Day 1   *Tuesday 24 February 2026*

CONVERSATION

8.30   **Registration and Light Refreshments**   *SNOW ROOM*

TODAY'S PLENARY SESSIONS ARE SPONSORED BY SPRINGER NATURE

INTRODUCTION

9.30   **Welcome & Agenda**   *GREAT HALL*

The Conference Chairman welcomes the participants, thanks the sponsors, introduces the programme and makes feeble jokes.

- **Mark Carden**, Chairman, Researcher to Reader Conference

INSPIRATION

9.40   **Keynote – Open and Secure Research**   *GREAT HALL*
Confronting uncomfortable truths about research openness, integrity and responsibility in global scholarship

We must confront some uncomfortable truths. Openness does not necessarily equate to trust, and the ideals of open research do not guarantee integrity. Open and secure research requires us to rethink how we share knowledge and what we want research to be and not be. If we fail to define what we mean by science, research, and even the term 'researcher,' then we leave ourselves vulnerable – less grounded in evidence and more at the mercy of shifting opinions. As we look toward a trusted global research future, we must address two intertwined challenges: knowledge security and responsible internationalisation.

- **Dr Leslie McIntosh**, VP, Research Integrity and Security at Digital Science

SESSION SPONSOR

Springer Nature is one of the leading publishers of research in the world. Springer Nature publishes the largest number of journals and books and is a pioneer in open research. Through leading brands, trusted for more than 180 years, Springer Nature provides technology-enabled products, platforms and services that help researchers to uncover new ideas and share their discoveries, health professionals to stay at the forefront of medical science, and educators to advance learning. Springer Nature is proud to be part of progress, working together with the communities it serves to share knowledge and bring greater understanding to the world.

SPRINGER NATURE

COLLABORATION

10.30 Workshops: First Meeting   *BREAKOUT ROOMS*

Workshops at R2R are facilitated collaborative conversations, with very high levels of delegate participation and engagement. Each workshop discusses a clearly-defined question or problem, and attempts to reach a resolution. Delegates select, on registration, just one preferred workshop out of choice of potential topics available. Workshop groups reconvene several times during the Conference timetable.

- **Jason De Boer**, Managing Director at De Boer Consultancy *(workshops manager)*
- **Jayne Marks**, CEO at Maverick Publishing Consultants *(workshops manager)*

Workshop A: Responsible AI Use in Scholarly Writing
What resources can we create to support responsible AI usage amongst authors?

As generative artificial intelligence (AI) transforms the scholarly research and writing processes, disparate publisher policies on AI assistance, coupled with researcher AI literacy gaps, threaten scholarly integrity. This workshop aims to co-create practical resources for responsible AI use in authorship. Participants will review current AI usage guidelines and expectations, mapping risks and policy gaps, with the intention of drafting checklists, guidelines and disclosure templates, to support researchers and publishers in standardizing expectations. Participants will leave with toolkits and plans for embedding responsible AI usage across research publishing.

- **Elizabeth (Lizzy) Hay**, Associate Director at Editorial Office (part of Molecular Connections)
- **Dr Krishna Kumar Venkitachalam Iyer**, Innovation Officer at Enago
- **Mary Miskin**, Operations Director at Charlesworth

Workshop B: Using Incentives to Improve Peer Review
How should reviewers be recognised and rewarded for responsible peer review?

Peer review is central to scholarly communication, yet often slow, opaque, and inconsistent. Can incentives improve its quality and speed? In this workshop, participants will explore experiments in reviewer incentives, financial and otherwise, and their effects on accountability and transparency. We'll draw on recent experiences of journals that are experimenting with reviewer payment. Through discussion and small group activities, participants will evaluate current peer review norms and propose scalable innovations that balance researcher needs with publishing integrity, while also considering economic constraints.

- **Dr Alejandra Clark**, Managing Editor at The Company of Biologists
- **Dr David Maslove**, Associate Professor at Queens University
- **Dr Tommaso Valletti**, Professor of Economics at Imperial College London

Workshop C: Book Metadata, Discoverability & Usage
How can we improve the academic book data supply chain?

Academic books face significant metadata and discoverability challenges that can potentially hinder their reach and impact. Unlike journal articles, which benefit from standardised indexing systems, books often suffer from inconsistent, incomplete, or platform-specific metadata that makes them difficult to find

across different discovery systems. Additionally, usage analytics for books remain fragmented across platforms, making it difficult for authors, publishers and librarians to understand how books are being accessed and used. This workshop will discuss these issues, to identify concrete actions to improve the quality and consistency of our data and to enhance the reach of our books.

- **Mark Collins**, Director of Academic at Virtusales
- **Dr Nancy Roberts**, COO at Maverick Publishing Consultants
- **David Rowe**, Head of Content and Discovery at the University of Sussex

Workshop D: Better Community Engagement
How can we develop purposeful engagement with stakeholder communities?

Explore how to truly connect with your communities. In this collaborative workshop, we'll discuss shared learnings and how purposeful engagement can transform passive audiences into passionate advocates. Co-create practical strategies to meet your community's expectations and enhance your engagement strategies. Together, we will curate a step-by-step guide to build authentic, lasting relationships and drive meaningful change in your organisation and beyond. Facilitated by those actively involved and experienced in community engagement through different lenses.

- **Godwyns Onwuchekwa**, Principal Consultant at Global Tapestry Consulting
- **Lou Peck**, CEO at The International Bunch

Workshop E: Responding to Global Emergencies
How can the scholarly community be ready to respond to a crisis?

In an era marked by pandemics, conflicts, and natural disasters, effective emergency response demands trusted research, rapid action, and global collaboration. Yet current publishing efforts remain centred on ad hoc emergency resource centres that are fragmented and outdated. The real question: what should trigger a collective industry response, and how can we act decisively in ways which will address and leverage open science, AI and mis- and dis-information in times of crisis. In the three interactive sessions, participants will collaboratively develop a foundational Emergency Response Playbook, aiming to foster coordinated, agile, and impactful action within the scholarly publishing sector. This workshop challenges us to move beyond good intentions toward building a framework for coordinated emergency action across our sector.

