Publishing Agreement Tips

1. Check what type of agreement it is - A licence to publish? A copyright transfer agreement?
2. Clarify what rights are reserved by the author (you) and what rights are being transferred to the publisher.
3. Is there a restriction on depositing the ‘accepted manuscript’ version in a repository (such as QUT ePrints) – as students and scholars of QUT you have already given QUT a non-exclusive licence to deposit your work in QUT ePrints.
4. Does the agreement ask the author to assign the ‘full and exclusive rights’ in the article to the publisher?
5. Do you need to use the QUT standard addendum to publication agreement to negotiate the terms of the agreement?

The QUT addendum and template for a covering letter can be accessed at:


This addendum allows the author to:

- Retain the non-exclusive right to create derivative works from the article; and
- Distribute the author’s final version (accepted manuscript) to the general public.
- This includes the right to deposit the work in a repository.

The publisher is under no obligation to accept the addendum; however you have the right to negotiate an agreement that is mutually beneficial for you and the publisher.