



## Group of Eight

### Statement on open access to scholarly information

The Group of Eight vice-chancellors, representing Australia's pre-eminent research universities, record their commitment to open access initiatives that will enhance global access to scholarly information for the public good.

The vice-chancellors note that:

- information, if it is to achieve maximum benefit for society, must be readily available to a global audience
- the rapid development of digital communication technologies provides expanded opportunities for the widespread dissemination of scholarly information
- new business models are required to ensure that scholarly publishing is cost effective
- any development in digital publishing must incorporate the current framework of scholarly publishing standards relating to the quality of inquiry and reporting
- digital publishing initiatives must appropriately recognise and protect the intellectual property of the authors and require accepted standards of attribution
- the Group of Eight universities are providing leadership in the development of digital publishing initiatives in Australia.

The vice-chancellors support:

- ongoing development of open access initiatives in Group of Eight universities
- digital publishing practices that underpin the timely, cost-effective dissemination of the highest quality scholarly information with a commitment to good practice
- further examination of criteria for promotion in new publishing models.

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