- **Clare Baker**, Risk Know-How Project Officer at Sense about Science
- **Dr Hylke Koers**, Chief Information Officer at STM Solutions
- **Sarah Phibbs**, Director Equity & Inclusion at STM
- **Rachel Martin**, Senior Global Director, Sustainability at Elsevier

CONVERSATION & INFORMATION

11.30 Break with Lightning Talks   *SNOW ROOM & PAGET ROOM*

The participants can now take a break, with light refreshments, during which there is a series of Lightning Talks.

A Lightning Talk at R2R is a very short presentation given by a Conference participant, where they are announcing or promoting something, or raising a concern. Typically, the timetable includes 10-20 Lightning Talks, which are optional and take place during the breaks in the main programme.

- **Dr Haseeb Irfanullah**, consultant on environment and research systems *(talks manager)*

11.40 CRediT Where it's Due?

Scientific discovery is increasingly done by large teams and across different disciplines making clear attribution essential. IOP Publishing has implemented the Contributor Role Taxonomy (CRediT) across all its propriety journals, enabling authors to define their roles and ensure transparency. Learn how this change enhances fairness, accountability, and recognition in research publishing.

- **Lauren Flintoft**, Research Integrity Manager at IOP Publishing

11.50 The REF's Real-World Challenge

The UK government now demands research drives economic growth. But how can universities prove this when their primary output is the journal article? This talk argues that only Real-World Knowledge – born-digital reports from industry and NGOs – can provide the crucial data trail linking academic research to the real economy.

- **Toby Green**, Co-founder at Coherent Digital

12.00 Indexing the World's Research Talks

We index papers, datasets and code, but not the conversations that shape them. A global index of research talks would unlock faster discovery, more engaging institutional repositories, and richer journal communities. It would also strengthen trust through provenance: who said what, when, in what context, linked directly to the underlying work.

- **Ben Kaube**, Co-founder at Cassyni

BRONZE SPONSOR

PA EDitorial partners with global publishers and societies to deliver expert peer review management, research integrity services, copy-editing, and change management capabilities across complex journals, editorial system transitions and AI tool integrations. They provide hands-on peer review and editorial delivery, bringing structure and oversight to elevate peer review health, strengthen performance, and equip editorial boards and contributors for sustainable success.

DISCUSSION

12.10 Roundtable: Making Peer Review Better for Researchers   *GREAT HALL*
          What do article authors and readers want from peer review?

What really helps researchers both as authors and readers? We will look at some new ideas coming from researchers themselves both in traditional and non-traditional areas. How can peer review better serve authors in making the process faster and more efficient, perhaps even by starting further back in the

research process? How can we harness the huge volume of new researchers in Asia to support the global pool of peer reviewers? And what do ECRs need from the peer review process to ensure their trust in the scholarly record? We are keen to hear input from the workshop participants on how they might work with some of these ideas.

- **Jayne Marks**, CEO at Maverick Publishing Consultants *(moderator)*
- **Dr Ritu Dhand**, Chief Scientific Officer at Springer Nature
- **Dr Gareth Dyke**, Partnership Director at Prophy.ai
- **Dr Chris Leonard**, Director of Product Solutions at Cactus Communications
- **Dr Stewart Manley**, Assistant Professor at Maynooth University

CONVERSATION & INFORMATION

1.00   Lunch with Lightning Talks   *SNOW ROOM & PAGET ROOM*

The participants can now take a break, with lunch, during which there is a series of Lightning Talks.

1.10   Making Access to Trusted Research Easier

Can you trust the content you read? GetFTR are making it easier: streamlined access to verified articles, with retraction and errata flags built right into references. This lightning talk reveals how this boosts research integrity and global discoverability.

- **Dr Hylke Koers**, Chief Information Officer at STM Solutions

1.20   Medical Trainee Contributions to Scholarly Publishing

Medical trainees pursue scholarly publishing to strengthen residency applications, as academic output enhances individual profiles and program reputation. While residencies value peer-reviewed publications, limited time and experience lead to lower-level evidence. Introducing trainees to other publication types may improve the quality of their scholarship and foster more meaningful novel contributions.

- **Prof Liz Lorbeer**, Chair, Medical Library, WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine

1.30   Ethicality: AI Guardrails for Research Integrity

Ethicality is a one-stop-shop AI toolset that embeds ethical guardrails into the academic publishing workflow. By detecting misconduct signals at submission and keeping humans in the loop, it shifts publishers from reactive investigation to proactive prevention, strengthening research integrity, editorial efficiency, and trust at scale.

- **Dr Milos Cuculovic**, Head of Technology Innovation at MDPI

1.40 Collaboration Powers – Empowers! – Peer Review

Rising submission volumes, research integrity pressures, and rapid technological and workflow changes are reshaping peer review. Embracing this depends on collaboration, empathy and understanding of shared roles across the research publishing ecosystem. This talk shares practical change management insights to build accountability, readiness and trust for sustainable, future-ready peer review.

- **Caitlin Meadows**, Business Development Manager at PA EDitorial

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Cassyni is the leading platform for research talks that brings research to life through AI-enhanced video experiences. Used by leading publishers and institutions, Cassyni helps journals boost visibility, engagement, and citations — building vibrant research communities, deepening researcher engagement, and driving submissions through what's become known as the "Cassyni Effect".

CASSYNI

EXPLANATION

2.00 Presentation: Facing AI Futures Together   *GREAT HALL*
Using scenarios to rethink libraries, publishers and the scholarly record

Artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping scholarly communication in unpredictable ways. Scenarios developed by the Association of Research Libraries and the Coalition for Networked Information highlight futures where discovery moves entirely to AI platforms, peer review is automated, or technology giants bypass traditional infrastructures. This session introduces those scenarios as a framework for understanding disruption across the research–to–reader lifecycle. It invites publishers, libraries, and researchers to consider how we might collaborate in preparing for multiple possible futures, protecting the scholarly record, and ensuring continued trust and value in an AI-driven world.

