Short shrift for the long tail?:
policies, programs and print conservation in Australia

Paul Genoni
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Australian experience

Discussed and negotiated by CAUL 1998-2004

- CAVAL *The Case for a National Information Research Centre* 1999
- National Cooperative Store Workshop 1999
Australian experience

Research Resources Australia (2000-2004)

“to create a national cooperative network that facilitates access and delivery of research materials from repositories across Australia”

RAA consisted of an executive of four drawn from the existing Victorian and South Australian repositories/stores
Australian experience


April 2004, CAUL drops the RRA proposal, noting lack of sufficient support from within CAUL.
Australian experience

Non-CAUL ‘players’
- Australian Library Collections Taskforce
- Information Infrastructure Advisory Committee/ Australian Research Information Infrastructure Committee
- Scholarly Communications Roundtable
UK experience


S O’Connor, A Wells & M Collier
UK experience

CURL: Consortium of Research Libraries in the British Isles

- 20+ leading university libraries
- National libraries of England, Scotland and Wales
- Other research libraries with collections of national importance
UK experience

CURL Report

Chems Consulting

UK experience


Membership drawn from:

- CEOs/VC of leading research universities
- National Librarians, Britain and Wales
- CEOs, national research organisations
- Higher education funding bodies
UK experience

Research Support Libraries Group

“Existing providers of research information work in loosely coordinated networks which lack the unified and focussed strategic leadership required to pull together a national framework of interdependent functions and to generate comprehensive and sustainable solutions to the information needs of researchers.”
UK experience

RIN: Research Information Network (2005+)

Consortium of ‘sponsors’
- Four higher education funding bodies
- Eight research councils
- Three National Libraries
UK experience

RIN mission

To lead and co-ordinate new developments in the collaborative provision of research information for the benefit of researchers in the UK.
UK experience

RIN aim (one of six):

To lead the development of a programme to sustain and enhance management and development of the aggregate UK collection of published hard copy resources.
Australia: the way forward?

A new representative body for Australian research libraries, consisting of:

- A subset of CAUL libraries
- National and state libraries
- Other libraries with significant research collections
Australia: the way forward?

A second body, with representation from:

- The first body
- Other bodies representing research libraries, eg CAUL; NSLA; Government Libraries Information Network; CSIRO
- ARC; AVCC
- Learned academies
- Collections Council of Australia
- Existing repositories
Australia: the policy challenges

1. The question of structure

2. The question of ‘ownership’
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