning in and through STEAM in Early Childhood
 - Eyeballs Made Easy
 - Resources and Strategies for Gender Expansive Language Education

7 Grants \$25,000

Grant recipients
listed on the
CAUL OER
Collective
website

Highlights & Trends



Publishing through the OER Collective is moving in an **upward trend** with growth rate slowing.

This indicates OER Collective institutions are **building confidence** and **capability** as their OER programs and experience mature.

2025 (so far)

COMPLETE

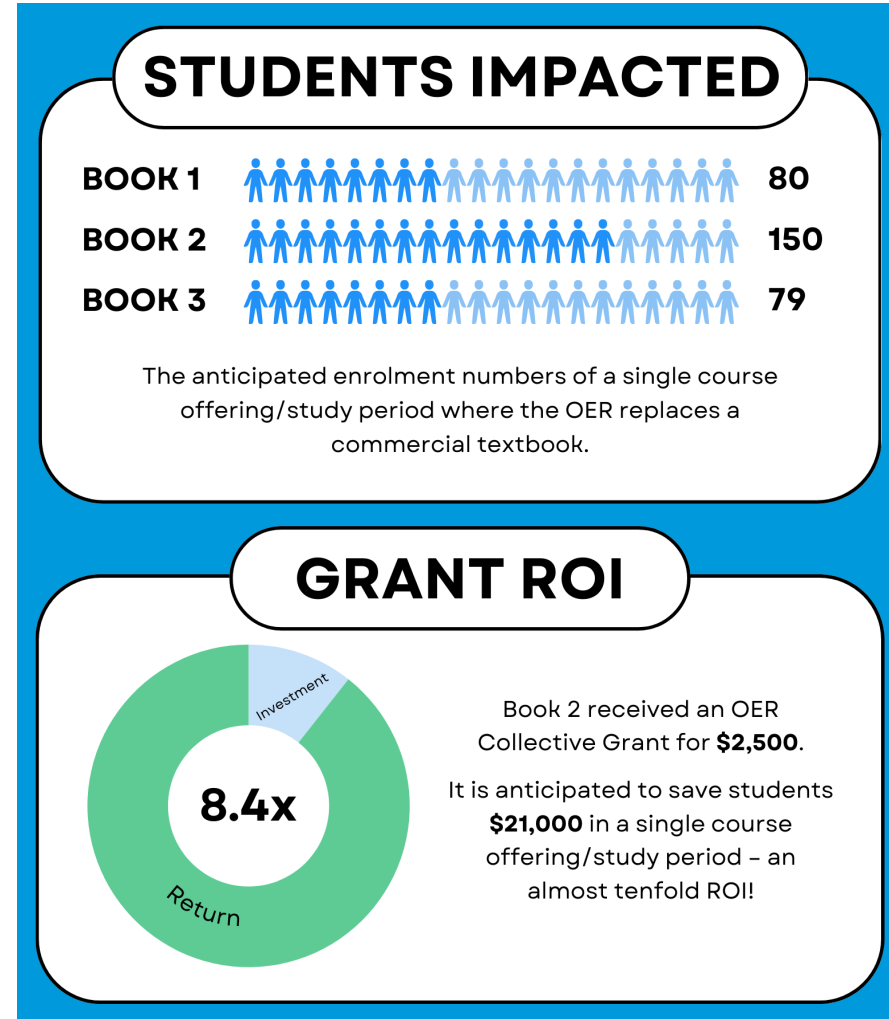
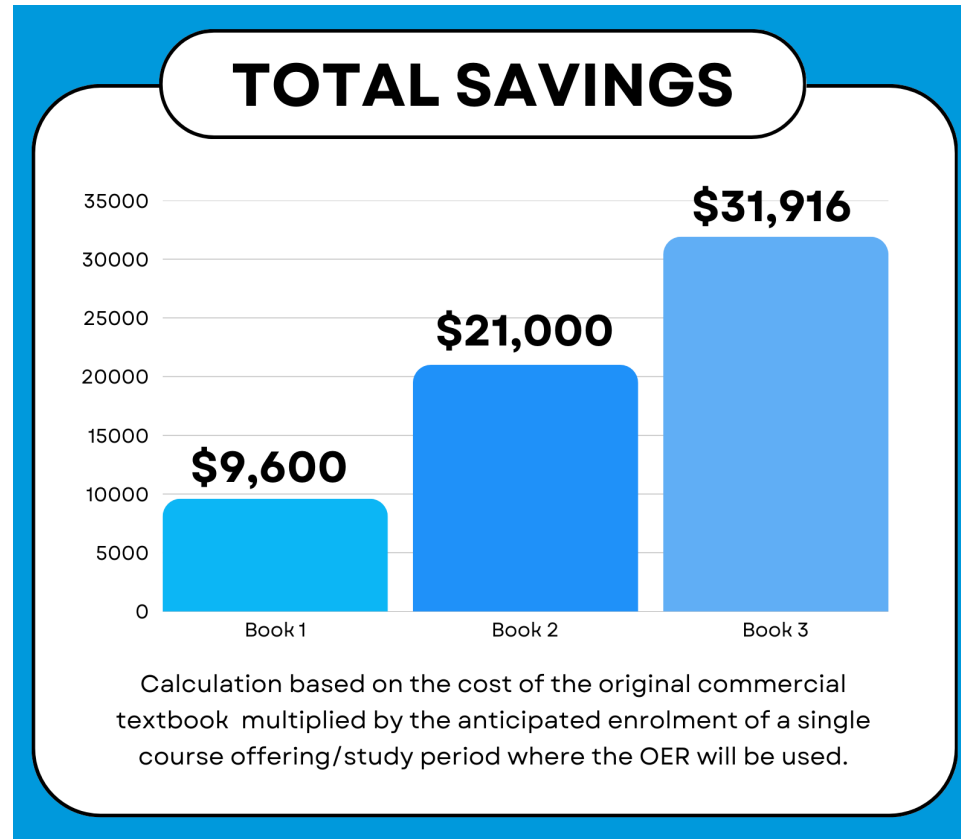
- **7 grants** awarded, totalling \$25,000
- **28 books** published
- **40 institutions** (89% of all CAUL members)
- **8,000+ views** of Publishing Workflow, plus a major revamp of guide content by the OERC Working Group
- **10 events** for the Community of Practice
- **3 international events** featuring the OER Collective