- **Professor Keith Webster**, Dean of University Libraries at Carnegie Mellon University

COLLABORATION

2.35 Workshops: Second Meeting   *BREAKOUT ROOMS*
Workshop A: Responsible AI Use in Scholarly Writing
Workshop B: Using Incentives to Improve Peer Review
Workshop C: Book Metadata, Discoverability & Usage
Workshop D: Better Community Engagement
Workshop E: Responding to Global Emergencies

CONVERSATION & INFORMATION

3.35   Break with Lightning Talks   *SNOW ROOM & PAGET ROOM*

The participants can now take a break, with light refreshments, during which there is a series of Lightning Talks.

3.45   Editorial Challenges Around AI

As the scholarly publishing landscape evolves, so do the threats to editorial integrity including manipulated peer review and questionable guest-edited content. Learn how publishers aim to stay ahead of bad actors, the role of technology in protecting trust, and what collaboration across the ecosystem can achieve.

- **Lauren Flintoft**, Research Integrity Manager at IOP Publishing

3.55   Seekers of Sanctuary and Open Research

Seekers of sanctuary include academics and professionals, cut off from their networks. This talk will relate how Aberdeen University Library hosted an International Open Access week event to engage with lived experience individuals, academics and charity workers to understand the need for access to research in this important context.

- **Simon Bains**, University Librarian at University of Aberdeen

4.05   Liberata: Incentivizing Peer Review and Replication

Academic publishing lacks incentive-aligned quality control and relies on author order and journal brands as proxies for contribution and rigor. Liberata is an open access academic publishing platform that assigns contribution shares to authors on papers, which can subsequently be traded in academic marketplaces for incentivized peer review and replication.

- **Patrick Prochazka**, Co-founder at Liberata

DISPUTATION

4.15   Debate: Artificial Intelligence Tools   *GREAT HALL*

Resolved: AI tools will provide a net benefit to scholarly communication

Two debaters argue for and against the proposition. This will be a formal debate, with the result decided by the impact of the arguments on all the Conference participants. An initial 'baseline' vote is taken at the start of the debate, and another vote is taken at the end. The winner is the side that has swayed opinion in their favour.

- **Rick Anderson**, University Librarian at Brigham Young University *(moderator)*
- **Darrell Gunter**, Managing Director at Gunter Media Group *(for the motion)*
- **Amanda Licastro**, Head of Digital Scholarship at Swarthmore College *(against the motion)*

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CONVERSATION

5.15   Evening Reception   *SNOW ROOM*

6.30   End of Day One

Day 2   *Wednesday 25 February 2026*

CONVERSATION & INFORMATION

8.30   Registration and light refreshments   *SNOW ROOM*

CLARIFICATION

9.00   Panel: Rethinking Peer Review   *GREAT HALL*

How independent peer review models drive transparency, equity and innovation

Independent peer review providers are transforming research evaluation through journal-independent, community-driven models. The discussion will highlight how these initiatives promote transparency, equity, and efficiency in scholarly communication. Panellists will address how independent peer review reduces re-review fatigue, supports early-career researchers, and integrates with preprint and publishing workflows. The panel will provide insights into the evolving peer review landscape and give practical ideas for engaging with these platforms to advance more inclusive and effective models of research assessment.

- **Dr Jonny Coates**, Founder at Rippling Ideas (moderator)
- **Dr Katherine Brown**, Publishing Director at The Company of Biologists
- **Thomas Guillemaud**, Co-founder at Peer Community In
- **Dr Peter Rodgers**, Chief Magazine Editor, eLife

BRONZE SPONSOR

Mosaic Search & Selection has been providing international executive recruitment services for publishers and related organisations for over 20 years. The Mosaic team uses their many years of sector and recruitment experience, and their professional executive search skills, to enable organisations to hire exceptional new talent cost-effectively and with minimal risk.

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COLLABORATION

10.00 Workshops: Third Meeting   *BREAKOUT ROOMS*

Workshop A: Responsible AI Use in Scholarly Writing
Workshop B: Using Incentives to Improve Peer Review
Workshop C: Book Metadata, Discoverability & Usage
Workshop D: Better Community Engagement
Workshop E: Responding to Global Emergencies

CONVERSATION & INFORMATION

11.00 Break with Lightning Talks   *SNOW ROOM & PAGET ROOM*

THIS BREAK IS SPONSORED BY SPRINGER NATURE

The participants can now take a break, with light refreshments, during which there is a series of Lightning Talks.

11.10 Scientific Publishing in Ukraine: Conquering Adversity

Ukrainian science is producing some incredible advances - in drone technology and more. Publishing too is defying the odds with 97% of the top 2,000 journals in open access. Hear about this along with opportunities arising from January's event with top Ukrainian policy makers and practitioners at the Oxford International Centre for Publishing and Journalism, Oxford Brookes University.

- **Dr Frances Pinter**, Founder of SUPRR (Supporting Ukrainian Publishing Resilience and Recovery)

11.20 Simplifying the Submission Process for Authors

The process of publishing scholarly articles can be frustrating for authors, as well as for publishers and reviewers. This session proposes changes to the process that can ensure fast and accurate publication. The changes include automated data extraction and collaborative authoring, resulting in full transparency and traceability.

- **Dr Kaveh Bazargan**, Director at River Valley

11.30 Making Scholarly Infrastructure AI-Ready

AI is reshaping scholarly communication, yet fragmentation is increasing complexity and cost. KnowledgeWorks Global Ltd. (KGL) explores how integrated, human-in-the-loop AI workflows – spanning research integrity, accessibility and next-generation hosting platforms – can prepare trusted scholarly content for AI-driven discovery, licensing, and sustainable future revenue models.

