Knowledge Unlatched

Governance Strategy Document

From March 2014 onwards libraries will be required to pay a modest membership fee in order to secure the right to participate in the governance of Knowledge Unlatched (KU), as well as the other benefits listed below.

1. Member Library Benefits

All KU Member Libraries will enjoy the following benefits:

i. **Participation in KU Governance**

Member Libraries will be entitled to nominate and vote for members of the Library Steering Committee and the Collections Committee.

ii. **The ability to ensure that current print and eBook purchases contribute towards making books Open Access**

Publishers have agreed to recognise additional format purchases made by each participating library as a contribution towards the cost of unlatching the Pilot Collection. If a title in the Pilot Collection is ordered in any print or electronic format before 31 March 2014, the library will not be charged for unlatching that title. Instead, the unlatching fee paid by that library will be adjusted down.

The process of recognising additional format purchases will be reviewed once the Pilot has concluded and may be refined in future rounds to support scaling for both libraries and publishers.

For example, publishers may choose to offer libraries a discount on the unlatching fee if another format of a title offered through KU is purchased, rather than a full title fee exemption, as will be the case in the Pilot. Deductions to the unlatching fee in recognition of additional format choices may also vary, depending on whether a library has purchased an additional print or eBook format.

Regardless of how the KU model is refined as it scales, recognition of the purchase of an additional format of a title offered to libraries via KU as a contribution towards unlatching will continue to be a benefit that remains exclusive to Member Libraries.

iii. **Usage data**

KU will share detailed usage information with Member Libraries as it becomes available. To the extent possible KU will provide summary reports of COUNTER compliant usage data to Member Libraries.
2. Membership Categories

There will be 3 levels of KU Library Membership:

i. **Founding Libraries**

Founding Library status is granted to institutions that have made a substantial contribution to the startup and running costs of KU.

Founding Libraries include:

- Queensland University of Technology
- The University of Melbourne
- The University of Western Australia

In addition to the benefits listed in Section 1 above, founding Libraries will be entitled to a permanent position on the KU Library Steering Committee.

Founding Libraries are exempt from paying a membership fee.

ii. **Charter Members**

Libraries that take part in the KU Pilot will become Charter Members of KU and will not be required to pay a membership fee until 2016.

iii. **Members**

Libraries that join KU from March 2014 onwards will become regular members. They will be required to pay a membership fee, which will be set with advice from the Library Steering Committee.

3. Knowledge Unlatched Governance Structure

KU will adopt a two-tier approach to library governance. Member Libraries will be invited to elect a Library Steering Committee and a Collections Committee.

i. **Library Steering Committee**

Soon, members of the eight-person Library Steering Committee will be invited to join, based on existing support for and engagement with KU. They will serve a two-year term, after which new members will be nominated.

From 2016 onwards five of the eight members of the Library Steering Committee will be elected every two years. Representatives of the Founding Libraries will occupy the remaining three positions, unless they choose to waive this right, in which case their position will be opened for election.
In order to be eligible to serve on the Library Steering Committee, a nominee must be employed as a Director, Associate Director or equivalent at a KU Member Library.

The Library Steering Committee will be responsible for:

- Approving recommendations made by the Collections Committee on title selection.
- Making recommendations to KU on matters including:
  - Adjustments to the KU business model and strategy for scaling;
  - The development of new business opportunities and partnerships;
  - Overall strategic direction for KU

Members of the Library Steering Committee will also be asked to assist with:

- Representing KU to library and Open Access communities;
- Identifying external sources of funding for KU;
- Reviewing the performance of the KU project, drawing on indicators including usage data, levels of library participation, satisfaction and engagement.

ii. Collections Committee

Elections for the Collections Committee will take place in the middle of 2014.

KU Member Libraries will be invited to nominate representatives and vote for the Collections Committee.

In order to be eligible to serve on the KU Collections Committee, a nominee must be employed in a collections/acquisitions capacity at a KU Member Library.

The Collections Committee will play a key role in selecting content to be offered to libraries via KU. The committee will make recommendations to the Library Steering Committee on:

- Procedures for curating collections offered to libraries via KU;
- Criteria for publisher inclusion in the KU programme;
- Subject areas included within the KU programme.

The Collections Committee will also play an advisory role on matters such as library acquisitions workflow, library-vendor relationships, metadata, accessibility, and archiving.
Notes

The following amendments have been made to this version:

1. From March 2014 onwards libraries will be required to pay a modest membership fee – this was previously January 2014. This can be found on page 1.
2. Libraries that join KU from March 2014 onwards will become regular members – this was previously February 2014. This can be found on page 2.
3. Due to the extension of the pledging period the Library Steering Committee will be appointed soon and elections for the Collections Committee will take place in the middle of 2014. The original dates of January and March 2014 can be found on pages 2 and 3.