IN PROGRESS

- **27 OER will be prescribed or referenced** in courses, serving **5,000+ students** per study period:
 - **6 will replace commercial textbooks**, collectively serving 1,200+ students per study period
 - **12 will be prescribed textbook** without replacing a commercial text, serving 3,500+ students per study period.
 - **9 will be reference texts** or used for other purposes in courses

Snapshot: What can a single OER do?

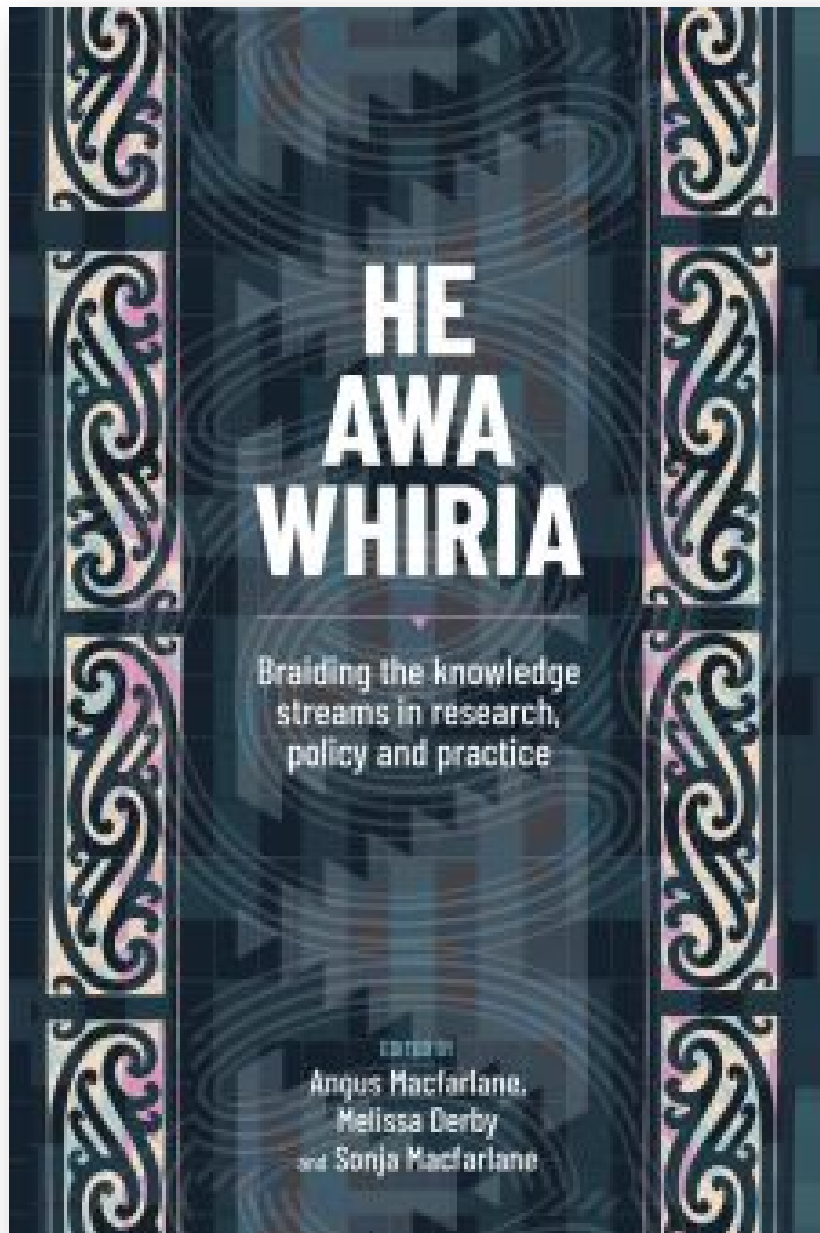
The examples below use anonymised data from three OER Collective texts in production in 2025



