Mark Your Calendars: Charleston Vendor Showcase Open for Registration

The **2021 Charleston Library Conference** will be a hybrid event, with opportunities to attend, present, and exhibit in person in beautiful, historic downtown Charleston, or online through our robust and interactive virtual event platform. **The in-person Vendor Showcase** will be held Tuesday, November 2, 2021, from 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., in the Charleston Gaillard Center as before and we will be using the Pathable platform again following our successful virtual event in 2020. 148 Exhibit Spaces will be available.

Registration includes one in-person booth at the Gaillard Center plus a virtual booth on Pathable (our virtual event platform). This event is an opportunity to connect with collection development, acquisitions, scholarly communications, consortia, and electronic resources professionals from around the country and internationally. At this event companies, vendors, publishers, and the like can show products of interest to librarians purchasing or leasing these materials. Attendance by librarians to the Vendor Showcase is free.

Vendor Showcase Registration opened June 14, 2021 at *https://charlestonconference.regfox. com/2021-charleston-vendor-showcase*. Space is limited, so don't delay if you plan to participate. **Conference Registration opens on June 21** at *https://www.charleston-hub.com/the-charleston-conference/registration-info/*.

Conference details will be updated regularly on the **Charleston Conference Website** at *https://www. charleston-hub.com/the-charleston-conference*.

Don't Miss This!

The **Charleston Conference is planning a very special "In Between"** half-day virtual mini-conference event in late July to explore important late-breaking developments that can't wait til November for discussion! Expect to hear experts discussing topics like the Clarivate/ProQuest acquisition and the most recent stages of Covid-19 re-opening. Watch for more details coming your way soon.

Together/Apart: Reviewing the 44th Annual UKSG Conference

. . . Reported by Jill Emery, Collection Development & Management Librarian, Portland State University, <jemery@pdx.edu>

The 44th Annual UKSG Conference was held online in 2021 due to the ongoing complications from the COVID-19 pandemic that restricted travel and gathering in large groups. UKSG wisely chose the software package Underline (*https://www.underline. io/*) for hosting their virtual event and this platform allowed for both synchronous and asynchronous attendance by delegates. In the post-conference survey, almost 80% of the delegates responding to the survey found this platform to be engaging and a successful replacement and almost 90% responded that it was ideal for viewing presentations. The virtual event did not have as many members of the publishing and vendor community in attendance but still garnered almost 1,200 registrants which is definitely a good showing overall.

The opening plenary session was comprised of presentations by Colette Fagen from the University of Manchester and Liam Earney, Jisc, on the **sustainability of Open Access (OA) agreements**, followed by Tasha Mellon-Cohen speaking about **society presses and development of OA models**, with an ending by Ian Moss from STM talking about **innovation to meet research needs in uncertain times**. At the closure of all these presentations, Lorraine Estelle from COUNTER hosted the live question and answer session. Overall, this plenary session garnered the most delegate feedback on the post-conference survey and was highly rated for both the presentation engagement and a very robust and lively discussion period. Another highly rated breakout session was a panel discussion made up of Charlie Rapple from Kudos, Kate Smith from Wiley, Katherine Rose from Imperial College London, and Alison Muddit from PLOS outlining **"New ways of working": success stories and lessons learned** as libraries and publishers have adapted workplaces and practices. One more program of note was given by Wendy Taylor and Helen Monagle from University of Salford, talking about **creating a model approach to evaluating transformative read and publish deals**.

"Where is the Virtual Alternative Successful and Where is it Less than Ideal?"

The areas that were found to be most lacking were interactions with vendor/publishers and much **confusion over how the online exhibits hall should have worked**. It was felt the vendor/publisher exposition section needed to be retooled/rethought for future virtual offerings. Many delegates felt this was the area of the virtual conference to be problematic in execution. Scheduling of question and answer sessions that conflicted with the exposition timeframes may have also played into this area

TCR Reports for the Field: The STM Spring Conference 2021

. . . Reported by Anthony Watkinson, Principal Consultant, CIBER Research and Honorary Lecturer, University College London, <anthony.watkinson@btinternet.com>

This conference, mainly attended by publishers and vendors, was held over three days from April 28-30th. Each day is separately organised, and recordings of most sessions are available from a link at the top of each daily program.

