

## OEP DIGEST AUSTRALASIAN EDITION - *2019 May Edition – In Focus: Open Texts*

### RECAP

During our April meeting, Johanna Funk and Alison Lockley provided an overview of the GOGN seminar, OER19, and OEGlobal. You can find their presentations [here](#).

### NEWS

The new Creative Commons search is live, and has made significant changes to functionality that make finding openly licenced resources easier. The user experience is smooth, and licences are visible as soon as you 'mouse over' the resource.

<https://creativecommons.org/2019/04/30/cc-search-images/>

### IN FOCUS: TEXTBOOKS

Join us on May 28th from 3.00-4.00pm (AEST) for '[Open Textbook Publishing in Australia](#)'. Three practitioners from Australian institutions will share their journey, and cover the following topics before question time:

1. *Why is your institution producing/using open texts?*
2. *Are open textbooks making any difference?*
3. *What's the most important reflection from your experience?*

If you can't make the session, don't worry, it will be recorded and made available in the next week.

'Office Hours: Invisible Labour of OER': [Video](#), and [transcript](#) are now available. An extremely important topic to consider when mainstreaming, or scaling open education.

### OPEN TEXTBOOKS IN THE NEWS

- Planned Merger of Cengage and McGraw-Hill Could Remake College-Textbook Market: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/Planned-Merger-of-Cengage-and/246224>
- ASU Agrees to Independent Investigation of Its Online Textbook Practices: <https://www.edsurge.com/news/2019-05-01-asu-agrees-to-independent-investigation-of-its-online-textbook-practices>
- Letter to the Editor: 'Open Education Resources' key to reshaping textbook market: [http://www.lsureveille.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-open-education-resources-key-to-reshaping/article\\_8bb1dfe4-626f-11e9-bf90-37d611e570c1.html](http://www.lsureveille.com/opinion/letter-to-the-editor-open-education-resources-key-to-reshaping/article_8bb1dfe4-626f-11e9-bf90-37d611e570c1.html)

- U Texas System Task Force Charged with Making College More Affordable: <https://campustechnology.com/articles/2019/04/30/u-texas-system-task-force-charged-with-making-college-more-affordable.aspx>

## UPCOMING AUSTRALASIAN EVENTS

AOASG Webinar: 'Impacts, consequences and outcomes of open polices in Europe'  
Thursday 30 May - 9am WA - 11am AEST - 1pm NZ

**Abstract:** The past few years have been extremely active ones for all things 'open' in Europe. The UK OA mandates have changed the publishing landscape, resulting in several subscription experiments with varied success. Over the past couple of years the number of European countries which have held out on their Big Deal negotiations continues to rise, and there are many examples where negotiations have completely broken down. The impact of this on libraries and researchers is still being assessed. And of course Plan S looms large, prompting huge debate and discussion across the sector. No-one is completely happy with Plan S but some players are more agitated than others. One of the outcomes has been a strong increase of interest in and signatories to DORA, and research culture itself is under scrutiny. The 'post-truth' political reality further emphasises the need for science to be above criticism, something being addressed by the UK Research Integrity Enquiry and the US Committee on Reproducibility and Replicability in Science.

Join guest presenter, Scholarly Communication Consultant and former AOASG Executive Officer, [Danny Kingsley](#) for Webinar #3. Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/impacts-consequences-and-outcomes-of-open-polices-in-europe-tickets-61476943192>

## AUSTRALASIAN CONFERENCE CALLS

- ASCILITE Conference calls for papers: <http://2019conference.ascilite.org>
- Australian Association for Research in Education (AARE): <https://www.aareconference.com.au>

## FURTHER READING (AND CONGRATULATIONS)

UNESCO has published two reports '[Understanding the impact of OER: achievements and challenges](#)', and '[Understanding the global OER landscape](#)'. The reports include case studies for numerous countries including Australia - where the work of organisations such as Creative Commons, the AOASG, and many Australian universities is recognised. This is a good starting point for anyone wanting a quick reference for open education in Australia. Congratulations to our own Carina

Bossu; mentioned explicitly for her work in establishing OEP research. Also worth celebrating is that the Australasian OEP SIG is mentioned.

#### **LOOKING AHEAD: HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Do you have an open education initiative you'd like to share? An upcoming event to publicise, or new research publication?

Email [adrian.stagg@usq.edu.au](mailto:adrian.stagg@usq.edu.au) with your links.

Until next month,

Adrian, Carina, and Michael (co-conveners, ASCILITE OEP SIG)

[www.oepoz.wordpress.com](http://www.oepoz.wordpress.com)