Open Scholarship Policy

1. COMPLIANCE OBLIGATION SUPPORTED

[Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#)

2. PURPOSE

To maximise the open dissemination of Curtin's scholarly outputs including research and educational outputs.

Open access to research outputs:

(a) increases the visibility, reach and impact of University research;

(b) raises the profile of University researchers;

(c) advances opportunities for collaboration and knowledge exchange;

(d) enables the widest possible engagement with the University's scholarship, to increase contributions to the knowledge economy and address global challenges; and

(e) enables researchers to comply with open access mandates from research funders.

Open access to educational outputs:

(a) increases equitable access to educational materials, enabling the transformative effect of education to reach more people;

(b) facilitates the adaptation of course materials to ensure that teaching is relevant and inclusive;

(c) offers cost efficiencies for students; and

(d) provides opportunities for staff engagement with the global educational community.

3. POLICY STATEMENT

The University recognises that open access to scholarship serves the public good and the University's interest by maximising the impact of its research and educational outputs. Open knowledge contributes to the aims of the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)](#) to which the University is committed. The University supports the [Policy Statement on F.A.I.R. access to Australia's Research Outputs](#), the [CARE principles for Indigenous Data Governance](#), the [Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) Statement on Open Scholarship](#) and the [UNESCO Open Educational Resources (OER) Recommendation](#).

3.1. Scholarly Articles

3.1.1. Consistent with the *Intellectual Property Policy*, researchers own copyright in their scholarly works including scholarly articles. Researchers have the right to publish their scholarly articles in the destination of their choice.

3.1.2. For the purposes of making their articles widely and freely available through the University's institutional repository, and consistent with the *Intellectual Property Policy*, each researcher grants to the University a perpetual, royalty-free, nonexclusive, irrevocable and worldwide licence to exercise any and all rights relating to each of their scholarly articles, in any medium, and to authorise others to do the same.

3.1.3. Subject to the licence in paragraph 3.1.2, the author retains the copyright in their scholarly articles.

3.1.4. The Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research or Deputy Vice-Chancellor's delegate may waive the application of the licence for a particular scholarly article, or embargo access for a specified period of time, upon written request by a researcher.

3.1.5. To facilitate the dissemination and preservation of scholarly articles, each researcher will provide to the Library either:

an electronic copy of the author's accepted manuscript (AAM) version of the article at the time the article is accepted for publication

or:

a link to the openly available version of record (VOR) of the article when it is published.

This includes scholarly articles where Curtin researchers are not the lead author.

3.1.6. Where a waiver has been approved or an embargo period has been agreed, the AAM of the scholarly article, or link to the published VOR, must still be provided to the University Library. Where the AAM has been provided, the University Library will ensure that it is archived in the University's Institutional Repository without open access for the period of the embargo, or permanently in cases of waiver.

3.1.7. Where no waiver has been approved or embargo period agreed, the University Library will make the scholarly article available to the public in the Institutional Repository.

3.2. Other Research Outputs

3.2.1. The University is committed to developing policy and support mechanisms to maximise access and impact for all forms of research output.

3.2.2. Higher Degree by Research students are required to submit a digital copy of their thesis for inclusion in the University's Institutional Repository. See the *Guidelines for Deposit of Final Thesis* for details.

3.2.3. Authors are strongly encouraged to deposit any element of their academic endeavour, such as books, book chapters, reports, software, creative works and data, in a suitable repository, for the purposes of open access and preservation.

3.2.4. Researchers must comply with the *Research Data and Primary Materials Policy* which sets out the requirements for researchers to ensure that their research data and primary materials are managed according to legal, statutory, University policy, ethical, funding body and publisher requirements.

3.2.5. Researchers are encouraged to share research data in a manner consistent with the FAIR and CARE principles. This will include sharing research data which can be made openly available using the Institutional Repository.

3.3. Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property

3.3.1. The University acknowledges that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities are the custodians of their cultural and intellectual property (ICIP). Refer to the University's *Intellectual Property Policy and Procedures* for guidance on dealing appropriately with ICIP, including making ICIP open.

3.4. Educational Resources

3.4.1. Staff and students are encouraged to create and publish open educational resources (OERs) to enhance the quality of the Curtin student experience and contribute to the global pool of open knowledge.

3.4.2. It is the responsibility of staff and students to ensure that they have the necessary rights to publish an OER (including in accordance with the University's *Intellectual Property Policy*) and that the resources published comply with all relevant legislation.

3.4.3. Staff and students are advised to publish OERs using an appropriate Creative Commons licence, such as CC BY. OERs should be published in an appropriate repository to maximise their discovery and use by others. Where OERs have been created as part of an externally-funded activity, any licensing regulations and repository locations mandated as a condition of the funding should be adhered to.

3.4.4. Staff and students are also encouraged to reuse and repurpose existing OERs, created within and beyond the University, provided they are relevant, fit-for-purpose and used in accordance with the terms of the licence.

3.4.5. All OERs used and created must be reasonably accessible for all users in accordance with the University's *Disability Inclusion Policy* and the *Course Quality Assurance Manual.*

3.4.6. Where students are creating OERs as part of their programme of study or within a staff-directed project, OERs should be checked by a member of staff before publication to ensure that relevant Curtin policies and procedures have been followed.