SOCIETY DAY — 27th April

The program for this day is at *https://www.stm-assoc.org/events/stm-spring-conference-society-day-2021*.

Publishing for Purpose. This first session was moderated by Andrea Powell, the co-ordinator for STM of Research4Life. She emphasised the mission-led nature of society publishers and suggested that their publications are more deeply embedded in the research communities than is the case with commercial houses. A summary of presentations follows:

- Dr Eric Rubin, the editor-in-chief of the New England Journal of Medicine (NEJM). For NEJM, the spike in submissions due to Covid research has led to a big problem of capacity. Speed has been essential, but they are also a journal of record. At the same time, some of the interest in some of the papers published will turn out to have been short-lived. Rubin admitted that some papers were hurried through peer review. There were examples where papers were accepted though the evidence was not as full as they would usually insist upon because they were clinically important.

- Rachel Martin of Elsevier. Martin is in a new position as Head of Sustainability. She introduced the Sustainability Goals of the United Nations and explained the SDG Publishers Compact which was jointly agreed to by the UN and the International Publishers Association.

- Philippa Grand of Bristol University Press at the time of the presentation was the first university press to sign up to the Compact and probably the only one. They espouse

Challenge-led research — different from traditional curiosity-driven research. They are keen that voices from the social sciences should be heard alongside the those from the scientists in the COVID debates.

- Elizabeth Nolan the Chief Publishing Officer of the Optical Society of America (OSA) interpreted the challenge in a different way. They have looked to their members to find ways of reaching out to larger audiences not just to researchers. This means bringing together the workflows of the group concerned with events and the publications staff.

What Is New-in Standards and Technology was introduced by Eefke Smit of STM. She picked out four projects which are generally useful to a range of stakeholders. They are as follows:

- Heather Staines, Publishers Outreach Manager, Delta Think started with authentication projects *SeamlessAccess.org and Getfulltextresearch.com (GetFTR)*. The key is that these are complementary, addressing different parts of the user journey. Staines wants to get the researcher as quickly as possible to the version on the publisher's platform. For SeamlessAccess, librarians can get information here: *https://seamlessaccess.org/stakeholders/for-libraries/*. Librarians are involved in the governance — see *https://seamlessaccess.org/about/community/*. For GetFTR, librarians can start here: *https://www.getfulltextresearch.com/for-librarians/*.

Check These Out

NISO has announced that all online educational content is now openly available on the NISO video repository at *https://niso.cadmoremedia.com/*, with a two-year rolling wall. This means that users can access, download, cite, and use recordings of monthly webinars, virtual conferences, and other online programming from 2018 and 2019. In January 2022, NISO will add content from 2020 and will continue to share new content on an annual basis.

cOAlitionS, in partnership with ALPSP, has issued a new report on "Making Full and Immediate Open Access a Reality." The report was prepared by Information Power and was the focus of a panel discussion at the London Book Fair's Research & Scholarly Publishers Forum — visit *https://www.londonbookfair.co.uk/en-gb/whats-on/conferences/research-scholarly-publishing.html*.

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- Lois Jones, Peer Review Manager, American Psychological Association presented Transparent Peer Taxonomy which is discussed more and more in all circles but especially among researchers. To be clear, you need a shared vocabulary. It encourages trust if you know what is going on.

- IJsbrand Jan Aalbersberg of Elsevier offered a preview of Detect Image Alteration. Aalbersberg thinks that this is a serious problem for less than 1% of articles but it is perceived as an important problem. One thing can be said — most alterations are not malicious — but it is vital they are picked up because later they will cast doubt on the results in the paper. Duplication is a different problem which demands a shared database between publishers which is being considered. Again, this is an ongoing project.

- Finally, Joris van Rossum, STM's Director of Research Integrity presented *Research Data: Share-Link-Cite* which concerns the STM research data project. STM support data availability statements. There are plans for partnerships with funders to establish alignments.

