



**THE POWER OF LIBRARIES IN  
AN UNCERTAIN WORLD**



**55<sup>th</sup> LIBER ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

Hosted by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology



Norwegian University of  
Science and Technology



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Dear attendees,

**It is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you to the 55th LIBER Conference, to be held in Trondheim in July 2026. I am very grateful to the Norwegian University of Science and Technology and to the entire NTNU library team for inviting us to host our major annual event in Norway.**

The current international context poses challenges and concerns for higher education and research. The geopolitical situation and the war in the Middle East are having an impact on universities in terms of both welcoming international students and facilitating research collaboration. But more globally, academic freedom, students' ability to move freely and the circulation of knowledge are being hindered against a backdrop of rising global tensions and worrying push-back of the frameworks for cooperation established in order to ensure a long-lasting peace based on mutual respect after the Second World War.

The rise of misinformation and disinformation, as well as the growing lack of trust in science, with irresponsible and hateful use of social media in a Post-Truth world searching for meaning, also has an impact on academic communities. Academia is facing significant challenges, where science is increasingly viewed as just another opinion, as highlighted by the G7 Academies of Science in 2019, and more recently illustrated by the Grokopedia initiative, which is largely based on unreliable sources.

The reorientation of political agendas and the reallocation of funding away from education, continuing professional development, and research on one hand, and the sudden, massive, and unregulated development of artificial intelligence on the other, are recent milestones that lead to a turning point for academia, bringing new threats, but also new opportunities.

University and research libraries have identified that they have a role to play to tackle those issues and seize those opportunities, as illustrated by the overarching theme of our 2026 conference: 'The Power of Libraries in an Uncertain World'. This reflects the ambition of research libraries to strengthen their role as valuable, relevant, and trusted hubs for their users, and for society more broadly. I would like to take the opportunity of this welcome address to invite everyone to promote and expand our core values and our strong belief in science as a global public good, to optimistically take initiative for and with our academic communities, and to act boldly to help shaping a better future, following the words of Martin Luther King: "We must keep moving, we must keep going. If you can't fly, run, if you can't run, walk, if you can't walk, crawl, but by all means, keep moving".

On behalf of the whole LIBER Board, let me wish you a nice stay in Trondheim and a wonderful conference.

Sincerely,

**Julien Roche**  
LIBER President



**Dear Delegates, Dear Colleagues**

**It is a great pleasure to welcome you to Trondheim and to NTNU – the Norwegian University of Science and Technology – for the 55th LIBER conference.**

NTNU is an internationally oriented university with roots dating back to 1760 with the foundation of Det Trondhiemske Selskab (Trondheim Academy). NTNU's main profile is within science and technology, a variety of programmes of professional study, and great academic breadth that also includes the humanities, social sciences, economics, medicine, health sciences, educational science, architecture, entrepreneurship, art disciplines and artistic activities. This summer we mark the 10-year anniversary of the mergers that made NTNU the largest university in Norway.

The conference theme “The Power of Libraries in an Uncertain World” is especially relevant today. We are witnessing turmoil and new political winds in many Western countries that we once took for granted as open and democratic. In this landscape, university libraries are essential allies for academic freedom, information literacy, and open research. Libraries form part of the infrastructure of free expression; they are independent meeting places and arenas for public conversation and debate, safeguarding knowledge sources that connect us both to our history and to the future, and ensure access to information that can counter misinformation and rising censorship.

I hope that the conference setting will foster engaging and fruitful discussions about the role of libraries in the new reality we are experiencing, and that we can strengthen ourselves as knowledge professionals and institutions that uphold and advance democratic values—-independent research, dissemination of knowledge, and freedom of speech.

Trondheim is a vibrant city with a rich history and cultural life. You are invited to an organ concert in our beautiful Gothic cathedral, and you will have the opportunity to visit Rockheim, the national museum of popular music. I also hope you find time to wander through our lovely city.

On behalf of NTNU and our university library, I extend a warm welcome to you and wish you a successful conference.

**Anna Løken**

Library Director, NTNU University Library

# VENUE

## NORWEGIAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) is the largest university in Norway. It was founded in 1996, and has a legacy of scientific institutions with roots dating back to the 18th century.

At NTNU, the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, we create knowledge for a better world and solutions that can change everyday life. It is a university with an international focus, with headquarters in Trondheim, campuses in Ålesund and Gjøvik and a Brussels Office.

Our main profile is in science and technology, a variety of programmes of professional study, and great academic breadth that also includes the humanities, social sciences, economics, medicine, health sciences, educational science, architecture, entrepreneurship, art disciplines and artistic activities.

NTNU has eight faculties, the University Museum and University Library, 43,550 students and 8,960 full-time equivalent employees.

You can learn more about NTNU, our academic programmes, research initiatives, and campus facilities at the official website.

## IMPORTANT LOCATIONS

The venue of the LIBER Annual Conference 2026 is at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).

The venue for the LIBER Annual Conference 2026 is the Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) on the “Gløshaugen” campus, NTNU (Street address: Høgskoleringen 5, 7034 Trondheim, Norway). All rooms for the conference will be held mainly on the lower floor U1, and U2.

To navigate inside the conference venue you can use MazeMap (The entrance is on level 1, the conference is mainly taking place on level U1).

To access the venue take the local bus number 3 towards Lohove or number 22 bus towards Vestlia and get off at Gløshaugen





**NATURAL SCIENCES BUILDING**

First basement

**Plenary Sessions:** R1 & R2

**Parallel Sessions:** R2, R5, R7, R8 & R9

**Workshops:** R90, R91, R92, R93, R22 & R23

**Sponsor Meeting Rooms:** R20 & R21

**Exhibition Area:** Sponsor Booths & Networking Power Sessions



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# SOCIAL EVENTS

## ORGAN CONCERT

The Municipality of Trondheim invites the LIBER 2026 attendees to an Organ Concert in Trondheim's national shrine Nidaros Cathedral. The cathedral is built over the tomb of the Viking king St. Olav who converted Norway to Christianity.

**Date:** 01 July 2026

**Time:** 6:50-7:30 PM

(doors close precisely at 7:00 PM and you cannot enter thereafter)

**Location:** Nidaros Cathedral

## CONFERENCE RECEPTION

The conference reception will be held on the first day of the conference, following the organ concert. The reception will be a relaxing event during which the delegates will have an opportunity to talk to colleagues and peers in the characteristic red, round Student Society (Studentersamfundet). The reception will be held in Café Edgar at the Student Society, where the delegates will enjoy local drinks and delicacies.

**Date:** 01 July 2026

**Time:** 7:30-9:30 PM

**Location:** Café Edgar, Student Society

## CONFERENCE DINNER (OPTIONAL)

The Conference Dinner will take place in Rockheim, the national museum of popular music. Located on the fifth floor, Rockheim Panorama offers sweeping views of the Trondheim Fjord and the charming city. With its spacious outdoor terrace and a menu crafted with care and creativity, it is the perfect place to enjoy a lovely meal while you soak in the beautiful scenery. The conference dinner is a standing dinner.

**Date:** 02 July 2026

**Time:** 7:00-9:00 PM

**Location:** Rockheim Panorama

## GUIDED LIBRARY VISITS

Following the conclusion of the conference programme on Friday, delegates are invited to attend one of four exclusive library visits. Each visit will last approximately one hour.

Conveniently located within in the conference venue, within walking distance or a short bus ride from the conference venue, these visits offer a unique opportunity to discover more about the NTNU University Library and the diversity within our services and branch libraries.

All the guided library visits will start at a meeting point in the conference venue, and we travel to the libraries together.

**Date:** 03 July 2026

**Time:** 3:00/3:30 PM

### THE DRAGVOLL LIBRARY

The Dragvoll Library serves students and staff at NTNU's Dragvoll campus within the disciplines of the humanities and social sciences and holds collections within these fields. The library facilitates events and exhibitions and in addition to traditional library services, the Dragvoll Library also hosts a VR and Digital lab. The library is located near the entrance from the bus stop and is housed in two buildings connected by a bridge and offers more than 400 varied study spaces and 14 group study rooms.

A key part of creating vibrant and inspiring library spaces is filling them with support and guidance services, and regular professional lunch events and exhibitions in collaboration with academic communities on campus and external communities.

The visit will provide a guided tour in the library, with emphasis on the development of library spaces made using different methods (e.g. UX) to meet users' changing needs and changes in services and needs from a library science perspective.

**Starting time:** 3:00 PM at meeting point in the conference venue, the guided tour will start at 3:30 PM.

18 minutes bus ride from the conference venue.

### THE GUNNERUS LIBRARY

(with our special collections)

The Gunnerus Library, hosting parts of the Special Collections of the NTNU University Library, is located nearby the City centre, and have a history dating back to the establishment of the library of the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters in 1768, eight years after the founding of the Society itself.

For more than 250 years, the Gunnerus Library has collected and preserved important cultural and historical materials. Today, the Special Collections consist of extensive book collections covering more than 500 years, with a particular emphasis on the period 1650–1800, as well as manuscripts, theatre programmes and posters, private archives, images, charters, medieval fragments, music sheets, maps and seals. Nine documents in the Special collections are inscribed in the register of Norway's documentary heritage and is a part of UNESCO's Memory of the World.

This presentation will provide a brief overview of these collections, which are typically accessible in the reading room, or in digital versions online.

**Starting time:** 3:00 PM at meeting point in the conference venue, the guided tour will start at 3:30 PM.

Short bus ride or 35 minutes walking distance from the conference venue.

### THE ØYA LIBRARY

The Øya Library serves students and staff at NTNU's Øya campus, within the field of medicine, health and social studies. In addition, the library also serves the users at St. Olavs Hospital and has primary responsibility for supporting the other health trusts covered by the cooperation agreement with Central Norway Regional Health Authority (Helse Midt-Norge RHF). The Øya Library is located at Campus Øya in the Knowledge Centre and offers more than 300 varied study spaces and twelve group rooms.

The Øya Library holds collections in medicine and the health sciences and was established in 2013. The visit will provide a guided tour in the library, with emphasis on the development of library spaces made using different methods (e.g. UX) to meet users' changing needs, and with the aim of creating inspirational learning spaces that promote professional identity.

A key part of creating vibrant and inspiring library spaces is filling them with support and guidance services, and exhibition and outreach activities such as lunch talks, seminars, book launches and seminars. During the tour, you'll learn more about how we work with outreach activities in the library, and you'll also get a chance to see the exhibition 'Life in Death' at the nearby Medical Museum, one of the library's close collaborators.

**Starting time:** 3:05 PM at meeting point in the conference venue, the guided tour will start at 3:30 PM.

Within walking distance from the conference venue (20 minute walk)

### THE NTNU UNIVERSITY LIBRARY ROADMAP

NTNU Unified Campus will bring academic communities together on and around Gløshaugen. This is the largest development project in the university's history and will be completed in 2030. Creating an open and unified campus that supports collaboration, learning, and a vibrant student life. It includes construction of five new buildings and upgrading of NTNU's Main Building. Outdoor areas will also be improved, making the entire campus more welcoming and accessible for students, staff, and visitors.



