

16 April 2013

Higher Education Standards Panel
info@HEstandards.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Draft Standards for Course Design and Learning Outcomes.

The Council of Australian University Librarians welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Higher Education Standards Panel – Call for Comment (Number 1, March 2013)

We are pleased to offer the following responses to the questions listed in your issues paper.

Q6. Do you broadly support the proposed standards for learning outcomes? If not why?

COAAC broadly supports the proposed standards, however, believes that they can be strengthened through the addition and acknowledgement of additional reference points, notably the *CAUL Principles and Guidelines for Library Services to Staff and Students at Remote Locations*.

This recommendation supports:

Course Design (Coursework), point 6:

6. Each course of study is designed to enable equivalent learning outcomes regardless of a student's place or mode of study.

See <http://www.caul.edu.au/caul-programs/best-practice/casestudies/offshore>

Q7. Do you wish to make any suggestions in relation to the specific content of the standards?

Yes. To ensure that students have access to core resources and services to facilitate the achievement of learning outcomes (point 6. *regardless of ... place or mode of study*), a reference to library or course materials should be made within point 3. An example of how this could be addressed is offered below:

3. Course design encompasses the rationale for the course of study, course structure, modes of delivery, learning outcomes, methods of assessment, entry requirements and pathways, programmed student workload, **<add: adequacy of library and learning resources>**, articulation arrangements, exit pathways, pathways to further study and any compulsory requirements for completion and that these features of all courses of study are documented and publically accessible in a current version.

Yours sincerely,

Margie Jantti
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University of Wollongong
Chair of CAUL Quality and Assessment Advisory Committee