*The final session of the day was concerned with **Research. Publish. Sorted.**, organised by Christopher Kenneally of Copyright Clearance Center (CCC).*

- The first speaker was Taunton Paine of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) explaining their policies regarding research data management and sharing. Sharing data helps reproducibility, encourages trust and shows how the public dollar has been spent. Policy demands compliance: the new policy comes in at January 2023. It is scientific data only. In other fields there are ethical problems, but researchers are asked to do what they can. NIH wants to push researchers to use established repositories and there is a list provided to help.

- The first publisher presentation was on Opening Science by Wayland Butler from the American Institute of Physics (AIP) working on behalf of their eleven members who have different systems. Unlike NIH they have concentrated on the opening of the content of articles rather than the data. Their member publishers prefer transformative arrangements. It is still early days for them; there are

fewer mandates in the physical sciences than in medicine. COUNTER reporting standards would be helpful. Costs of publishing are not changing but with changes new policies need to be as standardised as possible.

- The second publisher was Sybille Geisenheyner of the American Chemical Society. Her title was data, data, data. According to her, ACS and AIP are in much the same situation. Transformative deals demand a lot of information. In 2020 only 2,800 articles are in such arrangements, but she expects this to double in 2021. She will concentrate on who needs what data. In the transformative world the table gets very crowded, with researchers playing a different role as both researchers and readers, and there is a gap in between. It is difficult to get researchers to click on the right boxes to make sure that the licensing arrangements are correct.

- The final speaker was Josh Dahl of Clarivate, whose job is publisher solutions. Getting the right data while not degrading the author experience is his aim also.

SECOND DAY — 28th April

Security, sharing and staying at home: Meeting the challenges of the scholarly publishing horizon. The programme for this day is available at *https://www.stm-assoc.org/events/stm-day-2-2021/* and once again recordings are freely available from that URL. This is a shorter day than the others.

The three sessions cover the following topics: Scholarly Networks Security Initiative (SNSI): working together to combat the threat of cybercrime; Let's fix this: what Article 17 of the EU Copyright Directive means for article sharing; Now what? How COVID has affected research funding, university budgets, and researchers' needs — implications and opportunities for publishers.

*The **SNSI** panel was chaired by Susie Winter of Springer Nature. All agreed that "Working together" is the key to success. There is a video covering the next set of presentations: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HEBQyg_ezHI.*

- The four speakers began with Daniel Ayala of Secratic a consultant in this area (see *https://danielayala.com/2019/07/01/secratic-a-personal-legend/*). The information security remit covers not just keeping people out of the site who have no justification for being there but

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needing more work. Ideas are already being considered by UKSG on how to improve this aspect of the virtual conference.

All in all, the virtual UKSG conference is seen as being a success despite the worldwide pandemic. There have been requests to make the 2022 conference event hybrid and UKSG is exploring how to make that happen with the Underline software. One aspect that was particularly noted was the **ability to do group bookings for the online event** and it was noted by at least a few survey respondents that the group booking option would be helpful in the future until financial situations at many institutions are stabilized.

There were also a number of good ideas given for future programming for 2022 from survey respondents and UKSG is beginning to explore some of the programming ideas given. Conference program ideas for the 45th Annual conference are open until June 30th, 2021 and can be submitted at ***https://www.uksg.org/form/uksg-2022-call-for-papers***. The 45th Annual Conference is slated to be held in Glasgow, Scotland from 28-30 March 2022 and it will likely be a hybrid event. It is hoped that if you cannot join UKSG in person that you will join in online!

To see the list of 2021 Exhibitors and the Conference Program outline, logon to *https://www.uksg.org/event/uksgconference2021*.

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also making content available to those who should be able to access it. **Don Hamparian from OCLC** explained how they operate to protect their clients. **Sari Frances Director of Content Protection Services at Elsevier** explained why they are not going alone, and who the players are. Finally we had an actual librarian in the shape of **Juan Denzer from Syracuse** (formerly Binghampton where he developed the case study on EZProxy he reported on now). A broader understanding can be gained from *https://www.snsi.info/*.