- **Ruth Miller**, Director of Sales, KGL PubFactory at KnowledgeWorks Global Ltd

REVELATION

11.40 Case Study: S20: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly   *GREAT HALL*
Libraries, readers, researchers: what we got right, what we got wrong, and what's next

Subscribe to Open (S2O) is often framed as community-driven, yet implementation typically centres on libraries and revenue. For the American Physiological Society, a small nonprofit publisher, this work was completely new. Initial efforts focused on renewals and workflows, with the assumption that value would naturally extend to authors and readers. Feedback from editors, researchers and indexers revealed confusion, pushing APS to experiment with lightweight feedback tools and revised messaging. In this session, a publisher, consultant, researcher and a community engagement expert share lessons learned for resource-constrained societies and thoughts on measuring impact beyond revenue.

- **Stacey Burke**, Senior Director of Publishing, Transformation & Engagement at APS *(moderator)*
- **Dr Dennis Brown**, Chief Science Officer at the American Physiological Society
- **Prof Wolfgang M Kuebler**, Chair at the Institute of Physiology at Charité–Universitätsmedizin
- **Lou Peck**, CEO at The International Bunch

EXPLANATION

12.30 Presentation: Beyond the Journal Article   *GREAT HALL*
Exploring alternative scholarly publication formats

This presentation examines researchers´ perception of scholarly publications beyond traditional journal articles, exploring "novel" types of publication such as data publications, software, and replication studies as well as publication types used for science-to-public communication. Drawing on survey findings from over 600 researchers, and broader international trends, we analyse characteristics of scholarly publications and developments in the recognition of emerging publication formats. The presentation provides insights for publishers developing business models, librarians supporting and cataloguing diverse research outputs, as well as funders and policy makers involved in the current debates on advancing research assessment.

- **Christian Kaier**, Deputy Head of Publication Services at Graz University Library
- **Dr Lisa Schilhan**, Head of Publication Services at Graz University Library

SILVER SPONSOR

MDPI is MDPI is a pioneer in scholarly, open access publishing, that has supported academic communities since 1996. Based in Basel, Switzerland, MDPI has the mission to foster open scientific exchange in all forms, across all disciplines. MDPI's 496 diverse, peer-reviewed, open access journals are supported by more than 115,000 academic experts who support MDPI's mission, values, and commitment to providing high-quality service for our authors. MDPI's articles are freely available and distributed under a Creative Commons Attribution License.

MDPI
Academic Open Access Publishing
since 1996

CONVERSATION & INFORMATION

1.00   Lunch with Lightning Talks   *SNOW ROOM & PAGET ROOM*

TODAY'S LUNCH IS SPONSORED BY SILVERCHAIR

The participants can now take a break, with lunch, during which there is a series of Lightning Talks.

1.10   Publishing with Purpose: Beyond the Heart

Heart failure research centres on the heart, yet patients often experience shortness of breath, reframing the disease as cardiopulmonary. This illustrates why *Publishing with Purpose™* matters. Society publishers play a critical role in ensuring that clinically important cross-disciplinary insights reach the right audiences, by prioritizing scientific connection over commercial segmentation.

- **Prof Wolfgang M Kuebler**, Chair at the Institute of Physiology at Charité–Universitätsmedizin

1.20 Kriyadocs: Designing Peer Review Around Researchers

Journals need to improve user experience for researchers whilst handling increasing volumes of submissions; working at sufficient speed to meet researcher expectations; and maintaining research integrity. In this talk, we share how Kriyadocs works with scholarly publishers and industry experts to deliver a modern, flexible, robust solution for peer review.

- **Jason De Boer**, Growth Director at Kriyadocs

1.30 Inclusivity Means Better Science

We explore why broader perspectives, inclusive practices and cross-regional partnerships are driving stronger science, better solutions and breakthrough innovation. Discover how inclusivity is essential to scientific excellence — and what this means for the future of high impact research.

- **Ritu Dhand**, Chief Scientific Officer at Springer Nature

1.40 Physiology: The Science Life Depends On

How publishing, editorial leadership, partnerships and community networks sustain physiology – the science on which life depends. Drawing on his career as a physiologist and prolific author, the speaker will show how society publishing supports discoveries that translate into real-world health impact: from lifelong disease risk to recovery and cure.

- **Dr Dennis Brown**, Chief Science Officer at the American Physiological Society

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<td>*SESSION SPONSOR*</td>
<td>*Silverchair* is the leading independent platform partner for scholarly and professional publishers, serving its growing community through flexible technology and unparalleled services. Silverchair's teams build, maintain, and innovate platforms across the publishing lifecycle — from idea to impact. Silverchair products facilitate submission, peer review, hosting, dissemination, and impact measurement, enabling researchers and professionals to maximize their contributions to our world.</td>
<td>**SILVERCHAIR**</td>
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COLLABORATION

1.50 Workshop Feedback (Plenary)   *GREAT HALL*
Workshop A: Responsible AI Use in Scholarly Writing
Workshop B: Using Incentives to Improve Peer Review
Workshop C: Book Metadata, Discoverability & Usage
Workshop D: Better Community Engagement
Workshop E: Responding to Global Emergencies

EXPLANATION

2.35 Presentations: AI in a Global Context   *GREAT HALL*

Does AI Promote Equity or Division?
Is AI democratising global knowledge or entrenching digital bias?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is changing scholarly publishing; but most AI systems are trained on Western datasets. The inherent risks are not just amplifying bias and narrowing perspectives, but also

marginalising voices from the Global South. This presentation explores how AI may democratise or divide global knowledge, and what safeguards are needed for equity and diversity in research. Are we accelerating equity or colonialism?

- **Nikesh Gosalia**, Chief Partnership Officer at Cactus Communications

Making AI Work for Global Research Integrity
Using global data and early adoption lessons to guide responsible AI adoption worldwide

New global data from a forthcoming white paper on the adoption of artificial intelligence (AI) reveals stark regional differences in how researchers view AI's role in global publishing. This presentation shares original survey findings alongside lessons from Frontiers' early adoption of AI (AIRA – Artificial Intelligence Review Assistant) for integrity checks and peer review support. Together, these insights provide clear directions for what publishers, funders, and institutions must do next to ensure AI strengthens inclusion, equity and integrity across scholarly communication.

