

ANZREG Virtual Conference 2025 Program



Developers Day/Best Practice Day: Tuesday 10th June 2025

* For your local timezone please click the session time

AEST*	Session
12:00	Welcome & Housekeeping Karakia & Acknowledgement of Country
12:10	<i>Hugh Rundle (La Trobe University)</i> A three-step recipe to get OER book covers into Alma Alma
12:25	<i>Andrew Press & Roshan Thapa (Charles Sturt University)</i> Enhancing Alma Finance integration with GenAI Alma
12:40	<i>Break</i>
12:50	<i>Jessie Donaghey (IGeLU Leganto Working Group Coordinator/Bond University), Stacey van Groll (IGeLU Primo Working Group Coordinator/University of Queensland), & Dave Allen (IGeLU Steering Committee Chair/State Library of Queensland)</i> Community-driven product enhancements: CERV updates
13:35	<i>Break</i>
13:55	<i>Morgan Wilson (Australian National University)</i> Studying different implementations of Primo by Australian and New Zealand libraries Primo
14:40	<i>Break</i>
14:50	<i>Shmuel Ohayon, Yaniv Levi Korem, and Yisrael Kuchar (ExLibris)</i> ExLibris Update
15:50	Close and Karakia

Day One: Wednesday 11th June 2025

* For your local timezone please click the session time

AEST*	Session
12:00	Welcome & Housekeeping Karakia & Acknowledgement of Country
12:05	<i>Emilia Bell (Murdoch University Library)</i> Beyond provocation: Reimagining systems through care, critique, and community Keynote
13:05	<i>Break</i>

13:15	Deborah Fitchett (Lincoln University) Automating the reading list process; or, a case study of how to escalate your support jobs	Leganto
13:45	Sarah Lucas & Adele MacDonald (Curtin University) Automatic Copyright Workflows in Leganto and the Librarian's Guide to Dragon Slaying	Leganto
14:00	Break	
14:20	Katherine O'Brien & Patricia Farnan (The University of Notre Dame Australia) Long live all the rules we moved: fighting Fulfillment Units	Alma
14:35	Ella Rohde-Condon (Chair, ANZREG Committee) ANZREG Committee Update	
14:50	Break	
15:00	Tom Mosterd & Max Mosterd (Sylla) Towards a more open future: Reimagining Library Systems with Sylla	Sponsor Presentation
15:20	Erin Montagu (Murdoch University) Making sense of AI Search tools: A consistent way to measure performance	Primo
15:35	Close and Karakia	

Day Two: Thursday 12th June 2025

* For your local timezone please click the session time

AEST*	Session	
12:00	Welcome & Housekeeping Karakia & Acknowledgement of Country	
12:05	Adele Walsh (City of Charles Sturt) Practically Strategic: Real-World Advocacy from Self to Sector	Keynote
13:05	Break	
13:15	Kendall Bartsch (Third Iron) LibKey Updates: Second order retraction notification, LibKey Nomad++ expansion, and resource sharing integrations	Sponsor Presentation
13:35	Rodney Foley (University of Tasmania) The Good, the Bad, and the Alma: A Library's Tale of Transformation	Alma Primo
14:05	Break	

14:25	<p>Kael Driscoll (University of Western Australia)</p> <p>Are we the Baddies? Reviewing the role of High Demand collections at UWA</p>	Leganto
14:40	<p>David Lewis & Drew Fordham (Curtin University)</p> <p>Publishing your Textbooks List: Lemons and Lemonade, Bridges and Murky Waters. A journey from nothing to something, and everything in between</p>	Alma
15:10	Break	
15:20	<p>Alan Oliver (ExLibris)</p> <p>ExLibris Q and A session</p>	
15:50	Close and Karakia	

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A special thank you to Sylla for joining us and bringing fresh and new ideas for us to consider. Sylla, a new innovative platform helps libraries and educators make more informed and efficient decisions around content, acquisitions, and streamlines discovery and workflows underpinning teaching & learning. Built together with libraries, Sylla enables institutions to align resources with curriculum needs, simplify workflows, and increase transparency across teams. We appreciate Sylla's commitment to open, flexible, and forward-thinking solutions that help us serve our communities better. <https://www.sylla.io/>