The University Library and the branches is also affected by this, and in April 2025 rector adopted a roadmap for libraries, which among other changes includes a decrease from 11 down to six libraries and one main repository in Trondheim. In this session the realization project for the new library infrastructure will be presented, describing the consequences of the roadmap, including highlights, possibilities and obstacles.

**Starting time:** 3:30 PM

## Discover Trusted AI for Your Library

Visit us at **Booth P15** to connect and explore how innovation and integrity are shaping modern research platforms; and what that means for your library.

Join Our Session:

### FROM DATA TO DISCOVERY: Trusted AI in Library Platforms

Thursday, 2 July, 13:00–13:30

Claus Wolf, *Director of  
Library Services Engineering*



Learn how EBSCO is building responsible AI for more precise, trustworthy discovery.

**EBSCO**

## SVERRESBORG FOLK MUSEUM

Right outside the city centre of Trondheim you find this historical oasis, and one of Trondheim's largest outdoors park areas.

The folk museum in Trondheim is built around the ruins of King Sverre's castle Sion, which date as far back as 1183. This open-air museum is the third largest in Norway.

We will meet at 9:45 AM at Quality Hotel Prinsen in the city centre and take the bus to Sverresborg together.

You will be guided through history and landscapes, and explore beautiful buildings from city – and farm life in Trøndelag. After the tour we will have a light lunch at the Museum restaurant. The tour is outside, so take the weather into account when you dress for this outing. Wear sensible shoes, check the weather forecast, and bring an umbrella just in case.

When the tour is done you are free to roam on your own. You must find your way back to the city centre on your own.

**Date:** 04 July 2026

**Time:** We will meet at 09:45 AM by Quality Hotel Prinsen in the city centre

**Tour:** 10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

**Location:** Sverresborg Folk Museum

## EXHIBITION: THE DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE OF NORWAY AT NTNU

The Documentary Heritage of Norway is the Norwegian section of UNESCO's Memory of the World initiative. This is a registry which consists of our country's most important historical documents, and NTNU holds ten objects that are part of this heritage. Nine of them are kept at the NTNU University Library, and one at the NTNU Science Museum.

The collections of the two institutions originate from the oldest scientific society of the country, the Royal Norwegian Society of Sciences and Letters, established in 1760 as The Trondhiemske Selskab, and from the Norwegian Institute of Technology (NTH) which was established in 1910.

The NTNU University Library has created an exhibiton to showcase these objects, and this exhibition will be on display during LIBER 2026. Employees from the Library's Section for Special Collections will be available for questions.

**Date:** 01-03 July 2026

**Location:** Outside R1 in the Conference Venue

**Library staff available:**

Wednesday 12:15-1:30 PM and 3:00-4:00 PM

Thursday: 10:45-11:45 AM



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## PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

The programme is subject to change on short notice, to stay updated, check the [online programme](#).

### PRE-CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

#### SUNDAY, 28 JUNE 2026

##### Emerging Leaders Programme Seminar\*

Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) - NTNU

*\*By invitation only*

#### MONDAY, 29 JUNE 2026

##### Emerging Leaders Programme Seminar\*

Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) - NTNU

##### LIBER Executive Board Meeting\*

Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) D1-185

*\*By invitation only*

#### TUESDAY, 30 JUNE 2026

##### Emerging Leaders Programme Seminar\*

Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) - NTNU

##### LIBER Executive Board Meeting\*

Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) D1-185

##### Side Meetings\*

Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) - NTNU

##### Leadership Programmes Alumni Drinks\*

(Participants from the Emerging Leaders Programme, Middle Management Training, and Journées)

*\*By invitation only. See the full programme online for details.*

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026

08:00 – 18:00	<b>Registration</b> Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) - Main Entrance U1
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> Location: R1
09:30 – 10:30	<b>Opening Keynote Speech</b> Location: R1 <b>Kenneth Ruud</b> , Director General, Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI)
10:30 – 10:40	<b>Conference Picture</b> Location: R1
10:30 – 18:00	<b>Professional &amp; Poster Exhibition</b> Location: Professional & Poster Exhibition Area
10:40 – 11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b> Location: Professional & Poster Exhibition Area
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Parallel Sessions</b>  <b>Session 1: Practising Openness I – Location: R2</b> <b>1.1</b>   Implementing Rights Retention: A Shared Model for Finnish Universities and Its Broader Potential - Susanna Nykyri, Tampere University, Finland; Tua Hindersson-Söderholm, Aalto University, Finland <b>1.2</b>   Rights Retention and Secondary Publication Rights in Germany: Status Quo, Challenges, and Perspectives - Marc Lange, Helmholtz Association, Germany <b>1.3</b>   Negotiating Openness of Publication Metadata - A Joint Task Force - Bianca Kramer, Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information, The Netherlands

### WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026

	<b>Session 2: AI and Library Service Development I – Location: R7</b> <b>2.1</b>   Providing Visual Cultural Heritage Material for AI in Research - Joonas Manner, National Library of Finland, Finland <b>2.2</b>   A Library Led Pilot on Custom GPT Driven Discovery: Strengthening Student Engagement with AI and Information Literacy - Cristina Huidiu, Wageningen University & Research, The Netherlands; Alicia Gómez, IE University, Spain <b>2.3</b>   Building AI Literacy in the Library World - Dagfinn Dybvig, NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway
	<b>Session 3: Advances in Information Systems – Location: R8</b> <b>3.1</b>   From Service Innovation to Sustainable Leadership: CRM for Tracking and Analyzing Research Consultations at the National Library of Technology, Prague - Nadežda Firsová and Alexey Ryzhkov, National Library of Technology, Czech Republic <b>3.2</b>   NumaHOP: A Complete Digitization Chain to Promote Open Science - Olesea Dubois, Sciences Po, France; Vincent Tardif, École Normale Supérieure, France <b>3.3</b>   DSpace Reimagined: AI-Powered Search and Accessibility - Piotr Masalski, PCG Academia, Poland
	<b>Session 4: Trustworthy Automation – Location: R5</b> <b>4.1</b>   Supporting Dataset Curation through Automation at KU Leuven - Dieuwertje Bloemen, KU Leuven, Belgium <b>4.2</b>   Building Applications Without Code: How AI Enables Library Professionals to Develop Tools - Piotr Krajewski, Gdańsk University of Technology, Poland <b>4.3</b>   Advancing Digital Preservation of Research Data with EOSC EDEN's Integrated Framework, Services, Guidelines, and Network - Roxanne Wyns, KU Leuven, Belgium



## WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026

	<p><b>Session 5: Research Libraries in Challenging Landscapes – Location: R9</b></p> <p><b>5.1</b>   Understanding How Academic Libraries in the United States Navigate Uncertain Times: Results from Ithaka S+R's 2025 US Library Deans and Directors Survey -Tracy Bergstrom and Ellen Carroll, Ithaka S+R, United States of America</p> <p><b>5.2</b>   Structured Collaboration for Uncertain Times: The Role of Libraries in European Alliances - Christopher Landes, Hertie School GmbH, Germany; Sophie Forcadell, Sciences Po, France</p> <p><b>5.3</b>   Libraries United: Sumy State University and the University of Liverpool - Matthew Greenhall, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom; Olha Krytska, and Yana Fandikovia, Sumy State University, Ukraine</p>
12:30 – 13:30	<p><b>Lunch</b> Location: Cafeteria 1st floor</p>
13:00 – 13:30	<p><b>Newcomer Session</b> Location: R2</p>
13:30 – 15:00	<p><b>LIBER Strategy Development</b> Location: R2</p>
15:00 – 15:30	<p><b>Poster Session</b> Location: R2</p>
15:30 – 16:00	<p><b>Posters &amp; Coffee Break</b> Location: Professional &amp; Poster Exhibition Area</p>
16:00 – 17:00	<p><b>Panel Session I - Who Leads Next? A European Conversation on Succession Planning in Academic Libraries</b> Location: R2</p>

## WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026

16:00 – 18:00	<p><b>Workshops I</b></p> <p><b>Workshop 1.1</b>   Resilient Libraries: Safety, Ethics and Service Provision in an Uncertain World – Location: R23</p> <p><b>Workshop 1.2</b>   Integrating Citizen Science in your Library in Times of Democratic Challenges – Location: R93</p> <p><b>Workshop 1.3</b>   FAIR and Secure: Data Management under EU Sovereignty and Security Rules – Location: R22</p> <p><b>Workshop 1.4</b>   LIBERating Metadata Flows to Improve Findability of European Open Textbooks and Exploring Tools to Improve Advocacy and Adoption – Location: R91</p> <p><b>Workshop 1.5</b>   Taking Agency in an Uncertain World: Developing a Cyber-Resilience Toolkit for Research Libraries – Location: R92</p> <p><b>Workshop 1.6</b>   Alternative Paths Towards the Future of Open Access – Developments for and by Libraries – Location: R90</p>
17:00 – 18:00	<p><b>Networking Power Session I</b> Location: Professional &amp; Poster Exhibition Area</p>
18:50 – 21:30	<p><b>Organ Concert &amp; Conference Reception*</b> Location: Nidaros Cathedral (Nidarosdomen) &amp; Student Society (Studentersamfundet) <i>*See "Social Events" for details</i></p>

## THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026

07:00 – 07:30	<p><b>Social Activity: How to Run Libraries - 5K Morning Social Run</b> Location: See the full programme online for details.</p>
08:00 – 18:00	<p><b>Registration</b> Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) Location: R4</p>
08:00 – 18:00	<p><b>Professional &amp; Poster Exhibition</b> Location: Professional &amp; Poster Exhibition Area</p>



## THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026

09:00 – 10:30

## Parallel Sessions

**Session 6: Practising Openness II – R2**

**6.1** | From Library Collection to College Curriculum - Rene Tanner, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, United States of America

**6.2** | Leaving Read & Publish Agreements to Preserve Academic Freedom and Access to Knowledge - Aurélie Terrier, Cantonal and University Library of Lausanne, Switzerland

**6.3** | Shaping Sustainable Scholarly Publishing through the European Diamond Capacity Hub and National Capacity Centres - Pierre Mounier, European Diamond Capacity Hub (EDCH)

**Session 7: Responsible Research Data Management I – R5**

**7.1** | Developing Preservation Services for Sensitive Research Data - Mari Elisa Kuusniemi, Helsinki University Library, Finland

**7.2** | Research Data @NTNU: Enabling One Stop Research Support - Ane Møller Gabrielsen, NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

**7.3** | “Driving the Machine”: Libraries and their Partnerships as Key Actors in Strategies for Trustworthy AI in Universities - Sébastien Perrin, Couperin, France