- **Simone Ragavooloo**, Research Integrity Portfolio Manager at Frontiers

CONVERSATION

3.35   Break   *SNOW ROOM*

The participants can now take a break, with light refreshments.

THIS BREAK IS SPONSORED BY SPRINGER NATURE

DISCUSSION

4.15   Roundtable: Infrastructure Sustainability – Finding Common Ground   *GREAT HALL*
Shared challenges and complementary strengths across open science infrastructure stakeholders

A critical challenge in today's funding landscape is building sustainable partnerships across seemingly opposing stakeholders. Public funding alone is insufficient, and over-reliance on single stakeholders puts critical systems at risk. Through interactive discussion, the panellists will examine their own biases and discover they may be closer to other stakeholders than initially thought. By analysing real-world examples, we will explore how different motivations can become complementary strengths. The goal is to model the kind of honest conversations different stakeholders need to have more often, and to identify practical ways to collaborate more effectively.

- **Emma Green**, Director of Development at Invest in Open Infrastructure *(moderator)*
- **Christine Dunn**, Head of Market Strategy for Publisher Services at Clarivate Analytics
- **Hannah Hope**, Open Research Lead at Wellcome
- **Lautaro Matas**, Technical Manager at LA Referencia
- **David Prosser**, Executive Director at RLUK

CONSOLIDATION

5.00   **Conspectus & Closing**   *GREAT HALL*

In this regular (and surprisingly popular) session, a speaker attempts to briefly condense the entire content of this year's Researcher to Reader Conference into an informal but coherent summary. This is followed by the closing of the Conference.

- **Mark Carden**, Chairman, Researcher to Reader Conference

CONCLUSION

5.20   **End of Conference**

The Researcher *to* Reader Conference

24-25 February 2026   *London*

Researcher to Reader

Contributor Biographies

The exceptionally compelling Programme of the Researcher to Reader Conference is the result of the enthusiastic participation and hard work of about 75 people who have been contributors to the development and delivery of the event. These include the moderators, facilitators, speakers, panellists and debaters whose biographies appear below, and our Advisory Board members. The Conference is very grateful indeed for their contribution, and is also grateful to those who are presenting Lightning Talks. We would also like to thank all those who put forward proposals in response to the Call for Papers, whether we were able to include them in the programme or not.

Rick Anderson is University Librarian at Brigham Young University. He serves on numerous editorial and advisory boards, and is a regular contributor to the Scholarly Kitchen. He has served as president of NASIG and of the Society for Scholarly Publishing, and is a recipient of the HARRASSOWITZ Leadership in Library Acquisitions Award. Rick is the author of three books, including *Scholarly Communication: What Everyone Needs to Know* (Oxford University Press, 2018), which has been published in three languages. He is a member of the Advisory Board for the 2026 R2R Conference.

Clare Baker is the Risk Know-How Project Officer at Sense about Science, an independent charity that promotes the public interest in sound science and evidence. Her work is focused on Risk Know-How, an initiative which empowers people around the world with the tools to make sense of risk information. Before Sense about Science, Clare worked at the Microbiology Society, communicating the content of their journal portfolio. Clare holds an MSc in Science Communication from Imperial College London.

Dennis Brown is Chief Science Officer at the American Physiological Society. He has held several leadership positions at APS, including serving as the Society's 90th President. He is also a professor of medicine at Harvard Medical School, and is Director of the Massachusetts General Hospital Program in Membrane Biology. Brown was awarded the Hugh Davson award for Cell Biology in 2011 and the Carl W Gottschalk Distinguished Lectureship in 1999. He earned an undergraduate degree and his PhD from the University of East Anglia. He is a member of The Academy of Europe.

Katherine Brown is Publishing Director at The Company of Biologists. Following a PhD and postdoctoral research in developmental biology, she began her publishing career as a Scientific Editor at The EMBO Journal. In 2011, she took up the position of Executive Editor for the journal *Development* at The Company of Biologists before moving to her current role in early 2025. Her particular areas of interest and expertise include community engagement, the preprint ecosystem and publication integrity.

Stacey Burke is Senior Director of Publishing, Transformation & Engagement at the American Physiological Society. She focuses on reader, author, and institutional needs, strengthening connections between research communities and the science they rely on. Her work advances access to trusted, peer-reviewed physiological research through APS journals and open access initiatives. Stacey brings more than 20 years of scholarly publishing experience from Springer Nature, ASM, SLA, and AAAS/Science, and serves on the board of the Society Publishers' Coalition, representing over 100 nonprofit societies advancing sustainable open scholarship.

Mark Carden is Chairman of the Researcher to Reader Conference, and is a Managing Consultant at Mosaic Search & Selection, an executive recruitment firm specialising in scholarly communications. Previously, he was head of global sales & marketing at Publishing Technology (Ingenta), and worked in the publishing and libraries sector for over 25 years, including senior sales and marketing positions at Ingram, Innovative and Dynix. Earlier in his career, he worked at Barclays and Accenture. He has a BA in Philosophy & Psychology from Oxford University. He is a member of the Advisory Board for the 2026 R2R Conference.

Alejandra Clark is the Managing Editor of Biology Open, published by The Company of Biologists, where she is leading the Fast & Fair peer review initiative aimed at improving the speed and quality of peer review. Before 2024 she was Division Editor of the Life Sciences team at PLOS ONE, where she was involved in randomised controlled trials designed to improve the reporting of biomedical research. She was part of the ARRIVE working group that reviewed and revised the guidelines into ARRIVE 2. in 2020 Alejandra completed her PhD at the University of Edinburgh in 2006.