OER COLLECTIVE VIGNETTES



#OERCollective



He Awa Whiria

Presented by

Sara Roberts

Manager, Learning and Teaching
Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha |
University of Canterbury





Building Cost Planning

Presented by

Dr Ruchini Jayasinghe

Online Course Facilitator

University of South Australia

Dr Ravindu Kahandawa

Lecturer in Quantity Surveying

Te Kunenga ki Pūrehuroa | Massey

University



OPEN TEXTBOOK PUBLISHING IN AUSTRALIA

Samara Rowling

Academic Editor, Librarian &
Freelance Publishing Consultant



CAUL OER Collective celebration

12 December 2025

Open textbook publishing in Australia: 2014 to 2025

Samara Rowling

PhD candidate, freelance editor and publishing consultant

Open textbook publishing programs at Australian universities

Conducted 3 PhD research studies from 2022 to 2024:

- mixed methods questionnaire of university staff ($n = 40$)
- qualitative interviews with library staff supporting/supervising publishing ($n = 11$)
- quantitative desktop audit of published Australian open textbooks ($n = 198$).

Focused on:

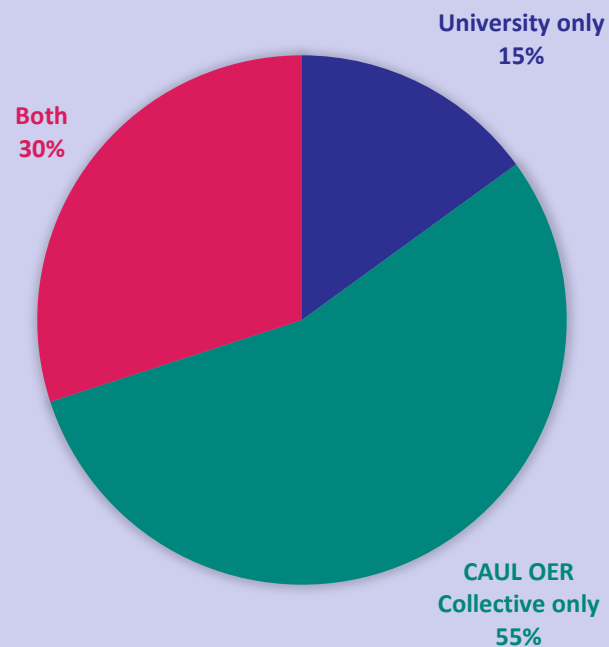
- Australian university context (separate study needed for Aotearoa New Zealand)
- universities already publishing or planning to publish
- library staff experience (publishing support staff, managers and executives).

Study 3: Desktop audit of Australian open textbooks

Collected and analysed available quantitative data on open textbooks published in Australia from 1 January 2014 to 30 June 2025 using:

- Australian university library and press websites
- Australian university library catalogues
- the CAUL OER Collective and Australian university Pressbooks sites
- the global Pressbooks Directory (filtered for Australian content).