*Claudio Russo from the STM staff covered the **Article 17 session** which by definition is a very European group of presentations.*

- Those interested can find these at *https://www.youtube. com/watch?v=4MCz4pW56kQ*.

*The final session focused on the **impact of COVID on university budgets and researcher needs**. There is no recording available and the link for the slides does not work.*

- The sole speaker was **Charlie Rapple of Kudos** who did the research. Here is a presentation prepared in March: *https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2021/03/24/how-has-covid-19-affected-research-funding-publishing-and-library-budgets-or-finding-the-truth-in-the-gap-between-perception-and-reality/*. The coronavirus pandemic has both disrupted research and acted as a catalyst for change. This session will present some findings and recommendations from an STM-sponsored study carried out between November 2020 and February 2021, which included two global surveys (with responses from 10,000+ researchers and 600+ librarians) and a review of over 100 announcements, articles and other relevant documents from funders, institutions and researchers. Headline findings include what was learned from Libraries respondents. Budget cuts will lead to a rapid, ruthless decision making in making changes to services. There was a particular concern that publishers must have more realistic purchasing models for e-books. Researchers are worried that loss of collaboration, networking, communication opportunities will affect career development and reputation. As far as events are concerned, a "Digital-first" future requires a root-and-branch review of objectives and how these can be met.

INNOVATIONS DAY — 29th April

Launching STM Trends 2025 and AI Best Practice Principles. Today the techies are let loose and the purpose is mainly instructing publishers not yet up to speed. Again the presentations are available at *https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xvQ6yQaGts8*. There are basically two sessions: STM Trends 2025: Let's go upstream plus a complementary **round table** and **AI in Publisher workflows** followed by a panel on **AI Ethics.**

*IJsbrand Jan Aalbersberg of Elsevier, chair of the relevant STM committees, explained the aim as making access to and use of research outputs easier or advancing trusted research, making Open Science easier, and improving the entire process of scholarly communication. Now we are looking at **STM Trends** not Tech trends because we can do nothing without technology.*

- Eefke Smit (STM) introduced the **annual infographic** which is about forecasting and tries to express the river of research outputs. The digital natives expect more transparency for trust. COVID inspired processes are reflected — for example use of preprints and fast tracking. These are downstream but the new movement is upstream including preprint data mining such as Scholix where STM has been active. There is a polluting paper mill of fake papers you can buy.

*What followed was the **Round Table,** moderated by Chris Kenneally of CCC (see day one). What does his panel think of the infographic. What follows are the initial comments of the panelists.*

- **Lynda Hardman from Utrecht** who works on **data science** which is at the headwaters of the graphic. In her research she puts data into different contexts, so data is inputs as well as outputs. Data must come from a trusted source, but "private" data must be checked on in some appropriate way even if it cannot be seen. Medics have done this for many years.

- **John Sack the co-founder of HighWire Press** was brought into the debate from the West Coast. Going upstream is going to be a challenge. There are many ways in which people are creating these flows. Access to the data is needed for reproducibility. A lot more of the research process must be linked to the final paper, he advocated. The preprint is under the control of the researcher whereas the article is not: standards relating to preprints will be needed.

- **Heather Staines of Delta Think** (see day one) is also interested in going upstream. Lots of context now has/should travel downstream with the article.

- The final panelist was **Anita de Waard of Elsevier and Force 11.** She is directly concerned with the connection between science publishing and technology. Trust is important to her. Scientific fact (how science works) needs to be understood by the public and even some professionals: we can see this with rejection of vaccines. She wants to look further upstream to bring funding into the whole picture. Kenneally asked what roles of libraries might be. De Waard thinks publishers tend to forget librarians. They know more about curation for example.

*The rest of the conference was devoted to **Artificial Intelligence**. This was mostly to do with AI in Publisher Workflows — not of wider interest but there was also a session on AI Ethics.*

- The discussion is not accessible alas but the policy they were discussing is available at *https://www.stm-assoc. org/2021_05_11_STM_AI_White_Paper_April2021.pdf/*.