Jonny Coates is the Executive Director of Rippling Ideas. He was previously an immunologist and is a leading expert in preprints and metascience, focusing on science communication and research culture reform. Since 2020, he has published influential papers on preprints, appeared on international radio (BBC Radio 4, ORF, German National Radio), and been featured in major media outlets. Jonny created and hosts the Preprints in Motion podcast, advocating for preprints' benefits for early-career researchers. He serves on the scientific advisory boards of Europe PMC, eiRxiv, and AREN.

Mark Collins is Director of Academic at Virtusales Publishing Solutions and has over 25 years of publishing industry experience. He has implemented the Virtusales BiblioSuite software for global publishers including Elsevier, Macmillan and Bloomsbury, as well as academic leaders like OUP, Harvard and MIT. Mark previously held various roles at Wiley, where he focused on implementing and delivering global technology solutions across the business. He is also a mentor for the SSP and ALPSP organisations.

Jason De Boer is Managing Director at De Boer Consultancy, and is also Growth Director with Kriyadocs, leading global sales and marketing activities for its publishing workflow technology solutions. He is also an independent consultant, supporting organisations in areas including commercial strategy, business development and research work. Jason has previously held senior roles with Aries Systems, the British Standards Institution, OCLC and Cengage. He is a participant in the ALPSP Mentorship Scheme. For the 2026 R2R Conference, he has managed the Workshops part of the programme.

Ritu Dhand is Chief Scientific Officer at Springer Nature. She is responsible for championing editorial excellence across the Springer Nature Journals Portfolio. She is committed to promoting open and inclusive publishing values and ensuring trust in publishing. The role builds upon a foundation in publishing as Vice President Nature Journals, where she oversaw the editorial strategy and management of *Nature*, *Nature Communications* and the *Nature Research & Review* journals. Her career has spanned both publishing and research, as an editor on Nature before being promoted to Chief Biological Sciences Editor, and prior to that, spending over 10 years in cancer research.

Christine Dunn is Senior Product Director for Research and Analytics at Clarivate. She has recently assumed responsibility for Web of Science researcher profiles and is leading a team to deliver the next iteration of trusted, open, and collaborative author records. Christine's previous work at Clarivate has focused on open science, research integrity and government funder strategy. Previously, she spent 10 years at Wiley working across international markets promoting further education and professional development, and began her career at The MIT Press.

Gareth Dyke is Partnership Director at Prophy.ai and is a publishing consultant. He is also a globally-recognised evolutionary biologist and palaeontologist who has spent more than two decades working at the cutting edge of science, publishing around 380 peer-reviewed papers (including in *Nature*, *Science* and *PNAS*) and contributing to the discovery of ancient birds and dinosaurs across five continents. He holds professorships at the University of Debrecen (Hungary) and the Chengdu University of Technology (China), and is affiliated (as a researcher and publishing consultant) with the China University of Geosciences.
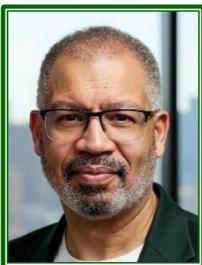
Nikesh Gosalia is the Chief Partnership Officer at Cactus Communications, where he leads global partnerships with academic publishers, societies, universities and research organizations. He is responsible for strategic alliances, market development and long-term collaborations across Europe, North America and Asia. Nikesh has over 17 years of experience in scholarly publishing and research communication. He hosts the Insights Xchange podcast and regularly moderates industry panels at conferences. He is an active contributor across industry forums and panels, speaking on topics including AI in academia, research integrity and ONOS.

Emma Green is Director of Development at Invest in Open Infrastructure, where she brings a systems-thinking approach to open infrastructure sustainability that bridges commercial acumen with mission-driven values. She coaches infrastructure organizations on financial resilience and product-market fit and facilitates cross-sector dialogues between publishers, tech companies, funders and libraries, to find common ground for collaboration. Her background spans 28 years in STM publishing at Nature, Springer, Hindawi and Wiley, plus conservation genetics, marine biology and commercial organic farming.

Thomas Guillemaud is co-founder of Peer Community In and a member of the executive board of the Peer Community Journal. He is a senior scientist at the National Research Institute for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (Inrae) where he studies the evolutionary biology and ecology of insect pest species. Thomas Guillemaud completed his PhD at the University of Montpellier in 1997 and now works in Sophia Antipolis, France.

Darrell W Gunter is the Managing Director at the Gunter Media Group. Darrell also serves as Chief Commercial Officer of Gadget Software's TopicLake Insights, and is an adjunct professor at Seton Hall University. He holds an MBA from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. His background includes serving as Senior Vice President for the Americas at Elsevier, where he launched ScienceDirect and Scopus. He previously worked as EVP/CMO at Collexis Holdings and as National Sales Director at Dow Jones Financial News Services. He is the author of *Transforming Scholarly Publishing With Blockchain Technologies and AI*.

Elizabeth (Lizzy) Hay is Associate Director at Editorial Office (part of Molecular Connections), who provide peer review services and technologies to academic publishers and societies. Before joining Editorial Office in 2023, Lizzy worked on and led publishing programmes for learned societies and medical Royal Colleges for over 15 years, and has worked with various publishing partners including Elsevier, Sage, Wiley and Cambridge University Press. She holds a BSc (hons) in Biological Sciences from the University of Birmingham.

Hannah Hope is Open Research Lead at Wellcome, an independent charitable foundation, delivering the organisation's ambition that the research they fund is open. Her work centres on creating an enabling environment for open research through policies, infrastructure, community building and skills. Her experience includes large scale multi-funder partnerships for research and infrastructure, research policy design and implementation, grant portfolio management, publishing, public engagement and science communication. Hannah is also on the board of the OA Switchboard.

Haseeb Irfanullah is an independent consultant on environment, climate change and research systems. Over the last 26 years, Haseeb has worked for different international development organizations, academic institutions, donors and the Government of Bangladesh. He is the co-chair of Environment and Sustainability Committee of European Association of Science Editors, a member of the Editorial Board of *Learned Publishing*, and an associate of INASP. Haseeb has a PhD in aquatic ecology from the University of Liverpool. For the 2026 R2R Conference, he is a member of the Advisory Board and has also managed the Lightning Talks part of the programme.