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Presentation abstracts

Developers Day/Best Practice Day: Tuesday 10th June 2025

Hugh Rundle (he/him), La Trobe University

A three-step recipe to get OER book covers into Alma

Recently La Trobe University started using Primo's Collection Discovery function to make Open Educational Resources - specifically, open textbooks - more easily discoverable for our teaching staff. Whilst Collection Discovery provides an attractive browsing experience, the default design looks somewhat less appealing without any book cover images! Noticing that the overwhelming majority of OERs were not represented in our existing sources, we sought a new solution.

We now have a three-step workflow consisting of exporting and importing Excel files, and scraping each OER landing webpage to retrieve the thumbnail URL. Code is available for the community to use, on GitHub: <https://github.com/La-Trobe-University-Library/oer-covers>

Presenter Bio:

Hugh Rundle is Manager, Digital Discovery at La Trobe University. He is a fan of collaboration, good documentation, and asking why we do it that way. Hugh is a founding member of [newCardigan](#), and one of the maintainers of the [BookWyrm project](#).

Andrew Press & Roshan Thapa, Charles Sturt University

Enhancing Alma Finance integration with GenAI

Within our institution, foreign currency invoices are sent to the finance department for processing and payment. However, the actual payment amounts in Australian Dollars (AUD) are not automatically recorded in Alma. This process is facilitated through manual transcription of invoice data by staff, a process that is not only time-consuming but also prone to human error.

To address this issue, we leveraged the 'hero' power of GenAI to help us develop a Python script that automates the integration of Subscription invoice payment data into Alma. This innovative solution extracts invoice totals from Banner CSV reports, searches Alma for matching invoice numbers and then updates the corresponding invoice lines in Alma, thereby eliminating the need for manual data entry and significantly enhancing the accuracy and efficiency of our financial reporting.

By automating the transcription of foreign currency invoice data into Alma, we have not only streamlined our processes but also empowered our staff to focus on more strategic tasks. This presentation will provide an overview of the development, implementation, and impact of this solution, offering insights for other libraries seeking to enhance their financial integration processes.

Presenter Bio:

Andrew and Roshan are integral members of the Charles Sturt University Library team, bringing many years of expertise to their roles. Andrew as Manager Information Resources leads the Content Acquisitions and Repository and Metadata teams, while Roshan as Discovery Services Coordinator manages library systems and integrations. Together, they've collaborated to create an integration that takes financial information and automatically populates set fields in Alma to enhance reporting and streamline work processes.

*Jessie Donaghey, IGeLU Leganto Working Group Coordinator/Bond University;
Stacey van Groll, IGeLU Primo Working Group Coordinator/University of Queensland; &
Dave Allen, IGeLU Steering Committee Chair/State Library of Queensland*

Community-driven product enhancements: CERV updates

This session will share overview and insights into the new systems and processes for community driven product development through the IGeLU and ELUNA "Community Enhancement Request and Voting System" aka CERV. We'll share details and experiences, challenges and improvements, and will welcome your questions and feedback in a Q&A.

Presenter Bios:

Jessie Donaghey is a Digital Services Librarian at Bond University and is the coordinator of the IGeLU Leganto Product Working Group.

Stacey van Groll is Manager, Discovery and Access at The University of Queensland and is the Coordinator of the IGeLU Primo Working Group.

Dave Allen is lead, Digital Preservation at the State Library of Queensland and is the IGeLU Chair.

Morgan Wilson (he/him), Australian National University

Studying different implementations of Primo by Australian and New Zealand libraries

The Australian National University is a relatively new customer of Alma and Primo. As the ANU Library considers implementing various Primo features, we have been studying how our ANZREG peers have been using the product. The initial research was conducted in January 2024, but it has just been updated for this session.

This presentation will share some of the key learnings from this research.