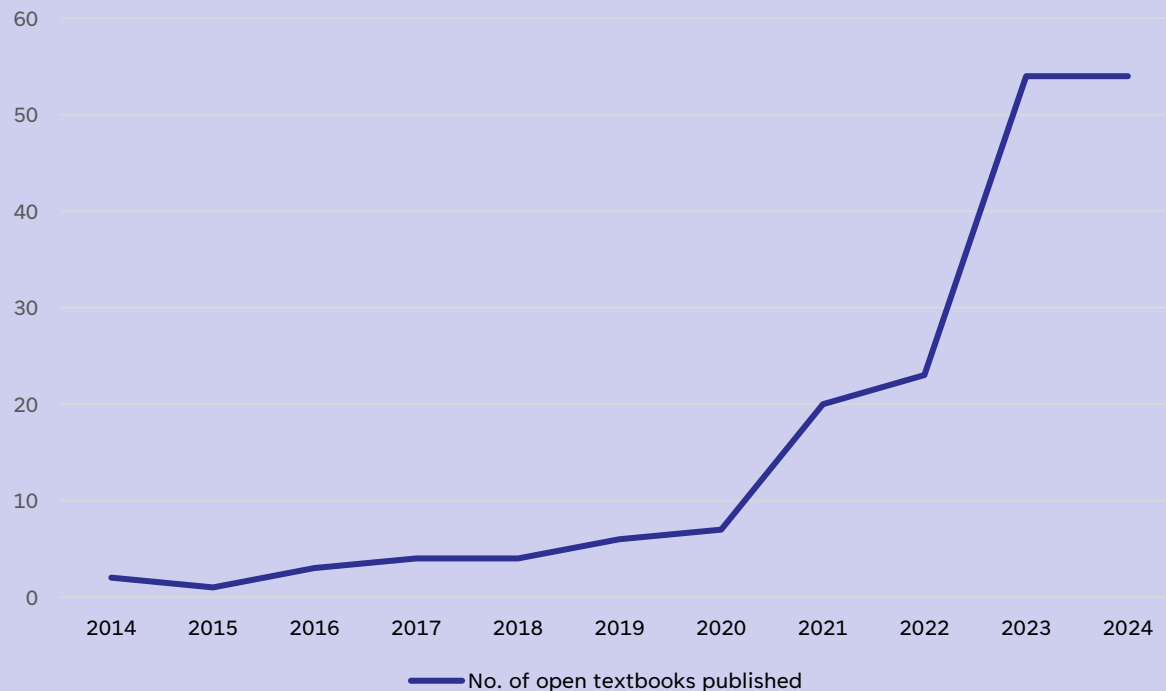
Australian universities publishing open textbooks



From 2014 to 2025, 27 of the 43 universities in Australia (63%) published at least one open textbook:

- 15% ($n = 4$) published through their university only
- 55% ($n = 15$) published through the CAUL OER Collective only
- 30% ($n = 8$) published through both their university and the CAUL OER Collective.