Christian Kaier is Deputy Head of the Publication Services Department at Graz University Library, providing support to researchers on topics related to scholarly publishing. He oversees the library's open access publication funds for journal articles and books. Previously, he was responsible for the law publishing programme at an academic publishing house.

Hylke Koers is the Chief Information Officer for STM Solutions, STM's operational arm, which develops and manages shared infrastructures and collaborative services to support the scholarly communications community. He is responsible for the STM Integrity Hub and is program director for GetFTR and SeamlessAccess. Before joining STM, Hylke worked in several senior technology and product management roles, in both private and public sector organizations, supporting the research community. He has held leading roles in FAIRsFAIR, the Research Data Alliance and has served on the EOSC Architecture Working Group. Hylke holds a PhD in theoretical physics from the University of Amsterdam.

Wolfgang M Kuebler is Director of the Institute of Physiology at the Charité - Universitätsmedizin Berlin and Full Professor of Physiology and Surgery at the University of Toronto, Canada. His research focuses on pulmonary and cardiovascular physiology and disease mechanisms. He serves as Chair of the Publications Committee for the American Physiological Society, and oversees 16 scientific journals highlighting critical advances in physiology and related fields. Wolfgang completed his MD and doctoral dissertation at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University of Munich and has spent over 10 years in North America (Harvard, Columbia and U Toronto).

Chris Leonard is Director of Product Solutions at Cactus Communications, focusing on solving publisher problems through appropriate use of technology and AI. He has worked in a variety of editorial and technical roles at Emerald, Qatar Foundation, Springer Nature, BMC, Elsevier, and Current Science. His current area of interest is in reducing peer review times for authors through judicious use of human expertise and AI. He has a BSc and a PhD Colour Chemistry from the University of Leeds.

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Stewart Manley is an Assistant Professor in the School of Law and Criminology, Maynooth University, Ireland. Stewart's research focuses on citation patterns in the judgments of the International Criminal Court, human rights in Southeast Asia and scholarly publishing. Stewart is also an Associate Editor with the International Journal of Transitional Justice.

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Jayne Marks is CEO at Maverick Publishing Consultants. Jayne started her career in journals in the UK, where she eventually became director of the newly-formed Nature Publishing Group, managing a range of Nature journals. Jayne moved to the US in 2008 to work for SAGE Publishing as VP Journals. Jayne moved to the East Coast in 2011 working at Wolters Kluwer Health Learning, Research and Practice for 10 years, overseeing a broad portfolio of journals and society partners. For the 2026 R2R Conference, she is a member of the Advisory Board and has also helped to manage the Workshops part of the programme.

Rachel Martin is the Senior Global Director of Sustainability at Elsevier, leading initiatives to integrate sustainability and the SDGs across the publishing sector, with a particular focus on climate action. She has played a pivotal role in developing industry resources, including the SDG roadmap and the digital journal carbon calculator, which provide publishers with practical tools and case studies to advance sustainability. Rachel represents Elsevier on multiple industry sustainability committees and currently chairs the STM Social Responsibility Committee. Her work centres on embedding social responsibility and sustainable practices within scholarly communication.

David Maslove is a Clinician Scientist in the Departments of Medicine and Critical Care Medicine at Queen's University, in Kingston, Canada. His research focuses on precision medicine in the Intensive Care Unit. Dr Maslove completed medical school and residency in Internal Medicine at the University of Toronto, and trained in Critical Care Medicine at Stanford University where he also completed graduate studies in Biomedical Informatics. He is an Associate Editor at the *Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ)*, and a Senior Editor at *Critical Care Medicine (CCM)*.

Lautaro Matas is Technical Manager at LA Referencia and former Executive and Technical Director (2020–2025). He is Project Leader and Software Developer of the LA Referencia Platform. He studied Computer Science at the University of Buenos Aires and has held senior technical roles at CAICYT-CONICET, RICYT, and the Ibero-American Observatory of Science, Technology and Society (OEI), where he coordinated and developed the Intelligo portal. His work focuses on federated open science infrastructure, metadata aggregation, persistent identifiers, multilingual discovery, and the application of AI and decentralized technologies to open science at regional and global scale.

Leslie McIntosh is VP of Research Integrity and Security at Digital Science and leads Forensics Scientometrics (FoSci), an initiative using forensic scientometrics to detect manipulation and strengthen trust in research. An academic-turned-entrepreneur, she founded Ripeta in 2017 to improve research integrity, which is now a key part of Digital Science. She has advised global governments, institutions, and organizations. Her work was the most-read RetractionWatch post of 2022. In 2023, her influential ideas on achieving equity in research were highlighted in *The Guardian* and *Science*.

Mary Miskin is Global Operations Director at Charlesworth, where she takes responsibility for the strategic leadership of editorial and product operations. She is currently focused on developing AI-powered software solutions for the STM publishing market, applying her extensive experience in editorial operations and workflow design to drive technological innovation that supports operational excellence and efficiency within publishers. Mary is current chair of the European Advisory Council for the International Society of Managing and Technical Editors (ISMTE), having previously served as a Board Director.

Godwyns Onwuchekwa is Principal Consultant at Global Tapestry Consulting, working internationally to advance equitable and participatory approaches to community engagement in scholarly communication and public health. With over 15 years' experience across the public, private, and voluntary sectors, he focuses on inclusive engagement, leadership development, and embedding mental wellbeing in organisational culture, underpinned by a commitment to addressing structural inequities. He was formerly Head of Communities at eLife. He is an advocate for open research and community-led knowledge exchange, and is a trained Mental Health First Aider.

Lou Peck is CEO at The International Bunch, bringing 25 years of marketing expertise to the table and 23 years in the research ecosystem. She has worked at the British Standards Institution, Royal Society of Chemistry, ProQuest, Kudos and Wiley. Since 2016, she has been supporting societies, academic publishers, intermediaries and institutions. Lou specialises in strategy, research, engagement, being a sounding board for senior leadership, and delivering training and coaching. She is a huge advocate for progressing positive change through shared learning and a DEIA champion.