3.4.7. The University reserves the right to restrict access to, remove or edit any resources it hosts and to request removal of resources from external repositories or sites.

4. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all staff, adjuncts, associates and students in any location or campus, whether in or outside Australia.

5. DEFINITIONS

(Note: Commonly defined terms are located in the *Curtin Common Definitions*. Any defined terms below are specific to this document)

Author's Accepted Manuscript (AAM)
The version of the manuscript which has been accepted for publication and which typically incorporates corrections and changes following peer-review. It does not usually include the publisher's typesetting or formatting. It is also known as a 'post-print', or the 'final version'. It is not the 'pre-print' version.

Creative Commons
Internationally recognised licensing scheme which permits the sharing, reuse, repurpose and remix of copyright material whilst also ensuring that creators retain specified rights.

Curtin Research Data Collection
A collection of data originating from research conducted at Curtin University. The Collection is stored on centralised Curtin storage under the joint custodianship of Digital & Technology Solutions (DTS) and the Library. The Metadata of the data in the collection is discoverable on the Research Data Australia platform.

Teaching materials
Materials whether in electronic, written or any other form produced by University employees or students or commissioned by the University for use in, or in conjunction with, without limitation, a course, subject or unit offered or to be offered by or on behalf of the University or by an affiliated open learning or distance education agency. It includes without limitation lecture notes and material, syllabi, handouts, study guides, course software and assessment materials regardless of format (for example, printed, digital, electronic, multi-media presentations and web content). It excludes personal lecture notes by employees that are not made available to students or personal notes taken by students to assist in study. If any work may be considered both teaching materials and scholarly or artistic works, for the purpose of this policy it will be treated as teaching materials.

Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP)
The interests of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander people in their culture, heritage and knowledge and includes the intangible and tangible aspects of their cultural practices, cultural expressions, resources and knowledge systems that have been and continue to be developed, nurtured and refined as part of expressing their cultural identity and includes any applicable

cultural rights in favour of Australian Indigenous people that may be given effect under Australian law.

FAIR and CARE principles
The FAIR principles state that research outputs should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable. The CARE principles (Collective benefit; Authority to control; Responsibility; Ethics) ensure Indigenous data is governed with respect and benefit to Indigenous peoples.

Institutional Repository
The University's open access digital repository where the University's Research Outputs and accompanying metadata are stored, managed and preserved.

Open Access
The world-wide online availability of knowledge and materials including Research Outputs and research data, free of charge and access restrictions.

Open Educational Resources (OERs)
Educational materials which have been released under the terms of an open licence, such as Creative Commons, which allows them to be retained, reused, revised, remixed and distributed for educational purposes.

Open Scholarship
This refers to the sharing of methods, data and code as well as publications through open access.

Research data
Facts, observations or experiences on which an argument, theory or test is based. Research data may be:
- Numerical, descriptive or visual.
- Durable records derived from primary materials such as assays, test results, transcripts, and laboratory and field notes.
- Raw or analysed, experimental or observational.
- Other documents or media containing information associated with the research process.

Scholarly articles
Articles that describe research findings and that authors give to the world for the sake of inquiry and knowledge without expectation of payment. Such articles are typically presented in peer-reviewed scholarly journals and conference proceedings. Scholarly articles are a subset of scholarly works.

Scholarly works
Any article, book, textbook, manual, manuscript, or other material prepared or created by an employee in their course of duties for educational or scholarly purposes, but does not include teaching materials.

Version of Record (VOR)
The final published version of a manuscript including the publisher's copyediting, typesetting and formatting.

6. SUPPORTING PROCEDURES

nil

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS/LINKS

Internal
- *Authorship, Peer Review and Publication of Research Outputs Policy*
- *Authorship, Peer Review and Publication of Research Outputs Procedures*
- *Research Data and Primary Materials Policy*
- *Intellectual Property Policy*
- *Intellectual Property Procedures*
- *Research Management Policy*
- *Disability Inclusion Policy*
- Guidelines for Deposit of Final Thesis
- *Course Quality Assurance Manual*

External

- [Australian Research Council Open Access Policy](#)
- [National Health and Medical Research Council Open Access Policy](#)
- [Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research](#)
- [Policy Statement on F.A.I.R. Access to Australia's Research Outputs](#)
- [CARE Principles for Indigenous Data Governance](#)
- [CAUL Statement on Open Scholarship](#)
- [UNESCO OER Recommendation](#)
- [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [Creative Commons](#)
- Higher Education Standards Framework (HESF) 2021: 2.1.3, 2.2.1, 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 3.3.4, 4.1.1(b)(d), 5.2.1 and 6.2.1(g).

Policy Compliance Officer	[Janice Chan](#), Deputy Director, Research and Systems, University Library
Policy Manager	Deputy Vice Chancellor Research
Approval Authority	Academic Board
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REVISION HISTORY (*filled out by Risk, Compliance and Audit*)

Version	Approved/ Amended/ Rescinded	Date	Committee / Board / Executive Manager	Approval / Resolution Number	Key Changes & Notes
New	Approved	27.09.2024	Academic Board	93/24	