Australian open textbooks published

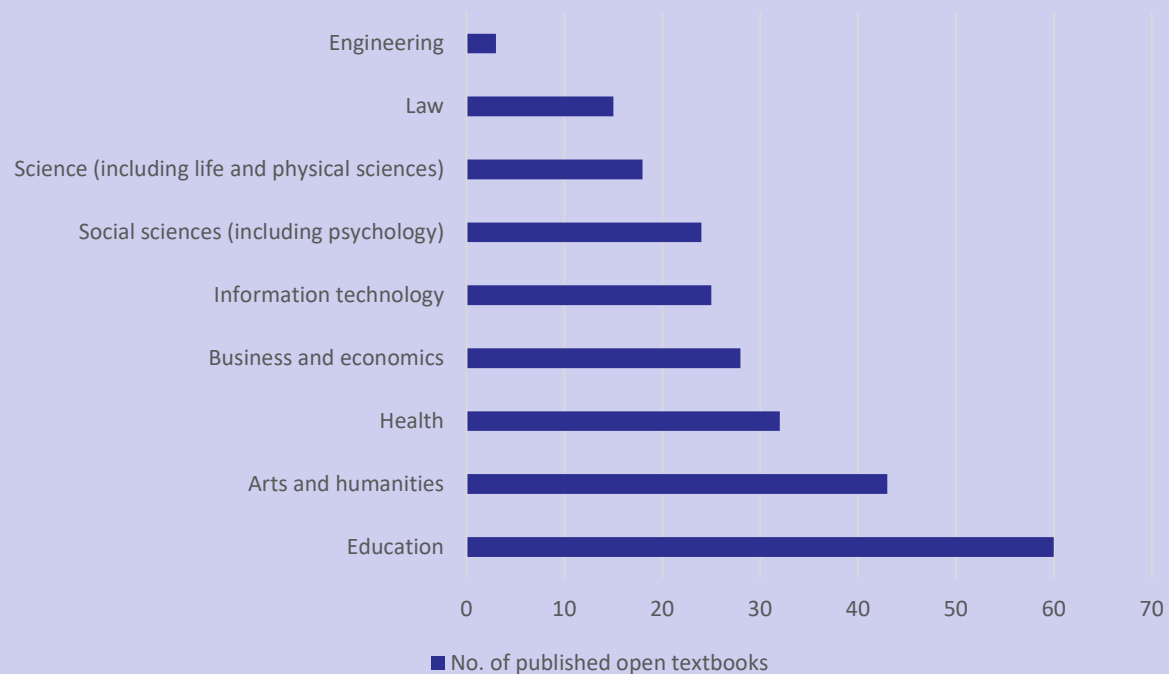


From 2014 to 2025, Australian universities published at least 198 open textbooks:

- 73% ($n = 144$ or $3/4$) originally published by universities themselves
- 27% ($n = 54$ or $1/4$) originally published through the CAUL OER Collective.

(Incomplete data for first half of 2025 not included in graph.)

Australian open textbooks by discipline



(Multidisciplinary open textbooks counted once for each discipline.)

Disciplines with highest number of open textbooks:

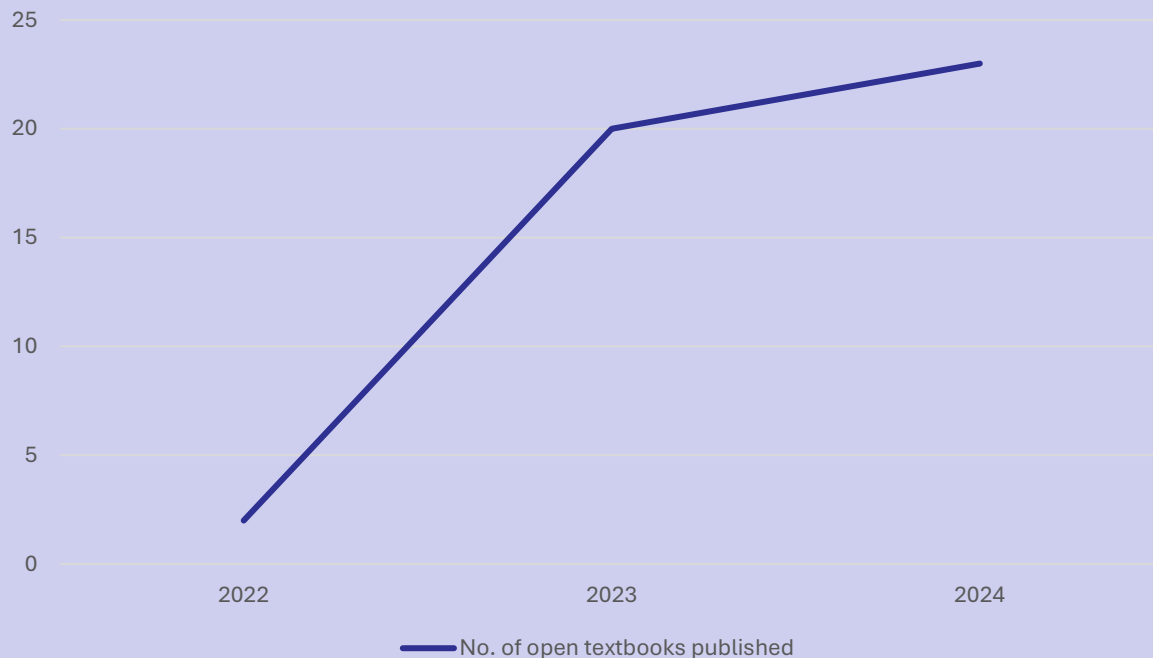
- education, including higher education ($n = 60$ or around 1/3)
- arts and humanities ($n = 43$)
- health ($n = 33$).

Disciplines with lowest number:

- engineering ($n = 3$)
- law ($n = 15$).

Cross-institutional collaboration matters

Australian open textbooks published through CAUL OER Collective ($n = 54$)



(Incomplete data for first half of 2025 not included in graph.)