Presenter Bio:

Morgan Wilson is the Web & Discovery Manager at the Australian National University Library, which migrated to Alma in 2022. Before the ANU, Morgan worked at the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, doing legal research, business research, drafting regulations and assisting with investigations and policy development.

Morgan has also worked in the library web and systems space since the early 2000s. He has broad experience in this space, working in universities, courts, corporations and firms in Australia and the USA. He has experience with SirsiDynix Symphony, Millennium and Sierra library management systems, and most recently, Alma.

Day One: Wednesday 11th June 2025

Keynote

Emilia Bell (they/them), Murdoch University Library

Beyond provocation: Reimagining systems through care, critique, and community

In libraries, we frequently champion various tools, social and digital systems, and values. In navigating complex and disruptive landscapes, however, libraries face challenges with systems that may be inaccessible, reinforce inequalities, or misalign with values. In response, we both encounter and offer provocations. These provocations seek to prompt new directions, confront existing systems, and create change. Yet, new or alternative practices are often needed to make a meaningful and tangible difference. This talk explores how an ethics of care, critical librarianship, and the centering of community can create opportunities for how we navigate and reimagine the systems we work in and with.

Presenter Bio:

Emilia Bell is Manager, Research and Digital Services at Murdoch University Library, where they lead the strategic development of library research services and library systems. They are also a PhD candidate and non-executive director working across the higher education and not-for-profit sectors. As a PhD candidate at Curtin University, Emilia explores open knowledge diplomacy. Their research intersects knowledge production, open scholarship, and libraries. Emilia also serves on the Boards of the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) and Ballet Without Borders. Additionally, they are President and Co-Founder of the Alliance for Neurodiversity and Disability in GLAMR Professions Australia (ANDPA). As a proudly disabled, neurodivergent, and queer person, Emilia's lived experience is a catalyst for community-building and meaningful change.

Deborah Fitchett (she/her), Lincoln University

Automating the reading list process; or, a case study of how to escalate your support jobs

Lecturers have limited time to spend crafting their reading lists, and at Lincoln University our small library has limited capacity to support them. So we implemented Leganto in 2020 with a view to streamlining the workflow as much as possible for everyone involved. Our guiding principle is for lecturers to have a single, simple path to access and edit their lists, and for library staff to only be involved when necessary for short loans processing and copyright compliance.

To that end, we've automated course updates, integrated with Moodle, and configured automatic citation statuses, copyright approval rules, and question-and-answer processes. Usually 90% of readings are immediately available to students with no library review required. In NewUI, Ex Libris worked with us to make the copyright approval process even easier for lecturers.

Thus we entered a golden age -- which lasted several months until new releases started breaking everything! In this presentation I'll showcase how we set up our workflow and rules; summarise some of the issues we've had and how we've worked with Ex Libris to get them fixed; and talk about what we're doing going forward to make it easier to troubleshoot any future issues.

Presenter Bio:

Deborah loves tweaking systems, particularly if she can tweak them in a way that means she'll never have to tweak them again. Previously, as head of the Digital Access team at Lincoln University, she was the technical lead implementing Alma and Primo (in 2014) and Leganto (in 2020). She has also been a member of the ANZREG committee since 2018. She is now Associate University Librarian and Copyright Officer, so sadly has less time than she used to for troubleshooting.

Sarah Lucas (she/her) & Adele MacDonald (she/her), Curtin University

Automatic Copyright Workflows in Leganto and the Librarian's Guide to Dragon Slaying

Dragon slaying is not a small undertaking. Many a foolish adventurer has perished with a single item on their to-do list: slay the dragon, having neglected any prior study or planning. To a librarian new to the realm of academic libraries, accustomed to the smaller digital environments of public and government libraries, there must come first much research and levelling up before the actual slaying of the automatic copyright approval implementation dragon may take place.

To spoil this tale for you, our dragon is not yet slain; though the quest is well underway, and with lessons learned already that will carry through to future quests. In this lightning talk, we'll share the trials and tribulations of preparing to implement a workflow and system change in a system that was set up some time ago, and not by any of those involved in changing it. We'll discuss how to plan, prepare, and equip for implementing change in a system that necessarily impacts other users. Finally, we'll share our key takeaways and the road ahead to victory.