**Session 8: AI and Collection Development – R8**

**8.1** | SubjectSeeker AI: No-Code AI for Subject Matching Rare Books at KU Leuven Libraries Special Collections - An Smets, KU Leuven Libraries, Belgium

**8.2** | What is the Impact of AI on Digital Collections? Lessons Learned from a Research Project in Oxford - Megan Gooch, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

**8.3** | AI and Archives: Utilizing AI to Make Retroactive Finding Aid Conversion Simpler - Alyssa Hyduk, University of Regina, Canada

## THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026

**Session 9: Leadership for Sustainability – R9**

**9.1** | Small Conscious Steps Towards a Sustainable Future: The Case of Malmö University Library - Sara Kjellberg, Malmö University Library, Sweden

**9.2** | Sustainable Empowerment of the Library Landscape in Slovenia - Mojca Rupar Korošec, National and University Library, Slovenia

**9.3** | Develop to Sustain: Collaboration, Projects and Fundraising in Libraries as Means to Encounter a World in Change - Päivi Maria Pihlaja, National Library of Finland, Finland

**Session 10: AI and Library Service Development II – R7**

**10.1** | Navigating Change: Academic Libraries and AI - Mauritzza Jädefrid, Linnaeus University, Sweden

**10.2** | From Complexity to Clarity: Enabling Transparent and Responsible AI-Enabled Data Use at WUR Library - Cristina Huidiu, Wageningen University & Research, The Netherlands

**10.3** | Using LLMs to Design an Indicator for Clinical Relevance - Silvia Fattori, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

10:30 – 11:00

**Coffee Break**

Location: Professional & Poster Exhibition Area

11:00 – 11:30

**LIBER Spotlight Session**

Location: R1

11:30 – 12:30

**Keynote Speech**

Location: R1

**Patrick Weil**, Historian, Founder and Chairman of Libraries Without Borders/Bibliothèques Sans Frontières

12:30 – 13:30

**Lunch**

Location: Cafeteria 1st floor

12:30 – 13:30

**CPC Meeting\***

Location: D1-185

\*By invitation only



THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026	
13:00 – 13:30	<b>Sponsor Update: EBSCO</b> Location: R5
13:30 – 14:30	<b>Meeting of Participants (Annual General Meeting of LIBER)</b> Location: R1
14:30 – 15:00	<b>LIBER Awards Session</b> Location: R1 LIBER Award for Library Innovation & Poster Award - supported by OCLC
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Sponsor Update: Frontiers</b> Location: R1
15:30 – 16:00	<b>Coffee Break</b> Location: Professional & Poster Exhibition Area
16:00 – 17:00	<b>Panel Session II - Giving Knowledge and Truth Visibility and a Place in Society: Case Studies in Civic Engagement Leadership</b> Location: R5
16:00 – 18:00	<b>Workshops II</b> <b>Workshop 2.1</b>   Using the OpenAlex API to Explore Metadata for 250M+ Research Publications – Location: R93 <b>Workshop 2.2</b>   Imagining and Co-creating LIBER's AI Futures: A World Café for Futures Thinking and Strategic Priorities – Location: R22 <b>Workshop 2.3</b>   Sustainable Leadership in an Uncertain World – Location: R91 <b>Workshop 2.4</b>   Generative Humans: Mediating Automation & AI Through Impactful Engagement and Experience with Cultural Collections – Location: R92 <b>Workshop 2.5</b>   Libraries Leading Equitable Scholarly Publishing: Implementing the Diamond Open Access Standard – Location: R23 <b>Workshop 2.6</b>   The Editor in the Age of Generative AI: Past, Present, and Possible Futures – Location: R90

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026	
17:00 – 18:00	<b>Networking Power Session II</b> Location: Professional & Poster Exhibition Area
19:00 – 21:00	<b>Conference Dinner*</b> Location: Rockheim <i>*See "Social Events" for details</i>

FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026	
08:00 – 13:00	<b>Registration</b> Location: Natural Sciences Building (Realfagbygget) - R4
08:00 – 14:30	<b>Professional &amp; Poster Exhibition</b> Location: Professional & Poster Exhibition Area
08:30 – 08:45	<b>Social Activity: Standing Yoga Flow</b> Location: See the full programme online for details.
08:30 – 10:30	<b>LIBER Executive Board Meeting*</b> Location: D1-185 <i>*By invitation only</i>
09:00 – 10:30	<b>Parallel Sessions</b>  <b>Session 11: Leadership for the Future – R8</b> <b>11.1</b>   Building a Future-Ready Library: Lessons and Challenges from the BCUL 2024 User Survey - Adrian Baumann, Cantonal and University Library of Lausanne, Switzerland <b>11.2</b>   From Structure to Strategy: Building Future-Ready Library Teams at UAB - Núria Casaldàliga Rojas and Anna Florensa Farré, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain <b>11.3</b>   Beyond Hierarchy, Not Beyond Responsibility: Ethical Leadership in a Role Based Academic Library - Gabriela Lüthi-Espósito, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland

**FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026**

**Session 12: Responsible Research Data Management II – R5**

**12.1** | AI 4 RDM: Exploring AI for Research Data Management Support at KU Leuven Libraries - Miara Fraikin, KU Leuven Libraries, Belgium

**12.2** | Human-Centred AI for Data Management Plan Assessment and Support - Anne-Marie Tuikka, University of Turku, Finland

**12.3** | Developing a National Research Data Management Framework for Ireland - Armin Straube, University of Limerick, Ireland

**Session 13: Opening Research Information – R2**

**13.1** | Monitoring Strategic Technologies Using Open Research Information - Matthijs de Zwaan, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**13.2** | Trajectory Modelling of OA Publishing Costs Using Open Research Information - Cameron Neylon, Independent, Sweden

**13.3** | Beyond Licences and APIs: A Human-Centred Decision Framework for Finance Data in Research Libraries - Tsvetanka Slavcheva, Sofia University, Bulgaria

**Session 14: Shifts in Research Assessment – R7**

**14.1** | Reshaping Research Assessment: Monitoring and Rewarding Openness - Evgenios Vlachos, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

**14.2** | Let's not Recreate Rankings: The Principles of Open Science Monitoring - Laetitia Bracco, University of Lorraine, France

**14.3** | HAL as an Open Infrastructure for Automated Open-Science Monitoring: Insights from Université Paris-Saclay's BiSO - H el ene B egn is, CCSD/CNRS, France; Delphine Le Piolet and Henri Bretel, University of Paris-Saclay, France

**FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026**

**Session 15: Human Interfaces with Technology – R9**

**15.1** | Hackathons as Methodology: Advancing Collections as Data Through International Participation - Ayla Karaman, Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford, United Kingdom; Roman Kuhn, Berlin State Library, Germany

**15.2** | Mapping Stakeholder Tension in Automatic Text Recognition (ATR) Practice - Joseph Nockels, University of Sheffield, Digital Humanities Institute, United Kingdom

**15.3** | From Local Memory to Research-Ready Knowledge: Community-Driven Urban History in a Research Library Repository - Agnes Koreny, Metropolitan Ervin Szab o Library, Budapest

10:30 – 11:00	<b>Coffee Break</b> Location: Professional & Poster Exhibition Area
11:00 – 12:00	<b>National Insights: Norway</b> Location: R1
12:00 – 13:00	<b>Keynote Speech</b> Location: R1 <b>Jemimah Steinfeld</b> , CEO, Index on Censorship
13:00 – 13:30	<b>Conference Closing Ceremony</b> Location: R1
13:30 – 14:30	<b>Lunch</b> Location: Cafeteria 1st floor
15:00	<b>Social Programme: Guided Library visits (Optional)*</b> <i>*See "Social Events" for details</i>

**SATURDAY, 4 JULY 2026**

10:00 – 13:30	<b>Social Programme: Sverresborg Folk Museum (Optional)*</b> <i>*See "Social Events" for details</i>
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# DETAILED PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY



# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026 (09:30 – 10:30)

## KENNETH RUUD

**Location:** R1

**Moderator:** Dóra Kalydy, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary

**Speaker:** Kenneth Ruud, Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI), Lillestrøm, Norway

### The Future of Open Science in a World with an Increasing Conflict Level

The dissemination of scientific knowledge has long been a driving force behind technological and societal progress, and remains central to the vision of open science. However, shifts in the geopolitical landscape are reshaping the narrative around the role of science. Rapid technological advancements have placed science and innovation at the heart of global competition, raising concerns about the sharing of critical technologies and sensitive knowledge.

At the same time, science itself is increasingly being questioned. The inherent uncertainty in scientific findings is sometimes misused to dismiss even well-established results. Misinformation and disinformation undermine society's ability to make evidence-based decisions and may also affect the reliability of outputs from large language models. These challenges are compounded by the rise of paper mills and a peer review system under pressure from the growing volume of publications. Together, these trends risk deepening the divide between science and society.

In this context, key questions arise: How can science—and open science in particular—respond to these global developments? How can researchers navigate environments where governments may seek to restrict the sharing of knowledge or limit the scope of scientific inquiry? And how can open science help safeguard scientific integrity and contribute to sustainable development in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape?



**Dr Kenneth Ruud** is Director General at the Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI), where he joined in January 2022. He holds a Dr.Philos. in theoretical and computational chemistry from the University of Oslo. His main research focus has been on developing and applying electronic-structure methods to light-matter interactions in a wide frequency range, including nonlinear optical processes. He has partial leave from his position as professor of theoretical chemistry at UiT The Arctic University of Norway. He has extensive experience with research and research leadership, including the position as pro-rector for research and development at UiT (2013–2021), where he was actively engaged in the university's activity on open science.

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# PARALLEL SESSION 1

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026 (11:00 – 12:30)

## PRACTISING OPENNESS I

### Moderator:

Alex Fenlon, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

Location: R2

### 1.1

## IMPLEMENTING RIGHTS RETENTION: A SHARED MODEL FOR FINNISH UNIVERSITIES AND ITS BROADER POTENTIAL

**Authors:** Susanna Nykyri and Riitta Lähdemäki, Tampere University, Finland; Tua Hindersson-Söderholm, Aalto University, Finland

**Presenters:** Susanna Nykyri, Tampere University, Finland |  
Tua Hindersson-Söderholm, Aalto University, Finland

Rights Retention Strategy (RRS) has emerged as a key mechanism to ensure immediate and sustainable open access to scholarly publications and strengthen knowledge security. It enables researchers to retain sufficient rights to share their work openly, regardless of publisher restrictions, and aligns with European open science policies and Plan S requirements

In Finland, universities have taken a proactive role in implementing RRS, based on the university libraries' initiative. Through the Finnish University Library Network, they developed a shared approach tailored

to the needs of university researchers. This collaborative model is not a national policy for all higher education institutions, but it serves as a strong example that can be extended to other sectors, such as universities of applied sciences and research institutes. By focusing on legal clarity, researcher support, and practical implementation, the model demonstrates how libraries can lead systemic change in scholarly communication.

