

Charter - CAUL Open Access Agreements Management Community of Practice

Purpose

The purpose of the Open Access Agreements Management Community of Practice is to provide a forum for CAUL Member institution staff to engage in collegial professional learning and information sharing related to the ongoing implementation and management of open access agreements.

The Community of Practice provides a forum for

- exchange of ideas
- information sharing
- peer support
- exploration of issues
- discussion of recent developments and practises
- community-led training or professional development.

Scope

The Community of Practice focuses on ongoing implementation and management of open access agreements in institutions, including the ways that library staff work within the broader institution to support open access agreements.

Discussions focus on

- read and publish agreements negotiated by CAUL
- other open access agreements, including those that institutions have directly with publishers.

Term

The Community of Practice will be ongoing and reviewed annually.

Sponsor

CAUL, Lead, Governance & Operations

Relation to CAUL Program / Service

The Community of Practice straddles the CAUL Content Procurement Service and the open access strategic direction.

Roles and Responsibilities

Sponsor

1. Provide a direct line of communication to the CAUL Board.
2. Support the Co-Convenors in resolving any issues that may arise.
3. Present project briefs to the Board for consideration.
4. Present updates on Community of Practice activities to the Board, via a brief written report prepared by the Co-Convenors.

General Operation of the Community of Practice

1. Work with the broader Community of Practice to develop a meeting schedule (including allocation of organising and chairing responsibilities) and/or schedule of discussion topics for the email list.
2. Oversee the operation of the Community of Practice, including
 - a. Ensure the Community of Practice remains focused on its purpose as a Community of Practice as outlined in this Charter.
 - b. Encourage members to contribute to discussions.
 - c. Manage the meeting schedule, including:
 - i. Ensure meetings have a defined purpose.
 - ii. Work with meeting chairs to organise meetings.
 - iii. Provide information about meetings to the CAUL National Office to post on the CAUL events listing.
 - d. Oversee the email list, including:
 - i. Send a membership update email to the email list each month advising of new list members and welcoming them to the Community of Practice.
 - ii. Monitor activity on the email list and address any issues that arise, escalating to the Sponsor when necessary.
3. Attend Community of Practice meetings.
4. Act as a spokesperson on behalf of the Community of Practice to the Sponsor.
5. Submit a short report to the Board on Community of Practice activities once a year
6. Ensure the Community of Practice undertakes an evaluation activity annually.

Community of Practice Projects

From time to time, the Community of Practice may undertake a defined project or body of work. In this case, the Co-Convenors:

1. Work with the Community of Practice to develop a project brief using the CAUL template
2. Discuss the draft project brief with the Sponsor or the Sponsor's delegate in the CAUL Office.
3. Finalise the draft project brief and submit to the Board.
4. Communicate outcomes from Board review of the project brief with the broader Community of Practice.
5. Work with the Project Lead to implement the project.

Practitioners

General Operation of the Community of Practice

1. Participate actively in the learning community.
2. Inform the Community of Practice on matters relevant to the business of the community.

Community of Practice Projects

From time to time, the Community of Practice may undertake a defined project or body of work. In this case, nominated Community of Practice Members:

1. Actively contributing expertise and experience to achieve the project objectives.
2. Undertakes allocated work to agreed timelines.
3. Is an active participant in the Program/Project planning and evaluation activities
4. Attends all Project meetings (where practicable, providing a written update on work to the Project Lead when unable to attend).
5. Attends Program Update meetings (where practicable, watching a recording of the meeting when unable to attend).

Membership

- Membership is open to all staff of CAUL Member institutions with an interest in the implementation and management of open access agreements in institutions.
- Members join the Community of Practice by joining the email list.

Meetings

- Community of Practice meetings will be held bi-monthly.
- The purpose of the meetings is to provide opportunities for professional learning and discussion.
- Meeting chairing duties may be undertaken by the Co-Convenors or rotated among the membership.
- Meetings are planned, organised and facilitated by the Community of Practice.
- Meetings will be listed on the Events page on the CAUL website.

Reporting

The Co-Convenors are responsible for reporting on the activities of the Community of Practice through the following mechanisms:

- Provide a written report to the Sponsor (via email to the CAUL National Office) for inclusion in the relevant Program Update to the Board in January each year.
- Provide informal reports to the Sponsor on an as-needs basis, as issues arise.

Engagement Principles

General

The following engagement principles apply to all CAUL Communities of Practice.

The Community of Practice provides an inclusive, welcoming and safe space for members to engage in critical discussion, information sharing, professional learning, and problem solving. Members agree to enact the following norms as they engage in the Community of Practice:

- Members participate in the Community of Practice in their capacity as staff of CAUL Member institutions.
- Members must use an email address for a CAUL Member institution to subscribe to the email list.
- Members engage respectfully using appropriate language.
- Members are free to share openly, debate ideas, and challenge perspectives, however, critique is focused on ideas, not individuals, and personal attacks are not acceptable.
- Members engage constructively in group discussions, listening and responding with an open mind. Members recognise the value of diverse voices in community discussion and encourage each other to participate.
- Members speak from their own experience and represent their own perspectives. They do not presume to speak for the group.
- Members agree to a transparent membership:
 - Members agree to include a signature on all emails sent to the list that includes their name and institutional affiliation.
 - Members agree to their email address being published on a list of subscribers visible to list members via the email list system.
- Members do not post commercial messages on the email list. Rather, they contact individuals directly with product and service information if they believe it would help them.
- Members only forward correspondence from third parties to the email list with the express permission of the author and always note that permission has been sought and provided.

Additional Principles

The Community of Practice members agree to enact the following norms:

- Members agree to maintain confidentiality of discussions in meetings, unless permission is explicitly given to share more broadly than the members in attendance.
- Members do not forward or share information posted on the email list unless explicit consent has been given by the sender to do so.
- Members use caution when discussing products or services, in recognition that emails are easily forwarded or reproduced and are subject to defamation laws.
- Members are mindful of the risks of using alarmist or disparaging language when discussing third parties on the email list.
- Members consider the commercial-in-confidence nature of agreements when discussing agreements in Community of Practice spaces.

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