

Curtin University Library

What can researchers do to promote Open Access?

Open Access (OA) broadens access to knowledge, enables creativity and innovation, and increases the visibility and impact of your work.

OA means removing legal, technical and accessibility barriers in order to make content freely available for people to access, share, and re-use. Researchers who retain their copyright have maximum flexibility in determining what they do with their works.

Here are individual actions you can take to realise the benefits of Open Access:

Submit your research to OA outlets

Where appropriate, submit your research articles to OA journals and other OA publishing outlets to maximise your impact.

- Find the best quality OA journals in your field using search tools like [Scimago](#).
- Check the Library's list of [read and publish agreements](#) to find suitable journals.
- Learn more about [finding quality OA journals](#).

Deposit to institutional and other online open repositories

Increase the discoverability and impact of your research by depositing to institutional and other online open repositories. Deposit the accepted version of your paper into [Curtin space](#) via Elements. However, don't stop at journal articles – make reports, creative works and conference papers open too.

Publish your data openly

Publish your data openly in the [Curtin Research Data collection](#) or other online open data repositories to maximise the discoverability and impact of your research. Whenever possible, link to data files from your articles and vice versa, so that readers of one know where to find the other.

Lend your expertise

When asked to referee a paper or serve on the editorial board for an OA journal, accept the invitation. If you aren't sure about the publisher, ask your Faculty Librarian or follow the advice in our [predatory publishing guide](#).

Start a discussion on open research

Start a discussion on open research with your team – do you have a [Research Data Management Plan](#)? Do you plan to share your data? Are you publishing your findings in OA outlets?

Donate your OA vouchers

If you have OA vouchers or credits from journals where you have published or acted as a reviewer, ask around and see who else has them. Band together and donate your OA vouchers to an ECR or HDR student so they can get their work made OA. Share the love!

Share your OA experiences

[Share your OA success stories, tips and tricks](#) with the Library so we can share them with other researchers. Help us build a database of great quotes, stories and advice that can inspire others to join in the global movement towards Open Access.