This case study presentation will explore the journey from concept to practice, highlighting the following aspects:

- Motivation and drivers behind adopting RRS in Finnish universities, including compliance with funder mandates, commitment to open science and strengthening academic freedom as well as the position of evidence-based knowledge in society.
- Libraries as advocates and change agents, providing expertise in copyright, licensing, sustainable open access and knowledge security.
- Development process and stakeholder engagement, from initial discussions to consensus-building among universities.
- Practical solutions, such as researcher guidance materials and communication strategies to ensure uptake.
- Challenges and lessons learned, including addressing librarian and researcher concerns, and harmonizing practices across institutions.

The Finnish experience offers valuable insights for institutions across Europe. It demonstrates that a coordinated, university-led approach can overcome legal and cultural barriers, foster researcher trust, and create a sustainable framework for rights retention. While the model was designed for universities, its principles—collaboration, clarity, and practicality—are transferable to diverse contexts.



By sharing this case, we aim to inspire libraries and consortia to consider similar strategies, adapt best practices, and collaborate internationally. Participants will gain:

- A clear understanding of how RRS can be implemented at institutional or consortia level.
- Practical examples of tools and workflows that support researchers effectively.
- Lessons learned help anticipate challenges and build stronger advocacy.

Ultimately, this presentation contributes to the broader conversation on how libraries can lead in shaping equitable and open scholarly ecosystems. The Finnish route to RRS illustrates that systemic change is possible when institutions work together—and that such change can ripple beyond universities to strengthen open access across the entire research landscape.

This presentation will provide actionable insights for libraries and consortia seeking to strengthen their role in strengthening knowledge security, open access policy implementation and researcher support.

#### Key Takeaways

- Learn how Finnish universities implemented a shared Rights Retention Strategy model through library-led collaboration.
- Discover practical tools, workflows, and advocacy approaches that support researchers effectively.
- Gain transferable insights to adapt RRS strategies in your own institutional or national context.



**Susanna Nykyri, PhD**, is Chief Specialist in Open Science at Tampere University, Finland. She is a recognized leader in open science, research data management, and scholarly publishing, with extensive experience in national and international expert groups. Dr. Nykyri has played a key role in developing open science policies and infrastructures at institutional and national levels, and led the working group preparing the Rights Retention Strategy model for Finnish universities. She is known for visionary strategy work, collaborative leadership, and impactful service development, successfully driving organizational change and cross-sectoral cooperation. Her achievements include national awards such as the Knight, Order of the Lion of Finland (2024), Open Science Promoter of the Year (2022), and the LIBER Award for Library Innovation (2022) for a paper co-authored with Mari Elisa Kuusniemi. Dr. Nykyri is an active member of SPARC Europe, the Research Data Alliance, and several national expert groups. She holds a PhD in Political Science from Åbo Akademi University and an MSc from Tampere University.



**Tua Hindersson-Söderholm, M.Soc.Sc.**, is Head of Library Services at Aalto University, Finland. She has extensive experience of e-resources access and management services and a special interest in finding solutions that make scientific publishing more sustainable and open.

## 1.2

### RIGHTS RETENTION AND SECONDARY PUBLICATION RIGHTS IN GERMANY: STATUS QUO, CHALLENGES, AND PERSPECTIVES

**Authors:** Marc Lange and Paul Schultze-Motel, Helmholtz Association, Germany

**Presenter:** Marc Lange, Helmholtz Association, Germany

There is consensus in academia and among the majority of research funders that scientific publications should be freely accessible (open access). Likewise, scientists have an interest in reusing their own works as freely as possible and secure use rights when publishing their research results. Despite steadily increasing open access rates over the last years – not only, but primarily, due to large-scale agreements with major publishers, and to a lesser degree the use of secondary publication rights (green open access) –, the open access transformation is yet not fully achieved. A major practical obstacle is the transfer of copyright or exclusive use rights to publishers, which remains standard practice in scholarly publishing. As a result, immediate public access to publications is regularly prevented, researchers' reuse of their own works is severely restricted, and the implementation of open access strategies at the institutional and national levels is limited, altogether limiting access to knowledge. Hence, one important concern is solutions for researchers to secure sufficient rights in their scientific works. This is subsumed under the term rights retention. The most promising approach is rights retention strategies, which refer to policies and related services provided by research funding bodies and research performing organizations that are designed to support authors in enforcing rights retention provisions, and in particular, free them from the need of individual negotiations with publishers. Rights retention is gaining relevance in international discourse, not least from experience with so-called transformative agreements with major publishers, which have failed to satisfactorily achieve an actual open access transformation. Still, especially institutional rights retention policies (whereby researchers transfer all or some use rights to their scientific institutions, thereby preventing future transfer of exclusive use rights) have so far been implemented almost exclusively in the United States and the United Kingdom. However, further European countries are testing the waters and national initiatives have been spurred by cross-country studies and community building, for example by Project Retain and the European Rights Retention Community of Practice (e.g. as presented at LIBER Conference 2025).



This talk will focus on the situation in Germany and discuss the country's current landscape and emerging directions regarding rights retention. Despite the considerable attention the introduction of a secondary publication right in the German Copyright Act in 2014 received from the national open science community, it has since not substantially advanced discussions on expanding openness-enabling (copyright) regulations or instruments, such as rights retention, and as of 2025 no comprehensive rights retention strategy exists in Germany. Nonetheless, a number of stakeholders are on track towards rights retention strategies, such as funders and institutions taking it into consideration as funding requirements or in their open science policies, respectively. E.g., the Helmholtz Association intends to examine implementing rights retention strategies as part of several measures of their Memorandum on the Open Access Transformation at the Helmholtz Association. Moreover, in 2026 the Helmholtz Open Science Office has commenced activities on furthering rights retention in Germany as part of open-access.network, a project and platform providing comprehensive information and resources on open access (currently funded by the Federal Ministry of Research, Technology and Space). In the presentation, we will first outline current rights retention initiatives in Germany and then place them within a broader transnational context, examining how rights retention interacts with existing secondary publication rights, the differing legal and copyright frameworks across Europe, and the practical challenges of implementation. We will highlight key issues relevant for European research libraries: aligning legal frameworks, institutional policies, and researcher services so that rights retention and secondary publication can effectively support a transition to comprehensive open access.



**Marc Lange** works at the Helmholtz Open Science Office, the open science coordination office of the Helmholtz Association of German Research Centres. There, his focus is fostering open science practices and research integrity, particularly in the areas of open access, open research information, and legal aspects of open science. In the context

of a national open access project and the networking activities of the Helmholtz Open Science Office, he strives to contribute to advancing rights retention and secondary publication rights nationally and internationally.

## 1.3

### NEGOTIATING OPENNESS OF PUBLICATION METADATA – A JOINT TASK FORCE

**Authors:** Bianca Kramer, Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information, The Netherlands | Colleen Campbell, OA2020 | Miranda Bennet, California Digital Library

**Presenter:** Bianca Kramer, Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information, The Netherlands

Key research information - such as publication metadata, citation counts, and funding information - is often locked behind paywalls, creating a “black box” that limits transparency, and accountability. These closed systems influence researcher careers and funding decisions without clear scrutiny or reproducibility.

For negotiators, understanding the power of truly open research information - freely accessible, reusable, and transparent data on research outputs and impact - is crucial for shaping a fair, transparent and sustainable open access ecosystem. Open metadata is relevant to many use cases for libraries and library consortia, including preparing for negotiations, assessing the success of publisher agreements, and providing reports to parent institutions and member libraries.

As a next step to advance the openness of metadata, the Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information and OA2020 have es-

tablished a Joint Task Force on Negotiating Openness of Publication Metadata, which aims to develop a shared negotiation framework to enable libraries and consortia to consistently and strategically introduce the issue of open publication metadata into negotiations, exerting leverage on publishers and vendors to make their metadata openly available. The Joint Task Force will produce practical tools and guidance to help negotiators embed open research information into their negotiation objectives.

The Joint Task Force represents a broadly international effort, with members from fourteen countries from Europe, North America, Latin America, Africa, and Asia. This session will describe the goals and activities of the taskforce, including opportunities to contribute, and contextualize the work of negotiating openness of publication metadata in the larger collective drive toward greater transparency in research and scholarship.



**Bianca Kramer** is Executive Director of the Barcelona Declaration on Open Research Information, an initiative she helped organize and coordinate. She has a background in research communication and libraries, having worked as scholarly communication/open science librarian at Utrecht University Library for 15 years, before moving to an independent consulting/research analyst role at Sesame Open Science, with a focus on open science, open metadata and open infrastructure - a role she combines with her activities for the Barcelona Declaration.

# PARALLEL SESSION 2

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026 (11:00 - 12:30)

## AI AND LIBRARY SERVICE DEVELOPMENT I

**Moderator:**

Sara Kjellberg, Malmö University, Sweden

**Location:** R7

### 2.1

#### PROVIDING VISUAL CULTURAL HERITAGE MATERIAL FOR AI IN RESEARCH

**Author:** Joonas Manner, National Library of Finland, Finland

Science needs AI models trained with high-quality data that also utilise historical data. Usually, this older material is not only challenging to find but also often completely inaccessible or hidden behind extremely difficult-to-use interfaces. However, more and more high-quality visual material is being digitised and becoming available with higher-quality metadata. In addition, traditional research methods are rapidly transforming due to AI, such as RAG (Retrieval-augmented generation) data models.

To address these challenges, the National Library of Finland has developed an extension to the national discovery service Finna.fi. The aim is to provide researchers with novel access to the vast digital cultural heritage materials from almost 500 Finnish libraries, archives, museums, and other organisations. This extension uses Finna.fi's service API (Application Programming Interface), allowing a user to perform a regular browser-based keyword search and fetch, e.g., a selection or even all high-resolution images from a single institution, using a local Node.js-based solution.

In this presentation, we describe the development of this Finna.fi extension, namely Finna Image and Metadata Download Tool (FIMDT). This tool has recently been tested on a small scale with a limited group of researchers. In the preliminary user tests, we have explored how FIMDT enables downloading a vast number of high-resolution images with corresponding metadata for AI training.

FIMDT has been developed within the FIN-CLARIAH project to provide easier, more efficient access to digital cultural heritage data. FIN-CLARIAH is a research infrastructure for the Social Sciences and Humanities comprising two components: FIN-CLARIN and DARIAH-FI, and part of the pan-European infrastructure for arts and humanities scholars, DARIAH-EU.

Project advancement and the broader transferability of this concept require discussion of the following questions. How to find a consensus and overcome potential obstacles related to the intellectual property rights and AI training? What are the risks and benefits of having free and easy access to such large volumes of cultural heritage materials?



**Joonas Manner** (MA in Industrial Design, Certified Teacher) works as an Information Systems Specialist in the National Library of Finland's information technology unit, where he has developed Finna.fi service's accessibility and usability. For the past years has been actively working in the project where cultural heritage visual materials could be better used in the research in the era of the AI. He previously had a long career as a lecturer on computer-aided design and product development at the University of Art and Design (later Aalto University). He is interested in making everything more usable regardless of who uses the end product. He specialises in user-centred design, user experience, service design and software development.

## 2.2

### A LIBRARY LED PILOT ON CUSTOM GPT DRIVEN DISCOVERY: STRENGTHENING STUDENT ENGAGEMENT WITH AI AND INFORMATION LITERACY

**Authors:** Cristina Huidiu, Wageningen University & Research, The Netherlands | Alicia Fátima Gómez, IE University, Spain

As institutions navigate both the opportunities and challenges of integrating GenAI into learning and research, we believe libraries can play an active role by designing and evaluating tools that promote transparency, critical engagement, and alignment with open knowledge practices.

Within this context, IE University Library in partnership with Wageningen University & Research Library are working on an experimental initiative leveraging IE University's institutional OpenAI EDU license to build and deploy Custom GPTs for academic information search and analysis. The aim is to explore how generative AI tools, combined with open scholarly infrastructures, in particular with structured scholarly data from the OpenAlex API, can support academic discovery process, with the focus on students' engagement with scientific literature. Besides, the project aims to better understand how libraries can support the development of robust information literacy skills among both students and academics.

Unlike traditional search systems, this Custom GPT assistant uses natural language dialogue to help users construct and refine Boolean-style search queries, which are then submitted to OpenAlex for retrieval. Importantly, the user is always asked to validate or edit the Boolean query before it is executed, ensuring that human agency and critical thinking remain central to the process. This design places the student

in control of retrieval, while allowing the AI to assist with the task of iteratively refining Boolean structures, clearly positioning that AI remains a support tool rather than a decision-maker. Additionally, for open access publications, users can then interact with the scientific content within the same interface.

Students are invited to test the GPT alongside conventional discovery tools, and have to reflect not just on the results retrieved, but also on the process of how generative AI shaped their understanding of keywords, concepts, and citation relevance.

Through these interactions, we collect both performance data and user perceptions via a mixed-method evaluation, in order to gain a comprehensive view of the approach, its value, and its limitations.

This presentation will showcase the development process, student feedback, and key outcomes of the pilot. We will reflect on the implications for AI-assisted discovery systems in academic libraries, the importance of preserving human agency in algorithmic search, and future directions for integrating open scholarly infrastructures like OpenAlex with institutionally governed GenAI tools.

With this experiment, we intend also raise students' awareness of both, benefits and limitations of the use of GenAI for their work, as the same time that we train students in a very practical way on information literacy in the context of responsible GenAI use. Finally, this study contributes to the broader conversation on how libraries can lead in shaping responsible, transparent, and pedagogically grounded uses of generative AI in higher education.



**Cristina Huidiu**, is the Product Owner of Digital Library Services at Wageningen University & Research (WUR) currently leading the data platform product and strategy.

With a background in library science, data analysis and a passion for humanizing data and technology, she has transitioned from humanities



to technical roles, focusing on lowering technical barriers and enabling non technical users make the most of data and technology.

**Alicia Fátima Gómez** works as Library Director at IE University, in Madrid (Spain). Before that she was Head of Scientometrics and Data Visualization at the Technical University Vienna (Austria), leading the DOI Service Austria Consortium, and, together with the Universität Wien, co-leading the ORCID Austria Consortium. Previously she worked at as a national contact point for Spain for OPENAIRE. From 2017 to 2019 she was Scholarly Communication Specialist at the University of Hertfordshire (UK), where she was responsible for providing support in research evaluation and impact, open access and research data management. Between 2004 and 2017 she worked at the Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Cardiovasculares in Madrid (Spain), as responsible for the Library and Documentation Service.

Alicia F. Gomez holds a PhD in Linguistics from the University of the Basque Country, and a Master in Digital Libraries and Information Systems from the University of Carlos III, Madrid, Spain.

## 2.3

### BUILDING AI LITERACY IN THE LIBRARY WORLD

**Authors:** Dagfinn Dybvig and Joost Hegle, NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

**Presenter:** Dagfinn Dybvig, NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

Our proposal emphasizes the critical role libraries are called upon to play in fostering artificial intelligence (AI) literacy amid rapid technological and societal changes. For LIBER 2026, the proposal aligns with the conference theme: The Power of Libraries in an Uncertain World.

It argues that research libraries, as central actors in the information ecosystem, are uniquely positioned to safeguard fundamental rights and values while navigating ethical dilemmas and complex decisions in an era of uncertainty.

This, however, requires libraries themselves to work systematically towards increased AI competency within their own organizations. The initiative described—TAIKun, supported by the Norwegian National Library—brings together five institutions in a collaborative effort to develop practical training resources for AI applications in library contexts. The project responds to pressing questions: Why is AI competency essential for libraries? How can libraries ensure responsible and value-driven use of AI tools?

The proposal identifies several thematic areas that libraries must address: geopolitics, cloud exit strategies, secure data storage, ethics, compliance with regulations (such as the EU AI Act and copyright law), and robust user support. These considerations extend beyond traditional library services, like literature searches and systematic reviews. Instead, they encompass advanced AI-powered tools and workflows, including:

- Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAGs) for controlled knowledge searches
- AI-enhanced platforms such as Scopus AI and Web of Science AI
- Sandbox solutions for tools like Copilot via local infrastructure
- Chatbots for catalog searches and practical library information
- Legal and research tools like Lovdata Pro and Dimensions
- AI integration in screening processes for large amounts of documents

The TAIKun project has structured its work around three core dimensions: ethics, teaching, and research. Constituent groups focus on



each of these areas, aiming to create a comprehensive framework for AI education in libraries around a train-the-trainer philosophy. Initial efforts have included mapping existing AI services across institutions and identifying shared training needs. The next steps involve defining clear learning objectives and developing a flexible, future-oriented training strategy that accommodates rapid technological evolution while remaining anchored in the enduring values of libraries.

Ultimately, the proposal advocates for building resilient, ethically grounded frameworks for AI literacy. By doing so, libraries can lead responsibly in an uncertain world, ensuring equitable access to knowledge and supporting informed, critical engagement with AI technologies.

**Dagfinn Dybvig** is the AI-team leader in the University Library at NTNU, based in the Section for Resources and Digital Services. In this role, he coordinates the teaching, development and integration of artificial intelligence solutions to enhance library services, resource discovery, and digital workflows. Combining his philosophical background—with a doctorate earned at NTNU and experience in ethics and research—with practical expertise, he strives for the use of innovative technologies in library operations. His work aims to ensure that NTNU's library remains abreast with the digital transformation, supporting academics, staff, and students with intelligent, user-centred tools.



## PARALLEL SESSION 3

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026 (11:00 – 12:30)

### ADVANCES IN INFORMATION SYSTEMS

**Moderator:**

András Holl, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Hungary

**Location:** R8

### 3.1

#### FROM SERVICE INNOVATION TO SUSTAINABLE LEADERSHIP: CRM FOR TRACKING AND ANALYZING RESEARCH CONSULTATIONS AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF TECHNOLOGY, PRAGUE

**Authors:** Naděžda Firsová and Alexey Ryzhkov, National Library of Technology, Czech Republic

Reference services and research consultations have long been core information services at research and academic libraries. Many challenges, including those related to employee satisfaction and levels of staffing, can ultimately affect the quality and sustainability of such services. Taken together with rapidly changing patron behaviour and needs, libraries are often forced to apply a holistic approach to the integration of modern technologies, user-centred design processes, and attention to staffing needs.

This case study discusses such a holistic approach that has driven sustainable leadership: an open source Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system implemented at the National Library of Technology (NTK) in Prague. This NTK's CRM system, launched in 2019 as a bottom-up initiative and continuously improved over time, supports consultation services by tracking patron issues (improving quality of

service provision), consultants (improving effectiveness of service provision), and management-related insights (e.g., improving efficiency, human resource management).

The originality of the study lies in its exclusive focus on consultation services highly demanding in terms of staff competencies and resources and gathering broader scale of benefits not only in terms of customer relationship. With acknowledge the CRM as a recognized approach to building long-lasting relationships with patrons and stakeholders, NTK implemented the CRM system with self-developed extended functionality for specific library information services. Thus, the NTK CRM represents not only a transactional tool but rather a strategic method for building sustainable management practice.

In this evaluative-descriptive single-case study, we explore the process of systematization and optimization of NTK's consultation services since their inception as well as the limitations and possible future directions of the system. Sustainable leadership lessons learned and described here are useful to any kind of library, and they are discussed from employee, management, and patron perspectives. For employees, the system has improved onboarding, professional development options, and simplified service provision. Patrons thus benefit from higher quality consultations. Middle management has been able to maintain service standards even in cases of team turnover and improve common understanding of individual staff capabilities and workloads. Significant additional benefits for managers have been seen in terms of reporting and evaluating services to gain a clear picture of service provision based on accessible and reliable data. At NTK, the approach has undergone continuous development by use in other activities and grant-funded projects where the CRM has been used, among other things, for managing relationships with institutions, tracking and analysing educational activities.

The innovation of the study consists in describing the user-centred approach together with a leadership strategy focused on supporting the sustainability of service provision. This perspective enables NTK's

consultants to participate in CRM development over the long term, directly influencing and improving practices based on real evidence and data. Management plays a pivotal role in workflow improvement, encouraging staff members to engage in effective processes and fostering their professional growth.



**Naděžda Firsová** joined the National Library of Technology (NTK), Czech Republic in 2019. She has been involved in the provision and development of information support and academic services as well as the analysis, evaluation, and improvement of such services. Since 2022, she has been the leader of work package for the Academic Services Project Activity at NTK's National Center for Information Support of Research, Development, and Innovation. She holds a degree in marketing and economics and a PhD in economics. Her research interests lie at the intersection of consumer behavior and the efficiency of publicly-funded academic library services.



**Alexey Ryzhkov** has been at the National Library of Technology (NTK), Czech Republic since 2018. He holds a degree in ICT and business development and has been involved in business intelligence automation projects in various industries. He joined NTK's academic services team to focus on business process analysis, optimization, and automation for information services (including CRM implementation). He has recently been involved in services automation as part of the Czech Academic and Research Discovery Services project. His interests include business process optimization and automation, data management, and AI.

### 3.2

#### NUMAHOP: A COMPLETE DIGITIZATION CHAIN TO PROMOTE OPEN SCIENCE

**Authors:** Olesea Dubois, Sciences Po, France | Vincent Tardif, École Normale Supérieure, France

In a constantly evolving technological context, libraries find themselves at a crossroads. They face an increased responsibility to support scientific communities through reliable, open, and resilient infrastructures. The NumaHOP platform, developed at the intersection of digital library expertise and the promotion of open science, embodies an innovative solution to these challenges. It demonstrates how libraries can play a role through innovation and collaboration in the production of digital scientific data that meets FAIR principles.

NumaHOP, an open source digital content management platform collaboratively developed by French libraries, offers an integrated and efficient solution designed to optimize the entire digitization process—from document reception to dissemination and preservation—thus enabling libraries to respond effectively to evolving scientific needs.

NumaHOP's modular architecture supports essential functionalities for modern digitization process, making it a key infrastructure to promote open science and research data principles:

- Interoperable metadata conversion: NumaHOP provides robust tools to convert library cataloguing standards, such as UNIMARC and EAD, into widely used interoperable formats like Dublin Core and Dublin Core Qualified. This ensures metadata sustainability and seamless integration with various digital repositories and research infrastructures.
- Pre-digitization condition reports: The platform allows the creation of detailed condition reports for physical document « batches » before digitization, thus facilitating quality assurance and preservation efforts through precise documentation of the originals' state.
- Automated and manual quality control: Upon receipt of digitized content, NumaHOP supports automated and manual quality controls of images and metadata. These processes quickly detect errors or

inconsistencies, ensuring high-quality digital copies essential for research reproducibility and sharing.

- Sophisticated workflow and project management: NumaHOP's workflow enables libraries to structure, monitor, and control complex digitization projects, ensuring transparency and traceability throughout the digital objects' lifecycle. The platform is designed for collaborative use involving multiple actors, including digitization providers, librarians, and researchers.
- Comprehensive validation and export features: users can validate digitized units (images and metadata) within the platform before export to dissemination systems or long-term archives. NumaHOP produces output formats such as OCR text files (Xml-Altto), METS manifests, and generated derivative images, thus ensuring compliance with preservation and access standards.
- Automated large-scale dissemination: NumaHOP facilitates automated dissemination of digitized content through multiple channels. The users can promote and distribute their digital collections via their local digital libraries while simultaneously sharing content with external platforms like Internet Archive or Omeka S, thereby expanding their audience and researcher access.

Support for open standards and digital sobriety: By relying on free software, open standards, and interoperable formats, NumaHOP enables users to reduce dependency on proprietary systems, promote reuse, and implement environmentally respectful digital infrastructures.

Case studies will illustrate successful implementations in French university libraries, highlighting practical benefits from using NumaHOP for improved interoperability, efficiency, and workflow governance. These examples will showcase integration with other open tools like Omeka S and discuss participatory development practices that strengthen resilience in constantly evolving research environments.

In conclusion, NumaHOP demonstrates how research libraries can play a leading role in building responsible, transparent, and sustainable digital infrastructures that foster researcher autonomy in digital data production. Its set of functionalities addresses the main challenges libraries face today, offering a reproducible model for international scientific communities committed to ethical and efficient preservation and dissemination of knowledge.



**Olesea Dubois**, Olesea Dubois is Head of Digitization & Digital Library Services at Sciences Po, Paris, and President of the NumaHOP Users Association.

Since 2011, she has led strategic projects in digital archiving, heritage digitization, and research data preservation, contributing to national and European initiatives such as Collex-Persée and EOSC.

She plays a central role in the collaborative development of NumaHOP, an open-source platform designed to optimize the entire digitization chain and promote open science. With expertise in metadata standards, digital preservation, and workflow governance, she advances resilient infrastructures that support FAIR principles and researcher autonomy. Multilingual and passionate about innovation, she regularly publishes and speaks at professional conferences, highlighting how libraries can drive responsible and sustainable digital transformation.



**Vincent Tardif** oversees the digitization campaigns for the ENS-PSL libraries and manages Lucienne, the ENS-PSL digital library.

He is actively involved in the development of NumaHOP, an open-source platform designed to optimize the entire digitization process and promote open science.

## 3.3

### DSpace REIMAGINED: AI-POWERED SEARCH AND ACCESSIBILITY

**Authors:** Piotr Masalski, Mateusz Adamiak, Łukasz Wawer, Małgorzata Paszkowska, and Maciej Iwaniszewski, PCG Academia, Poland

**Presenters:** Małgorzata Caban and Maciej Iwaniszewski, PCG Academia, Poland

This presentation will provide a demo-driven overview of an AI enhancement layer for DSpace, designed to be deployed alongside existing repository installations without disrupting core functionalities or standard maintenance and update processes.

The presentation will cover two tightly connected capabilities:

#### 1. AI-Driven Search and Retrieval

The presentation will demonstrate an AI-driven discovery interface that augments traditional DSpace search while preserving familiar user workflows. Users can seamlessly switch between classic Solr-based search and an AI chat mode via a simple toggle, enabling both keyword precision and conversational exploration within the same interface.

In AI mode, users submit natural-language prompts and receive context-aware, AI-generated responses grounded exclusively in repository metadata and full-text content through Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG). Results are transparently supported by citations and direct references to repository items, reinforcing trust and traceability. The interface supports iterative exploration by allowing users to ask follow-up questions, refine prompts, and progressively narrow or expand their query without restarting the search process.

To further support discovery and inclusivity, the system can recommend relevant authors based on repository content relationships and offer text-to-speech (TTS) output for AI responses, improving accessibility

for users with visual impairments or reading difficulties. Together, these features transform repository search from a static retrieval mechanism into an interactive, explainable, and accessible discovery experience while remaining fully integrated with DSpace collections and governance models.

## 2. AI-Powered Accessibility and Document Conversion

The second part of the presentation focuses on AI-powered document processing designed to improve accessibility, preservation, and reuse of repository content. As a first step, deposited files, regardless of their original format, are normalized and converted into a high-quality HTML representation. This HTML then serves as a stable, preservation-friendly intermediate format for further processing.

Using advanced AI-based OCR and document understanding, the system extracts structured, machine-readable text from the PDF, including support for multilingual content, non-Latin scripts, and complex or degraded scans. Once processed, the content can be automatically converted into additional accessible formats such as screen-reader-optimised PDF, ePub, electronic braille, audio file or other derivative formats tailored to user needs and accessibility requirements. The document can be also automatically translated to other languages, which greatly improves visibility of publications and their availability for international users.

This approach ensures WCAG-aligned accessibility, enables reliable full-text indexing and AI-based discovery, and significantly increases the long-term archival value of repository materials. By establishing a single, consistent conversion pipeline, repositories can systematically improve access for users with disabilities while simultaneously preparing content for advanced AI search, reuse, and preservation workflows.

The proposal will also briefly outline the technical architecture, recent development milestones, planned roadmap and implementation process, including recommended preparatory steps such as use-case definition, content audits, and pilot planning.



**Małgorzata Caban** has a PhD in Social Sciences in the discipline of Social Communication and Media Studies. An expert with over a decade of experience in the higher education sector, gained through roles as Director of a Library and Publishing House as well as Vice-Dean for Research. She has an in-depth understanding of the mechanisms behind the creation and circulation of scientific information. Her area of specialization includes universal design and digital accessibility. She has coordinated numerous projects focused on science communication and the development of digital resources. Currently, she works as Key Account Manager for the Science line at PCG Academia.



# PARALLEL SESSION 4

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026 (11:00 - 12:30)

## TRUSTWORTHY AUTOMATION

### Moderator:

Birgit Schmidt, Göttingen State and University Library, Germany

Location: R5

## 4.1

### SUPPORTING DATASET CURATION THROUGH AUTOMATION AT KU LEUVEN

**Authors:** Dieuwertje Bloemen and Ozgur Karadeniz, KU Leuven, Belgium

**Presenter:** Dieuwertje Bloemen, KU Leuven, Belgium

KU Leuven RDR is the CoreTrustSeal certified institutional data repository of KU Leuven, where curation plays an important role in data FAIRification and ensuring the quality of published datasets. The curation phase is not only crucial to have some quality control on the FAIRness of the data by ensuring correct metadata input, the presence of documentation and a choice of license, but to also ensure that the researchers are fully informed and supported in their efforts to publish their data.

After the repository's launch in 2022, the monthly number of datasets published slowly increased overtime, and with that the number of dataset reviews to be carried out. As these numbers increased, it became clear that there was a need to better track the reviews and who is picking each review up, as well as a need to streamline this process in

general. This would not only prevent unnecessary duplication of work, but would also potentially free up more time for support rather than the evaluation itself. To streamline the curation process, the RDR team developed an open-source review dashboard that plugs in to a Dataverse instance and automates different parts of the review process.

In the initial iteration of the dashboard, the automation focused on the administrative side of the reviews. For example, in the dashboard, reviewers can easily track who reviews what dataset, can add notes to any review and look back at the review history of said dataset. On top of that, the effort to streamline the feedback process resulted in the implementation of simple checklist in the review dashboard they can use to autogenerate feedback. This ensures uniformity in reviews, while still allowing for customizations, and prevents reviewers having to type the same feedback over and over again. This initial version of the dashboard was key to processing more datasets ready for publication and enabled reviewers to focus on the reviews themselves and not the administrative mess that previously came with it.

A second version of the review dashboard goes even a step further in its automation efforts. As the reviews were being carried out, some frequently made mistakes were flagged as having potential to be automatically found. With this idea an initial exploration began of what curation elements could all be automatically checked and how. From exploration, we found a lot of potential, such as indicating when a README file is likely missing, or when a README file is present, but empty. The list of potential automated checks was longer than expected and were easier to implement than we had anticipated. A bigger challenge, however, was to balance this automation with the human effort and input that is key in data curation. Some brainstorming on how to visualize this automation and how to always allow for human overwrites were necessary to ensure that the review supports human curation through automation and doesn't replace it.





In this presentation, we'll share our road to the creation of the review dashboard and a look at our UI, but also provide an insight into the logic of the automated checks. We hope to spark conversation on how to further support the human task of curation through tools and technology without losing the important human touch and interpretation that is so valuable to making a dataset as FAIR as possible.

**Dieuwertje Bloemen** works at KU Leuven LIBIS (part of KU Leuven Libraries) as product manager for Lirias, the institutional literature repository, and RDR, KU Leuven's institutional research data repository.

As RDR's product manager, she is responsible for the roll-out and further development of RDR as part of KU Leuven's RDM infrastructure for researchers. RDR is based on Dataverse.org open-source software, therefore she also takes part in the Global Dataverse Community Consortium (GDCC) to contribute to the further development of the project. As part of this, she served as the co-chair of the Dataverse sustainability working group and currently serves on the GDCC steering committee.

As technical product manager of Lirias, she is responsible for the maintenance and development of features in the repository system. The Lirias project is a close collaboration with the research coordination office and KU Leuven Libraries.

## 4.2

### BUILDING APPLICATIONS WITHOUT CODE: HOW AI ENABLES LIBRARY PROFESSIONALS TO DEVELOP TOOLS

**Authors:** Piotr Krajewski, Gdańsk University of Technology, Poland

This presentation demonstrates the creation of DMP ART (Data Management Plan Assessment and Response Tool, <https://github.com/gammaro85/DMP-ART>) developed entirely without programming knowledge using artificial intelligence. The presentation shows the complete development journey from initial concept to working application, illustrating new possibilities that AI offers to library professionals and open science practitioners.

One of the main tasks of data stewards working at Polish universities is the assessment of Data Management Plans from National Science Centre grant applications. These plans arrive in various formats: text copied into DOCX, PDF files with entire proposals, screenshots, and other variations. This diversity makes systematic processing difficult. DMP ART automates extraction and structuring of these plans according to the 14-section Science Europe framework, provides template-based feedback system, and supports bilingual processing with OCR capabilities. While open for modifications, the application is heavily adapted to Polish realities, which is both an advantage and limitation. The application serves primarily as an example demonstrating new possibilities rather than being the main focus of this presentation.

The presentation primarily traces the creator's journey from non-programmer to tool developer. The progression began with simple commands through browser-based service, evolved through iterative conversations, and culminated in professional development environment using Visual Studio Code with Claude Code agent and synchronized GitHub repository. This illustrates how cooperation techniques with AI evolved from basic conversations to sophisticated workflows, coinciding with rapid advancement in AI services. Concrete examples demonstrate how each stage built upon previous learning.

The primary aim is to illustrate emerging AI possibilities. DMP-ART serves as an initial instance of what this transformation might look like: library professionals with strong expertise in librarianship or open science could gain independence from programmer support.

They might autonomously create tools for their daily work. This suggests a potential paradigm shift in how libraries tackle technological challenges - combining domain knowledge with AI assistance has the potential to transform information professionals into builders rather than merely adopters of technology solutions.

The presentation addresses critical risks associated with AI-assisted development: sharing sensitive information with AI systems, proliferation of applications with duplicate functionalities, sustainability concerns as projects may be abandoned without support, and lack of understanding about what shared code actually does. It discusses how libraries can balance opportunities with responsibilities and provides practical recommendations for institutions exploring AI-assisted tool development. The presentation offers frameworks for evaluating when to build custom solutions versus adopting existing tools. The development experience, concrete examples from the learning journey, and ethical considerations presented can serve as a model for other library professionals and institutions beginning to explore AI-enabled development approaches.



**Piotr Krajewski** is a librarian at the Gdańsk University of Technology Library, Scholarly Communication and Open Science Section, and a data steward at the Open Science Competence Center. He holds a Master's degree in biology from the University of Gdańsk (2009) and a PhD in the history of medicine from Gdańsk University of Technology (2019). In 2025, he completed the "Data Steward" Certificate Course at the University of Vienna.

His work focuses primarily on supporting researchers at various stages of the research and publication process. This includes assisting with data management plans, promoting open publishing practices, and facilitating the use of research data repositories. He specializes in FAIR principles implementation, metadata standards and schemas, and best practices for research data management.

## 4.3

### ADVANCING DIGITAL PRESERVATION OF RESEARCH DATA WITH EOSC EDEN'S INTEGRATED FRAMEWORK, SERVICES, GUIDELINES, AND NETWORK

**Authors:** Roxanne Wyns and Fen Zhang, KU Leuven, Belgium | Helene N. Andreassen, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway

**Presenter:** Roxanne Wyns, KU Leuven, Belgium

Many digital data repositories and archives face growing preservation challenges, driven by diverse data formats, rapidly increasing data volumes, and the overall complexity of long-term data management. The introduction of FAIR, CARE, and TRUST principles, alongside the need for long-term digital preservation (LTDP), has major implications for digital repositories and archives. The EU-funded EOSC EDEN (2025–2027) [1] project aims to address these challenges by standardising preservation and curation practices to ensure digital objects remain FAIR and usable over time. Several key achievements of EOSC EDEN were released in 2025 to benefit the communities.

**Core Preservation Processes** - It comprises 30 core preservation processes (CPPs), each representing a specific action a Trustworthy Digital Archive should take - whether directly or through its affiliates or service providers - to fulfil its digital preservation mission (as outlined in its preservation policy) [2]. These CPPs were developed by a group of digital preservation practitioners in EOSC EDEN, which focuses on the operational activities required for maintaining the authenticity, integrity, and usability of digital objects. Each CPP is expressed as a series of implementable steps that may be executed manually or automatically.

Expert Curation and Digital Preservation Network - EOSC EDEN is establishing a network representing repositories (both generalist and specialist), archives, and organizations responsible for research data curation and preservation. Through this network, clear roles and responsibilities for curation and digital preservation tasks will be defined. The first EOSC EDEN Curation Workshop [3], held in October 2025 in Leuven (Belgium), brought together over thirty European experts to exchange knowledge and lay the foundations for this network. By building a coordinated, multinational network, EOSC EDEN will strengthen knowledge sharing, harmonise approaches, and enhance the long-term sustainability of digital preservation efforts.

System requirements, repository attributes, and service specifications – EOSC EDEN consolidates system requirements, repository attributes, and service specifications to support trusted, interoperable, and scalable preservation infrastructures across scientific domains, in line with standards such as the Open Archival Information System (OAIS) [4]. The recent analysis [5] highlights persistent interoperability challenges - technical (e.g., format fragmentation, inconsistent APIs), semantic (e.g., varying metadata models and vocabularies), and organisational (e.g., divergent policies and workflows). The project working group further examines interoperability, research output quality assurance, and rights and ethics, supported by concrete examples. Together, these insights provide a solid basis for developing a structured inventory of services relevant to digital preservation and curation.

Discipline Requirements and Needs - EOSC EDEN investigates discipline-specific requirements, gaps, and emerging needs related to LTDP and digital object quality (DOQ) [6]. The initial insights are provided from seven early-adopter disciplines: Climate Simulations, Earth & Environmental Sciences, Food Sciences, High-Energy Physics, Life Sciences & Bioinformatics, Linguistics, and Social Sciences. Many smaller, scholar-led repositories often lack well-documented LTDP and DOQ policies, leading to challenges in contextual, technical, and meta-

data quality. Across these domains, the most critical need is ensuring robust data documentation that supports both reliable preservation and sustained data utility.

Outcome of the presentation - The presentation will showcase how EOSC EDEN's outcomes collectively advance long-term digital preservation and knowledge security for research data. Attendees will gain actionable insights into harmonizing preservation practices.

### References

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Lindlar, M., et al. (2025). Report on Identification of Core Preservation Processes (M1.1). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.16992452>

<https://eden-fidelis.eu/blog/1st-eosc-eden-curation-workshop-leuven-belgium-gathering-experts-build-european-curation-and>

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CCSDS. (2012). Reference Model for an Open Archival Information System (OAIS). ISO 14721. <https://www.iso.org/standard/87471.html>

Andreassen, H. N., et al. (2025). Report on Discipline Requirements and Needs (D3.1). Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15789261>



**Roxanne Wyns** is Innovation Manager at LIBIS, KU Leuven. She has more than 15 years of professional experience managing complex and large-scale digital infrastructure projects in Research Data Management and Open Science. Roxanne is co-promoter of several research infrastructure projects in collaboration with KU Leuven research groups, the most prominent being iCANDID, a social sciences and humanities big data infrastructure. She coordinates work packages for Horizon projects, where she contributes her expertise on data

# PARALLEL SESSION 5

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026 (11:00 – 12:30)

## RESEARCH LIBRARIES IN CHALLENGING LANDSCAPES

**Moderator:**

Marc Martinez, Sciences Po, France

**Location:** R9

### 5.1

#### UNDERSTANDING HOW ACADEMIC LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES NAVIGATE UNCERTAIN TIMES: RESULTS FROM ITHAKA S+R'S 2025 US LIBRARY DEANS AND DIRECTORS SURVEY

**Authors:** Tracy Bergstrom and Ellen Carroll, Ithaka S+R, United States of America

Over the past year, research libraries across the United States have faced severe budget reductions coupled with personnel hiring freezes. Underlying these challenges is a political climate increasingly antagonistic to the independence of higher education and the scholarly record. As a result, library leaders are making difficult decisions around how to safeguard users' fundamental rights to access knowledge, where to restructure staffing, and how to sustain or strategically reduce collections. These compounding pressures raise critical questions about the contemporary role of the research library in a nation grappling with profound social and political change. While such dynamics are currently acute in the United States, the challenges they reflect are shared globally. Thus, understanding how library leaders in the United States are navigating these conditions can offer insights that translate across national contexts.

modelling and interoperability and is involved in EOSC EDEN, a project that will be tackling the challenges related to long-term data retention and preservation, building on the work of the EOSC-A Long Term Data Preservation Task Force (2021-2023) for which she acted as co-chair.

At KU Leuven, Roxanne continues to support university-wide and cross-domain initiatives for Open Science and FAIR data principles. She also resides in the Cross-Domain Interoperability Framework (CDIF) Advisory Board and is a member of the EOSC-A Board of Directors.



This presentation will share key findings from Ithaka S+R's 2025 US Library Deans and Directors Survey, with a particular focus on evolving perceptions of the core values that underpin academic libraries and the changing nature of library work. Since its inception in 2010, this triennial online survey has provided foundational data on both long-standing and emerging priorities for library leaders. Each cycle offers longitudinal insights into libraries' core services and responsibilities while introducing new questions that address novel strategic concerns. This cycle, fielded Fall 2025, explored several new areas, including library leaders' confidence in their ability to guide their organizations through times of change, how libraries are adapting services and workflows in response to operational budget cuts, the perceived role of the library in protecting academic freedom and access to knowledge, and the function of the library within the third role of the institution to engage broadly with the community. The survey was distributed to all deans and directors of four-year, not-for-profit academic libraries in the United States, yielding responses from 36 percent of all such leaders (n = 492).

Respondents indicated their views using 5- and 7-point Likert scales across a battery of measures aligned with the aforementioned topical areas. We will present results derived from descriptive statistics and a suite of inferential techniques, including independent-samples t-tests, correlation analyses, and one-way ANOVAs with Tukey's HSD post-hoc comparisons to examine variation across libraries of different sizes and institutional profiles. Where applicable, we will draw on longitudinal data from prior survey cycles to illustrate how library leaders' perceptions and strategies have shifted in response to acute organizational, social, and political change. In addition, we will present findings by region, highlighting how library leaders are responding to real and potential political threats across the United States.

The findings reveal a library environment characterized by significant operational strain, organizational change, and growing uncertainty. At

the same time, the data also reveal emergent areas of innovation, most notably the adoption of generative AI tools to augment traditional library work. We highlight functional areas in which AI is being integrated and the resulting changes to staff workflows. Taken together, the survey data illustrate how myriad interconnected factors are accelerating change within the working environments of research libraries.

We will conclude the presentation with a discussion of the global implications of these findings, situating them within the international circulation of scholarship and students and highlighting how library leaders in other national contexts might leverage these insights to anticipate and respond to similar pressures.



**Tracy Bergstrom** is the senior program manager for collections and preservation in the Libraries, Scholarly Communication, and Museums program at Ithaka S+R. In this role, she collaborates on a variety of projects that examine contemporary challenges relating to the management, access, and discovery of analog and digital collections held by libraries, archives, museums, and community organizations.

Prior to joining Ithaka S+R, Tracy served as the director for the specialized collection services program within the Hesburgh Libraries of the University of Notre Dame. For many years she was also the curator of the Zahm Dante and early Italian imprints collection at the University of Notre Dame. Tracy holds a BA in art history/ Italian literature from Smith College, an MA in archaeological studies from Yale University, an MLS from Southern Connecticut State University, and is currently pursuing a doctorate in the history of Italian printing with the Warburg Institute.



**Ellen Carroll** is a Senior Analyst at Ithaka S+R, a not-for-profit research and consulting organization based in the United States. She brings nearly a decade of experience in the social sciences to her work, with expertise in survey design, experimental methods, and inferential statistics. Her research applies rigorous empirical approaches to help

academic and cultural communities develop evidence-based responses to complex organizational and social challenges, including values communication, policy effectiveness, and institutional decision-making. Ellen holds a BS in Psychology and a BA in Sociology from Western Washington University, and a PhD in Social Psychology from the University of Arizona.

## 5.2

### STRUCTURED COLLABORATION FOR UNCERTAIN TIMES: THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN EUROPEAN ALLIANCES

**Authors:** Christopher Landes, Hertie School gGmbH, Germany | Sophie Forcadell, Sciences Po, France

In the current era of rapid geopolitical and technological change, libraries play a pivotal role in safeguarding the stability, openness and continuity of the European knowledge ecosystem. The presentation will examine how the EU-funded CIVICA European University Alliance, which unites ten social science universities across Europe, is leveraging international collaboration to strengthen library services and resilience. This use case is indicative of more widespread changes in the governance of European higher education institutions, as evidenced by the emergence of the European Universities Initiative, which has been described as “an evolutionary and experimental network of university networks” (European Commission).

Since 2020, CIVICA libraries have transitioned from traditional professional exchange to a structured, practice-driven model of cooperation. As Charret and Chankseliani (2023) note, alliances rely on pre-existing higher education and research partnerships while simultaneously experimenting with diverse institutional forms in order to achieve the

ambitious goal of creating “European Universities”. Guided by a shared governance framework comprising a dedicated steering body and thematic working groups, the CIVICA library network has developed joint approaches to information literacy, research support, open science, resource licensing, artificial intelligence and staff development.

These efforts have yielded a range of concrete library services, including the CIVICA OpenAIRE gateway for shared open-access outputs, coordinated e-book provision to support inter-campus teaching, a comprehensive information literacy “skills barometer” surveying over 72,000 students, cross-institutional online training, and sustained staff mobility and communities of practice, including the AI Community of Exchange.

The presentation will argue that alliances such as CIVICA represent a paradigm shift in international library cooperation. Rather than ad hoc networking at conferences or reliance on Erasmus exchanges, alliances facilitate long-term, jointly funded and strategically aligned collaboration. This provides a more robust foundation for libraries to adapt to political, technological and economic uncertainty.

Similar collaborative governance mechanisms have been observed in other European alliances, suggesting that structured cooperation can accelerate organisational learning and policy convergence across institutions. The presentation will outline the governance mechanisms that facilitate this cooperation, demonstrate the most impactful services, and address challenges at the library level, including legal diversity, uneven institutional capacities and cross-cultural coordination. Drawing on practical experience, it will conclude with reflections on the opportunities and constraints of alliance-based collaboration and offer recommendations on how libraries can remain strong and relevant in an uncertain world.



Charret, J., & Chankseliani, M. (2023). The European Universities Initiative: Governance, experimentation and institutional transformation. *European Journal of Higher Education*, 13(2), 123–139. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21568235.2022.2160023>

European Commission. (n.d.). European Universities Initiative. <https://education.ec.europa.eu/education-levels/higher-education/european-universities-initiative>

**Christopher Landes** is the Library Director of the Hertie School, Berlin, and works for the CIVICA University Alliance. He holds an MA in Library and Information Science and completed a librarian traineeship at the Free University of Berlin. He also holds a PhD in Modern and Contemporary History.



**Sophie Forcadell** is a librarian who has worked in university libraries, providing research support. She is currently the operational manager of the 'Libraries' section of the CIVICA European University Alliance.

## 5.3

### LIBRARIES UNITED: SUMY STATE UNIVERSITY AND THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

**Authors:** Matthew Greenhall, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom | Olha Krytska and Yana Fandikovia, Sumy State University, Ukraine

This presentation will explore the bonds and friendship that have emerged between two university libraries following the Russian invasion of Ukraine in 2022. It will explore how the conflict has brought together a group of previously unconnected library colleagues, working at the universities of Sumy State, in north-eastern Ukraine, and Liverpool (UK), to share knowledge, skills and collections at a time of profound uncertainty. It will explore the key role that libraries can play

in fast-moving international relationships between universities, and how in the darkest of times, the deepest of friendships can emerge.

The presentation will begin with the context of each library and the wider partnership between their parent universities. This relationship began in 2022 and was part of a national programme, led by the Cormack Consultancy Group, which twinned UK universities with Ukrainian institutions to offer support in response to the conflict. Initially focused on immediate humanitarian aid and access to learning and research support, the presentation will consider how the relationship between Sumy and Liverpool's libraries grew to include joint staff meetings, knowledge exchange, the sharing of skills and information literacy programmes, in-person visits of Sumy colleagues to Liverpool, and the shipment of physical book collections from Liverpool following the destruction of parts of Sumy's university library in April 2025. Importantly, the presentation will consider how an initial humanitarian relationship quickly grew into one of shared understanding, strategic focus, and mutually beneficial partnership between previously unconnected libraries.

Achieving this partnership hasn't been easy. The paper will consider the many challenges facing a relationship like this, including the ever-present threat of violence and destruction, differences in languages, logistical difficulties when moving material across international borders, and licensing restrictions for electronic library content.

Ultimately, the paper will consider how the shared language of librarianship, a commitment to the intellectual freedom, psychological well-being and physical safety of our users, and the care and determination of colleagues can overcome such challenges. The paper will share lessons learned which could inform and support other institutions and partnerships elsewhere, and highlight opportunities for both university and public libraries to collaborate across borders at times of international crisis. The presentation will explore the fundamental question of how such relationships can be sustained, at a time when



many similar partnerships have struggled to become established or continue between other institutions. In doing so, the paper will outline a framework for collaboration that could be useful to other institutions and the wider sector. As global tensions rise, there's never been a more important time for libraries to work together and to strengthen the common bonds between us.



**Matthew Greenhal** is Director of Libraries, Museums and Galleries at the University of Liverpool. As Director, he is responsible for setting the overarching vision for LMG services, collections, and spaces, and ensuring that these deliver against the university's strategic ambitions. Matt works to enhance the impact and visibility of LMG's activities through building partnerships across the university and with national and international partners. He attends several University committees and provides briefings to the University's senior leadership team in relation to library, information, and heritage issues and policies.

Matt is an advocate for cross-sector collaboration between the cultural, heritage and academic communities. He has previously worked at Research Libraries UK, The National Archives (UK), and the University of Durham. He is a champion for the transformative effect of education and the role of libraries, museums, and galleries as catalysts of change for individuals, communities, institutions, and society.



**Olha Krytska** is a Library Director of Sumy State University (Ukraine). She carries out strategic management of the library's work in the areas of its activity and coordinates the work of its structural departments that are part of it. She developed the SumDU Library Development Strategy for 2023-2027 and ensures its implementation; organizes work to support research, training and teaching; introduces innovative technologies into the library's work; contributes to the development of a client-oriented service model of the library, the improvement of

digital content and services, and the active development and improvement of the qualifications of library specialists. She coordinates work in cooperation with the University of Liverpool Library within the framework of the UK-Ukraine Twinning Initiative; with libraries within the Ukrainian organization - The Alliance of Ukrainian Universities. Olha contributes to increasing the prestige and creating a positive image of the library and the university. She participates in several university councils and makes speeches for the university leadership on library and information issues. She is a member of the Ukrainian Library Association



**Yana Fandikovia** is a Deputy Library Director of Sumy State University (Ukraine). She organizes the work of the library's structural departments. Yana is responsible for the development of library and information services, promotion and accessibility of the library's printed and electronic collections. She coordinates the work of subject librarians, organizes the functioning of the library's electronic databases, and provides support for educational, scientific and teaching activities. Yana organizes work in cooperation with the University of Liverpool Library within the framework of the UK-Ukraine Twinning Initiative; with libraries within the Ukrainian organization - The Alliance of Ukrainian Universities. She conducts seminars and workshops on topical issues for the academic community.

# POSTER SESSION

## PLENARY PRESENTATION

### POSTER SESSION - PLENARY PRESENTATION

**Date:** Wednesday, 1 July 2026, 15:00-15:30

**Location:** R2

**Moderator:** Céline Ben Amar, Royal Library of Belgium, Belgium

### POSTERS & COFFEE BREAK

**Date:** Wednesday, 1 July 2026, 15:30 - 16:00

**Location:** Professional & Poster Exhibition Area

### POSTER AWARD - SUPPORTED BY OCLC

**Date:** Thursday, 2 July 2026, 14:30-15:00

**Location:** R1

Posters will be displayed in the Professional & Poster Exhibition Area of the Natural Sciences Building

### POSTERS:

- 1. Redirecting Power through Collection Budgets: Supporting Diamond Open Access at Tilburg University**  
**Authors:** Beatriz Barrocas Ferreira, Janneke Mulder, and Eric van den Akker, Tilburg University, The Netherlands  
**Presenter:** Beatriz Ferreira, Tilburg University, The Netherlands
- 2. Digital Scholarship & Data Science Topic Guides for Library Professionals**

**Authors:** Nora McGregor, British Library, United Kingdom; Andy Corrigan, University of Cambridge Libraries & Archives, United Kingdom; Jodie Double, University of Leeds Libraries, United Kingdom

**Presenters:** Andy Corrigan, University of Cambridge Libraries & Archives, United Kingdom and Jodie Double, University of Leeds Libraries, United Kingdom

- 3. Two Years of Implementing a Collective Action for Open Science Infrastructure Sustainability. The Couperin Consortium Model (2024-2028)**

**Authors:** Marlène Delhaye, Consortium Couperin, France and Aix-Marseille University, France; Valérie Larroque, Consortium Couperin, France

**Presenter:** Marlène Delhaye, Consortium Couperin, France and Aix-Marseille University, France

- 4. Funding Diamond Open Access: Practical Pathways for Libraries to Build Scholarly Commons**

**Authors:** Delphine Crubellier, CNRS-Episciences, France; Per Pippin Aspaas, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway; Aricia Bassinet, University of Lorraine, France; