

National Cultural Policy Submission

Jane Jervis

- A new policy needs to give the sector/s certainty and alignment in: goals, programs and funding over time.
- University fees – went up; doubling for some. Yet:
- Many authors receive low and variable earnings compared to others in the economy.
Also:
- Tax exemptions – should apply to all writing awards, prizes and grants.
- ebooks and audiobooks – are popular, but authors aren't getting paid, and need to, via digital lending rights/DLR.
- School curriculums and school libraries – need more contemporary Australian works, representative of diverse voices.
- Defamation laws – where the intent of non-fiction publication isn't to be malicious or irresponsible etc, but rather, is to reflect truth, inform policy and lead to reform, individual voices and/or investigative and public interest journalism, shouldn't be muzzled, threatened or punished.