



CAVAL Archival and Research Materials Centre

PAN Update, ALA Midwinter, February 2018

CAVAL

CAVAL is a not-for-profit consortium of nine university libraries in Victoria and New South Wales, Australia. The consortium was established in 1978 to promote benefit to libraries and their clients through collaboration across a range of library functions, including cataloguing and technical services, resource sharing and print archiving and preservation. CAVAL has two roles: - first as a central agency facilitating collaborative library activity, and second as a provider, offering a range of services on a fee-for-service basis. Although the membership is located in south-eastern Australia, CAVAL operates at national and international scale, serving the broader Australian and New Zealand library communities.

CAVAL Archival and Research Materials Centre (CARM)

CAVAL established the first of its two print repositories in 1996. Known as the CAVAL Archival and Research Materials Centre (CARM), this is a purpose-built facility located on the La Trobe University Research and Development Park in Melbourne. The Centre was designed for the long-term storage and preservation of the CAVAL Shared Collection, a unique monograph and serial research collection among Australian and New Zealand libraries. When depositing items into the Shared Collection, member libraries cede ownership to CAVAL, and in return CAVAL undertakes to retain and preserve the item in perpetuity. Central ownership also enables CAVAL to re-process and interfile all materials deposited - regardless of format, original cataloguing treatment or library of origin - to achieve optimal storage density, using packing trays in a static shelving system. Through the joint commitment of the membership, the Shared Collection is also a single last copy collection, enabling libraries to de-duplicate their own print holdings if a copy is held in CARM. Member libraries determine which materials to deposit into store according to the research value of the item and each library's collection management policies.

Now over 20 years old, the Shared Collection contains over 850,000 volumes, approximately 85% of the repository's expected capacity.

In 2018, CAVAL will be conducting a review of the Shared Collection to consider its content and value as a research resource, the model adopted for its long-term management, and the consortium's future directions for print storage. It is anticipated that the review will include overlap and uniqueness studies compared against member library holdings.

CARM2

As available capacity in CARM began to be consumed, CAVAL constructed a second print repository in response to the needs of some members for additional off-site storage facilities. Opened in 2010, this repository was devised as a shared *facility* - rather than a shared collection - with each library leasing a discrete allocation of the available shelving space for its own use. Under this model, the libraries lease space for periods up to 30 years, continue to retain ownership and control over their collections (including the ability to withdraw items from storage), and house their collections in their own space and according to their own storage and retrieval requirements. Part of this repository is leased to non-member libraries as well as galleries and museums, to generate income for its ongoing maintenance.

CARM2 contains over 54 linear kilometres of shelving capacity, and partly because of changes to the model has filled at a faster rate than the first repository. Almost all space initially made available for key member requirements has been consumed, and leasable space for other clients is at 75% of capacity.

In 2018, CAVAL is fitting out the remaining unused space in the repository to create additional shelving capacity for members and other clients. In addition, a study will be undertaken to assess the feasibility of constructing a third CARM storage facility or of pursuing alternative print storage models.

I welcome any questions or dialogue with the PAN community, and can be contacted at the following email.

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