- Only 7% ($n = 14$) of all Australian open textbooks published before 2019, when the QULOC OTN was formed.
- Around 76% ($n = 151$ or $3/4$) published since the CAUL OER Collective launched in 2022.

Opportunities for continued collaboration

Interview participants valued both formal and informal opportunities for collaboration between universities, including:

- networking (e.g. finding collaborators, requesting advice from colleagues)
- communities of practice
- webinars and professional development sessions
- support with developing publishing processes and guidelines (inc. templates and examples)
- shared funding
- shared infrastructure (e.g. CAUL OER Collective Pressbooks platform).

Need for a collaborative national approach

Questionnaire and interview participants believed for open textbook publishing to continue to grow and be sustainable, Australia needs a unified, collaborative national approach, including for:

- advocacy
- funding
- policy
- infrastructure (especially discovery)
- publishing support services
- author incentives (especially in research reporting).

Opportunities for future collaborative initiatives

Some recommendations for future collaborative initiatives from this research include:

- dedicated Australian OER advocacy group (or increased OER advocacy through existing groups like CAUL, Australasian OEP SIG and Open Access Australasia)
- central Australian OER repository to increase discoverability of local open textbooks
- Australian open textbook publishing maturity model adapted to local context to help universities assess the maturity of their services, capabilities and processes and identify opportunities for growth
- national OER quality standards for open textbooks to help with adoption.

Thank
you

Samara Rowling

info@samara.rowling.com

<https://www.samararowling.com/>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/samara-rowling/> (Follow for updates)



- Home
- Initiate
- Plan
- Draft
- Design
- Review
- Publish
- Evaluate
- About

The CAUL OER Collective Publishing Workflow

The CAUL OER Collective publishing workflow is designed to guide authors and library staff through the basics of open textbook publishing in Australia, including:

- deciding whether to adapt or author open textbooks
- planning and managing open textbook publishing projects
- choosing a Creative Commons licence for your open textbook
- copyright for open textbooks
- using Pressbooks to author and publish open textbooks
- making open textbooks diverse, inclusive and accessible
- quality control measures for open textbooks
- making open textbooks discoverable
- measuring the impact of open textbooks

and much more.



Open Educational Resources Collective Workflow by Council of Australian University Librarians is licensed under CC BY 4.0

“

FACILITATED BY LISA GRBIN

Let's Chat!
2025 OER Collective Reflection

Join at Menti.com with code
#2930 5684

”

OER COLLECTIVE TRANSITION UPDATES



#OERCollective

Alternative Service Provider



CAVAL's Shared OER Platform - Studium



- Australian hosted Pressbooks platform
- Australian-based Level 1 Support, provided in Australian/Aotearoa New Zealand friendly times
- Migration of all current published books from CAUL to CAVAL Pressbooks platform, plus any unpublished books on the CAUL platform that are associated with institutions signing up to the CAVAL platform
- Facilitation of a localised User Group
- The higher the participation, the lower the per-institution charge
- Costs distributed equally amongst participants to support the entire platform and contents
- Sign-ups open Monday 15 December 2025 via oersupport@caval.edu.au

Number of Institutions	5-10	11-20	21+
Per Institution Charge (per year)	\$5,000	\$4,500	\$3,500
Per CAVAL Member Charge (per year)	\$4,500	\$3,500	\$2,500
Initial Implementation Fee (per institution)	\$1,250	\$1,250	\$1,250

- pricing is in AUD and exclusive of GST
- pricing is reviewed annually (Q4) and will reflect the number of institutions participating in the initiative.
- pricing will be increased by CPI (All Groups Melbourne) rate or 2.5%. Which ever is higher
- support provided 9am - 5pm Melbourne Time

CAUL Procurement Pressbooks Agreement



KEY DEADLINES & FAQs

- **Shell requests** – Deadline passed
 - Contact Ash ASAP if haven't submitted a request yet
 - No new shells in 2026
- **Publication deadline** – 31 March 2026
 - Applicable to OER *not funded by 2025-25 grant*
 - New FAQ outlines publication process for 2026
 - Institutions to do their own QA review before publishing
- **Further details in FAQs:** tinyurl.com/OERC-FAQ



OER GRANT PROJECTS OFFICER



Lisa Grbin

Open Education Librarian
Deakin University



#OERCollective

THANK YOU 🙌



#OERCollective



oercollective.caul.edu.au

Get in touch

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oercollective@caul.edu.au

Your institutional contact

tinyurl.com/OERCIInstContact

Check out the
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for all our published and
upcoming titles!