Presenter Bios:

Adele MacDonald and Sarah Lucas are both in the Learning Success team at Curtin University Library. Adele has extensive experience in academic librarianship and is a Coordinator in Learning Success. Sarah, a Librarian with the Learning Success team, is new to academic libraries and comes from a background in both public and government libraries, specialising in digital services and legal research. Both Sarah and Adele are very new to working with Leganto and will be sharing insights on implementing automatic copyright workflows for improved efficiency in the reading lists space.

Katherine O'Brien (she/her) & Patricia Farnan (she/her), The University of Notre Dame Australia

Long live all the rules we moved: fighting Fulfilment Units

Four years into our journey with Alma, a library renovation involving a closed compactus prompted us to review our request and loan fulfilment unit rules, terms of use, and display logic rules.

With campuses on opposite sides of Australia, a partner institution in our Alma system, and varying entitlements for different users, we had spent the last four years applying bandaid fixes, which resulted in an overly complicated configuration that needed to be updated constantly. Our fulfilment unit rules were the antihero, and we had a degree of fear whenever we had to work with them!

We valiantly decided the Fremantle library renovation was an opportunity to face our fears and head out on a quest to fight the dragons (i.e. streamline and simplify our fulfilment configuration nationally!). Little did we know there would be other challenges along the way that would try and throw us off our path.

Join us as we discuss our approach to reviewing our configuration and documenting our fulfilment "infrastructure" to improve services for our users across Australia and make it easier for our staff to meet the dragon as friend, not foe.

Presenter Bios:

Katherine O'Brien has worked at the University of Notre Dame Australia since 2020, taking up the Application Administrator role full-time in 2023. She started her library career as a student library officer in 2016 while studying medieval history. Katherine is responsible for administering OpenAthens and Springshare, and supports Patricia in administering Ex Libris products. She also manages functional area documentation across the library systems. She's been on the IGeLU Leganto Working Group since 2024 and is an active NTEU delegate and Health & Safety representative. Outside of work, she enjoys genealogy, hiking, and riding her e-bike.

Patricia Farnan has worked at the University of Notre Dame Australia since early 2007, first as a library technician checking in print serials before moving into acquisitions. In late 2008 she took up her current role as Application Administrator for Discovery. She is responsible for administering Alma, Primo VE, Leganto, Rapido and Rialto. She's been on the ANZREG Committee as Finance Officer since 2022. Outside of work, she helps to run a cat rescue, enjoys watching Aussie Rules footy, occasionally goes travelling, and spends time searching for new music to love.

Sponsor Presentation

Tom Mosterd (Co-founder of Sylla and Director of Higher Education) & Max Mosterd (Co-founder of Sylla and Director of Content & Partnerships) Sylla

Towards a more open future: Reimagining Library Systems with Sylla

During a time where new 'foundational technologies' such as AI are rapidly introduced around the globe, major legacy systems and providers are shifting gears. At this critical juncture, we ask ourselves, what can we do differently? And how can we make sure these technologies work for, rather than against, libraries?

In this session, you'll be introduced to Sylla, a new solution launched in the Fall of 2024 and co-developed with Coventry University and the University of Utrecht in Europe. Today, Sylla partners

with 20 institutions in Australia, New Zealand, the UK, and the US. These include Deakin University, University of Leeds, University of Delaware and with fast growing interest from the wider sector including CAUL. Sylla uses the latest technologies and tools to help libraries match open (OA/OER) & affordable (licensed, perpetual access) resources to their syllabi and paid-for resources today. Enabling libraries to (1) make the most of what is freely available to them, or offered at a fair price, and (2) have the tools to move away from prohibitively expensive and inaccessible resources that do not align with library, faculty and student needs.