Sarah Phibbs is the Director of Equity & Inclusion at the STM Accociation, working to foster global research equity by enabling reciprocal, diverse and rich scholarly exchange. Sarah works within the UN-Publisher partnership Research4Life, representing the 200 research publishers engaged with the mission to increase researcher participation from Low and Middle Income Countries. Previously, she was Wiley's Vice President for society research publishing across life, health, physical and social science & humanities. Sarah is also a NED at Edinburgh University Press and a consultant for societies and publishers focusing on sustainable publishing, strategy, and innovation.

David Prosser is the Executive Director at RLUK, the representative body for the UK's leading research libraries. From 2002 to 2010 he was the founding Director of SPARC Europe, an alliance of over 110 research-led university libraries from 14 European countries advocating new models of scholarly communication. Previously, he spent ten years in STM journal publishing for both Oxford University Press and Elsevier Science, covering all aspects of publishing from production through to editorial and financial management of journals. Before becoming a publisher, he received a PhD and BSc in Physics from Leeds University.

Simone Ragavooloo is the Research Integrity Portfolio Manager at Frontiers, where she leads a large team of research integrity managers and specialists and oversees the research integrity auditing division. She has been an advisor for COPE since 2023 and has held editorial and integrity positions at BMJ and Springer Nature. Simone's work includes leading internal research projects that support evidence-based policy formation and her current projects focus on applying AI to strengthen research integrity.

Nancy Roberts is COO at Maverick Publishing Consultants, providing expert advice and services to scholarly publishers and societies. She heads up the Tech & Content division working on client projects from AI application to workflow redesign. She is also a judge for the British Book Design & Production awards, and provides management and leadership training to publishers as co-founder of Management in Publishing. She has a PhD in Postcolonial Feminist Literature and an MBA from Cranfield University

Peter Rodgers is Chief Magazine Editor at eLife, overseeing the publication of a range of non-research content in the journal. He was part of the team that launched the journal in 2012, and he also oversees the peer review of research articles about meta-research. Previously he was Editor of Physics World magazine and Chief Editor of Nature Nanotechnology. Peter holds a PhD in theoretical physics from Queen's University Belfast.

David Rowe is Head of Content and Discovery at the University of Sussex, where he leads services spanning acquisitions, metadata, reading lists and electronic resources. With a strong background in library content, systems and data, he joined Sussex's Library, Culture and Heritage department in April 2025 David has also contributed to the HE library sector through voluntary roles, including Co-chair of the SUPC Library Group and membership of several Jisc Advisory Groups.

Lisa Schilhan is Head of Publication Services at Graz University Library. As an expert in scholarly communication, she supports researchers at all stages of their careers and advises them on various aspects of scientific publishing. She supervises the Diamond Open Access journals and manages the Diamond Open Access publisher Graz University Library Publishing.

Tommaso Valletti is Professor of Economics at Imperial College London, and Adjunct Professor at the Norwegian School of Economics. He is the Director of the CEPR Research and Policy Network on Competition Policy. He was the Chief Competition Economist of the European Commission between 2016 and 2019. Tommaso has a magna cum laude degree in engineering and a flute diploma from Turin, and holds a MSc and a PhD in economics from the London School of Economics. He has published in the fields of industrial economics, regulation, and competition economics.

Krishna Kumar Venkitachalam Iyer is Innovation Officer at Enago. He has over 17 years of experience in academic publishing under various roles, including manuscript editing/writing, author education, language technology solutions, and innovation. He has conducted several interactive training programs and author workshops collaboration with universities and publishers. With his background in academia, experience in science communication experience, and affinity towards technological solutions, he plays a role as a consultant in the integration of new technologies to publishing platforms and for designing customized publication solutions for institutions and publishers. He is also a qualified MD and orthopaedic surgeon.

Keith Webster is the Helen and Henry Posner Jr Dean of University Libraries at Carnegie Mellon University, where he also serves as Director of Emerging and Integrative Media Initiatives. He was previously a Vice President at Wiley, and before that held leadership roles at The University of Queensland, Victoria University of Wellington, HM Treasury and SOAS. Keith sits on the Steering Committee of the Coalition for Networked Information and was formerly Chair of NISO. He is both a Chartered Fellow and an Honorary Fellow of CILIP.

Event Management & Conference Services

The Conference is excellently supported by the team from The Events Hub, who have been handling all of our event management, communications and administration since 2016. This year's team included Ruby Sweeney and Cat Bibby.

Our physical venue since 2015 has been BMA House, and we would like to thank their whole team, particularly Sasha Lee. BMA House has always been a great physical location for us, and has been very supportive throughout our online and hybrid experiments in 2020-2023.

Design, proof-reading and printing were by Mark Carden, Ruby Sweeney, Helen Bowers and Brian Wade.

Advisory Board

The Advisory Board for this Researcher to Reader Conference provided outstanding guidance in the development of this year's Programme, recommending relevant topics and talented speakers, and reviewing responses to our call for papers. They have also provided a great deal of operational assistance throughout the planning and delivery of the event. We also acknowledge the past and continuing support of our Board Members Emeritus.

Conference Advisory Board

Mark Allin	Danny Kingsley
Rick Anderson	Arend Küster
Mark Carden	Jayne Marks
Laura Cox	Fiona Murphy
Bernie Folan	Heather Staines
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Board Members Emeritus

Chris Banks	Peter Lawson
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Phill Jones	

Anyone who may be interested in volunteering to support a future Researcher to Reader Conference should review the governance page on the website, and contact the event organisers.

BMA HOUSE
LONDON, WC1

BMA House Ground Floor

Paget Room

Snow Room

up

down

Anderson Barnes Suite

Courtyard

Café and toilets in basement

Murrell Room

Reception

BMA House 1st Floor

Stage

Great Hall

up

down

Courtyard

Council Chamber

Worcester Room

Prince's Room