

RIGHT: Deputy Vice Chancellor, Griffith University and most downloaded author Professor Adam Shoemaker cuts the ANU Press birthday cake with help from Press Board Chair Professor Jim Fox Chair and ANU Vice Chancellor Professor Ian Young.



LIBRARIES AT THE HEART OF SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING

You've heard publishing is changing – it's been a hot topic recently. The Australian Government's response in mid-2012 to the Book Industry Strategy Group's report on the publishing industry agreed that the industry was at a 'crucial tipping point and rapid change is occurring in every part of the supply chain. Digitisation and ecommerce have provided a boon for consumers...'

Two years on, the change is vast: when we talk to university students now, they expect ebooks because that's what they've used throughout school and through their public libraries.

In universities, libraries are taking up this challenge not only by equalling the output of commercial publishers and advocating new publishing forms to publishers, but also by creating a new publishing industry. University presses have been established within libraries at the Australian National University, Monash University, Sydney University, University of Adelaide and University of Technology Sydney. All are different, but share the common theme of pulling together the whole scholarly publishing spectrum.

THE ANU PRESS READERSHIP SHOWS THAT SCHOLARLY KNOWLEDGE FILLS A WORLDWIDE THIRST.

ANU Press celebrates its tenth anniversary this year. Commencing in 2004 as Australia's first digital scholarly press, it has published more than 500 titles and attracts more than 800,000 downloads a year. What makes its contribution to the flow of knowledge significant is the fact that all publications are available in a range of electronic formats at no cost. Print copies can be purchased – and many readers still enjoy print!

The ANU Press readership shows that scholarly knowledge fills a worldwide thirst – in 2013, 31% of visitors to the ANU Press site came from Australia, 16% from the US, 6% from the UK, and 5% from China. Scholars who have published with ANU Press, such as Professor Adam Shoemaker (Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) at Monash University and author of *Black Words White Page*), speak of reaching audiences as distant as the Republic of Congo and engaging with doctorate students who would never have had access to a print copy of their works.

This year has also seen the release of the first book in the ANU eTEXT imprint, our open access textbook publishing imprint. *The Joy of Sanskrit* ties into a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) run by ANU in 2014. The combination of MOOC and open access etext means the world will benefit from our publishing.

So what does this connection between the library and the publishing activity of a university bring? There is an extraordinarily strong joint interest in sharing the results of academic thinking and research to the broad community. We are inspired by the commitment and outputs of scholars and together we can talk to the academic community in new ways.

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