During this session, we'll demonstrate the Sylla Discover platform and how it brings libraries & academics together around scaling local OER use today. Next to this, we'll share more about the 'Adopt to Open' model, a new acquisitions and content model for libraries to be launched this Fall which emphasizes a pathway to open access, perpetual access and license-options that better aligns with library needs.

Presenter Bios:

Tom Mosterd is one of the co-founders of Sylla and Director of Higher Education. Tom has worked for nearly a decade on supporting Higher Education with an emphasis on scholarly publishing and the transition to Open Access. During these years at organisations such as Knowledge Unlatched and the OAPEN Foundation, he contributed to advancing open access for scholarly books and journals. At Sylla, Tom works closely with its libraries and partners in HigherEd on advancing open and affordable learning.

Max Mosterd is one of the co-founders of Sylla and Director of Content & Partnerships. Max has worked for well over a decade on supporting Higher Education with an emphasis on scholarly publishing, innovation and the transition to Open Access. During these years Max has launched and led his own innovative startup, and played a leading role in the evolution of Knowledge Unlatched, contributing to advancing open access for scholarly books and journals. At Sylla, Max works closely with 'pro-open' publishers and other partners on rethinking how they can support the evolving needs of libraries, educators and students in HigherEd while advancing open and affordable learning

Erin Montagu (she/her), Murdoch University

Making sense of AI Search tools: A consistent way to measure performance

With AI-powered search tools rapidly becoming embedded in library systems and databases, we face a growing challenge: how do we reliably evaluate these tools to make informed, evidence-based decisions? When deciding whether to activate a feature like Primo Research Assistant, we needed a clear, consistent, and efficient method of assessment for both library staff and the university community.

In response, we developed a practical evaluation rubric, adapted from an open educational resource, and transformed it into a streamlined Microsoft Form. This tool allows library staff to assess AI search tools against key criteria quickly and confidently.

In this session, we'll share our rubric, walk through the evaluation process, and discuss how it is shaping our decisions around Primo Research Assistant and other AI tools.

Presenter Bio:

Erin Montagu is the Digital Experience Coordinator at Murdoch University Library, where she leads a team focused on the management and configuration of key library systems, including Alma and Primo VE. Her team also oversees the library's communications, spanning the website, social media, signage, and digital literacy assets. With a diverse background in graphic design, digital technologies, subscriptions, and project management, Erin brings a multidisciplinary approach to her work. She has a strong interest in evidence-based decision making and is passionate about enhancing accessibility and inclusion in the digital library environment.

Day Two: Thursday 12th June 2025

Keynote

Adele Walsh (she/her), City of Charles Sturt

Practically Strategic: Real-World Advocacy from Self to Sector

Advocacy isn't something you do after the work — it's how the work gets noticed, supported, and sustained. But many of us stumble at the first hurdle: talking about what we do in ways that are clear, meaningful, and purposeful. In this high-energy, real-talk session, we'll explore the three levels of advocacy: for yourself, your team, and your organisation or sector. Through provocations, practical tools, and a few truth bombs, we'll cover everything from awkward self-promotion to invisible labour, strategic influence, emotional regulation, and why being busy isn't a brand. Expect honesty, uncomfortable questions, no corporate fluff, and a few laughs. You'll leave with sharper language, stronger clarity, and a few new ways to advocate — without starring in your own workplace cautionary tale.

Presenter Bio:

Adele Walsh joined the City of Charles Sturt (Adelaide) in November as their new Lead Coordinator of Library Strategy where she manages 70+ staff across five sites, including libraries and blended community centres. She can be found online talking about her greyhound Maggie or running the [#10MinLinkedIn challenge](#) helping library folk boost their visibility without the stress. She's focused on practical leadership, building strong teams, and making libraries great places to work and connect.

Sponsor Presentation

Kendall Bartsch (Co-founder and CEO of Third Iron)

LibKey Updates: Second order retraction notification, LibKey Nomad++ expansion, and resource sharing integrations

Kendall will be sharing the latest developments with LibKey. Second order retraction is a new feature that alerts users to articles that cite one or more retracted works, helping researchers avoid inadvertently incorporating problematic papers into their own research. The popular LibKey Nomad++ has been enhanced with new features including search redirect, precision URL matching rules, and authentication loop for SAML. LibKey enhances resource sharing with new integrations with ILLiad from OCLC and Article Galaxy Scholar from Research Solutions.

Rodney Foley (University of Tasmania)

The Good, the Bad, and the Alma: A Library's Tale of Transformation

In late 2024, the UTAS completed a project to migrate their LMS and Discovery Layer to Alma and Primo. This was more than 10 years after our last system migration, during which time our library environment has dramatically changed.

Some key factors impacting the project were

- Our staff profile had halved from that at the previous migration
- The project, and its budget, were managed by IT not by the library
- The project budget only covered the cost of the software purchase and maintenance along with an IT-based project manager. There were no funds to hire additional library staff for implementation or to backfill positions
- Like the library and the university in general, IT services had undergone staffing loss and were under increased pressure to prioritise tasks

In this presentation, I will give an overview of our implementation process and focus on how we dealt with these challenges, offering some lessons learnt that may assist other libraries performing implementations in a reduced resources environment. Key lessons that I would like to discuss are

- Embedding the Project Manager in the library to better integrate with the library implementation team, reducing miscommunications
- The change manager must have a strong understanding of the library environment to be successful
- How to deal with those situations when central IT and Ex Libris disagree
- Making the Primo interface easy to use for first-time users
- Accepting that it wouldn't be perfect at launch

Presenter Bio:

Rodney has been with the University of Tasmania since 1999, initially providing IT support to various Schools before transferring to the library, where he has held a variety of positions, including IT Support, Web Manager, and Manager of Library Systems. More recently, as Project Manager (Library Services), he served as the technical lead for the implementation of Alma and Primo.

With experience on both sides of the divide between IT support and client expectations, Rodney has successfully navigated the complexities of IT projects. His expertise enables him to anticipate potential challenges in implementation and proactively develop solutions to mitigate them.

Beyond his professional work, Rodney has a vast collection of electronic musical instruments—an enduring passion he hopes to find more time to explore

Kael Driscoll (he/him), University of Western Australia

Are we the Baddies? Reviewing the role of High Demand collections at UWA

Is it possible that by locking away High Demand textbooks into closed areas with restrictive loan conditions that WE might actually be the Baddies?

Inspired by anecdotal evidence from our frontline staff that our print High Demand collections aren't meeting the needs and expectations of students, the UWA Library is embarking on a project to examine all aspects of our High Demand collections.

We have decided to question every definition, policy and procedure that we currently have in place in an effort to recast ourselves in this story as the heroes, rather than the villains.

The UWA High Demand Review project will cover a number of interlinked actions, including :

- Surveying current practices in the community
- Conducting UX sessions with students to find out that they really want and need
- Liaising with academic staff about their expectations and experiences
- Examining the different roles of print texts vs ebooks in HD collections
- Using analytics to inform discussions around purchasing practices
- Reviewing Leganto functionality such as tagging and list rollover

This presentation aims to give a brief overview of how we are approaching this project, and hopefully spark discussion around the challenges that other libraries may be facing in this area.

David Lewis & Drew Fordham, Curtin University

Publishing your Textbooks List: Lemons and Lemonade, Bridges and Murky Waters. A journey from nothing to something, and everything in between

In this presentation we would like to share Curtin University's essential course textbook list, which is an openly available web-based application where students can discover their course textbooks, including in advance of course outlines being released. With the click of a button, students are taken to the Library Catalogue, where they can then access Library-paid preferred electronic versions of their texts.

We will discuss the motivations for the application, our solution, how we arrived at it, a high-level overview of the design, the moving parts, a brief walk through of the end-user interface, how the application is a bridge between Analytics and the real world, and how it has achieved our end-goal. In keeping with the spirit of this year's ANZREG event, we will mention the technical and "soft" difficulties encountered along the way. We will share how we overcame those difficulties and worked towards delivering a useful application with an intuitive end-user interface.