

**Purpose.** Our why.

The peak body uniting university libraries to lead access, influence and innovation in the sector.

Together we work to harness the collective influence and expertise of university libraries and librarians across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand to drive equitable access to knowledge, reshape scholarly communication, and elevate the visibility, value and impact of academic libraries in research, teaching and learning.

**Aspiration.** Our goal for this strategy.

A transformed, equitable scholarly system that enables open knowledge and serves the public good.

Champion a fairer, more open system for how research and knowledge is preserved, created, shared, accessed and used—ensuring equity, honouring Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and Māori knowledge systems, and extending the benefits to students, researchers, institutions and the wider community.

**Success.** How we will know.

- **Transformed access to knowledge.** Delivering faster, fairer and more open access that reduces costs, removes barriers and makes diverse scholarship visible.
- **Academic libraries recognised as strategic leaders.** Seen as essential partners shaping research, learning and sector-wide transformation.
- **Demonstrated commitment to working in partnership with First Nations colleagues.** Demonstrated commitment to working in partnership with First Nations colleagues. Shared goals are progressed in culturally informed and respectful ways.
- **Trans-Tasman identity and influence.** A unified, collaborative voice recognised for bridging Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

**Role.** Our what.

For the **higher education sector**

CAUL acts as a trusted peak body, using its collective voice to push for fair access to knowledge, sustainable publishing and strong trans-Tasman influence that benefits students, academics, institutions and communities alike.

**Strategic direction.** Our focus.

01

**Transform knowledge ecosystems for equity and access**

Use CAUL’s collective power to reshape scholarly publishing so it’s fairer, more inclusive and better aligned with sector priorities and public good.

- Drive sector-wide negotiations and collective procurement to secure fairer publishing terms and advance equitable, inclusive open access that reflects the diverse needs of researchers and communities.
- Advocate clear sector positions on emerging scholarly communication issues.
- Align strategies with national partners to advance open access.
- Champion open research infrastructure.

**Enablers.** Our guide.



A connected and accountable Council

02

**Enhance the university library sector’s voice and value**

Strengthen CAUL’s influence by showing the impact of academic libraries in research, education and public life.

- Develop unified messages on libraries’ role in student success, research and equity.
- Strengthen CAUL’s presence in national and trans-Tasman policy discussions.
- Champion libraries as leaders in digital, AI and scholarly literacy.
- Share library success stories and impact data with external audiences.
- Advocate for libraries’ role in whole-of-institution strategies.
- Support communities or practice to share insights and improve services.



Cultural integrity in practice

03

**Commitment to Indigenous partnership**

Commitment to build respectful partnerships with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and Māori communities, guided by their priorities. Working closely with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and Māori leaders to prioritise what is most impactful for Indigenous communities, as determined by those communities themselves.

- Co-design commitments with Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander and Māori leaders.
- Ensure action, not symbolism through a commitment of resources and collective accountability.



Focus our resources where they count