Deakin University Library as e-publisher



The challenge for academic libraries

To meet the needs of a highly dynamic research environment, libraries need to provide responsive and innovative support.

How can library publishing services contribute to institutional priorities and research agendas?

How do we prepare for constantly evolving technologies?

Which skills and partnerships will support growth and address future needs?

Our strategies

To rise to this challenge, we've investigated and planned e-publishing support and services. Our process has involved:



roundtables to clarify the library strategic direction – and how it aligns with university research goals and priorities



developing a framework of services matched to the research lifecycle



monitoring, analysing and reporting on global trends in scholarly communication, e-publishing and research evaluation



surveying stakeholders about their current and future e-publishing needs

Results confirmed that researchers see a future in e-publishing and anticipate they would use library services. An internal university review also endorsed our proactive development of research and open access publishing partnerships.

The strategic direction was clear with e-publishing support and services deemed viable initiatives to pursue.

Our successful initiatives

- established an open access journal hosting and management solution using Open Journal System (OJS)
- developed partnerships to publish peer-reviewed journals
- fostered library research and publishing through creation of our series discourse: Deakin University Library research and practice
- delivered value-add services for authors including publication and article analytics, publication workflow set-up, and leveraging social media networks to promote research
- implemented new tools and technologies to curate, preserve and showcase Deakin's research output



Where to next?

Provide a range of open access scholarly e-publishing services and technologies that meet best practice standards.

Incorporate value propositions and success criteria to address quality, reach, impact and alignment with the University's strategic goals.

Support library staff collaboration and build expertise on: new models of scholarly communication, open access and publication payments, research evaluation, digital curation and data management. Establish roles, responsibilities, workflows and processes.

Foster strategic partnerships to build capabilities and assist authors to control how their scholarship is created and shared.

Promote our publishing services model and ensure sustainability and capacity for growth.

Investigate new technologies and platforms to support future research and evolving author needs.