

Member Benefits

Open Access Australasia (previously AOASG) is the major regional Australasian organisation that advocates for innovative change in scholarly communication, specifically to make Australasian research Open and FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable). The group works with relevant regional and global initiatives. The group is supported by twenty Australian universities, eight New Zealand universities (via CONZUL) and five affiliate organisations, Creative Commons Australia, Tohatoha, New Zealand, ALIA, ADA and Wikimedia Australia.

The [Open Access Australasia Executive Committee](#), chaired by Martin Borchert, University Librarian UNSW, provides broad representation from across the sector. Dr Ginny Barbour, Director, Open Access Australasia is an experienced open access advocate.

In order to inform regional debate, Open Access Australasia provides comprehensive free resources:

- an informative [website](#) on Open Access with a particular focus on Australasia
- downloadable infographics and other [resources](#) on specific topics
- regular [events](#) throughout the year
- co-ordination of an open access community of practice
- a regular [newsletter](#)
- commentary on [social media](#)

Specific Open Access Australasia Member benefits:

- The opportunity to influence national and international open access advocacy discussions and debates through input into submissions and consultations that Open Access Australasia provides to government, funders and other high-level stakeholders
- Access to specific advice on capacity building through in-person workshops at member institutions or through individual discussions
- Regular member-only updates on open access and related issues
- A member-only listserv for discussion of open access and related issues
- Participation in discussions on the development of resources

Full Institutional Members (single and multiple) are entitled to:

- Specific advice on the implementation of open access within their institution
- Free attendance for staff at Open Access Australasia in-person strategy and other meetings
- A yearly institutional workshop/meeting (or, for a group of institutions, at one of the group)
- Participate in General Meetings
- Nominate issues for consideration at any General or Executive Committee Meetings
- Nominate individuals for a position on the Executive Committee
- Vote on membership to the Executive Committee

Affiliate Organisational Members are entitled to:

- Free attendance at Open Access Australasia in-person strategy and other meetings
- Participate in General Meetings
- Nominate issues for consideration at any General or Executive Committee Meetings

Membership

Membership fees are tiered based on the size of the institution (EFTSU numbers). For more information on joining, please contact Dr Virginia Barbour, Director, Open Access Australasia. director@oaustralasia.org

Open Access Australasia: activities in 2020-2021

Definitive online resources for open access in Australasia

- We undertook a change of name and extensive website redesign with addition of functionality
- Updated resources including comprehensive set of directories of regional OA initiatives, extensive FAQs, articles and news

Key collaborator from Australasia in international open access advocacy

Leadership positions include:

- Martin Borchert is Chair of [Global Sustainability Coalition for Open Science Services \(SCOSS\)](#)
- Ginny Barbour is on the Steering Committee of [Invest in Open Infrastructure](#)
- Ginny Barbour provided expert advice to the [UNESCO Consultation on Open Science](#) and participated in the [2nd UN Open Science Conference](#)
- Ginny Barbour is Vice-Chair of the [DORA Steering Committee](#)
- Ginny Barbour is a [cOAlition S ambassador](#)
- Martin Borchert and Ginny Barbour are part of [Curtin Open Knowledge Initiative](#) community

Leader in regional open access advocacy

- In collaboration with CAUL, in 2020 we co-convened a high-level working group to discuss how Australia might develop a national approach to open research
- Supported work on open access by Australia's newly appointed Chief Scientist, Dr Cathy Foley
- Provided advice to CONZUL
- Submission to Australian National Research Infrastructure Roadmap

Public writing on open access

[Open science: after the COVID-19 pandemic there can be no return to closed working](#)

Australian Academy of Science, April 2020

[Science publishing has opened up during the coronavirus pandemic. It won't be easy to keep it that way](#)

The Conversation, July 2020

[A renewed impetus for open research in Australia](#)

International Associations of Universities (IAU) Horizons, May 2021

Demonstrating open access COVID-19 initiatives

In 2020, our website curated resources relating to the role of open access in the COVID-19 pandemic

Highlighting the diversity of open access through a [webinar program](#)

2021 topics included open access and the UN Sustainable development goals, Confederation of Open Access Repositories vision for the role of repositories in Open Science and the role of 'open' in image credibility.

In 2020 and 2021, we ran a highly successful Open Access weeks

The group coordinated a week-long series of [ten events in October 2020](#) and [eight in October 2021](#), with speakers from across Australia, New Zealand and internationally. In 2021 we had more than 1700 registrants and more than 1000 attendees.

Training and support for open access practitioners

We facilitate an Australian [open access community of practice](#) and collaborate with other [regional communities of practice](#).

In 2022 we will be rolling out a series of member-only online training courses.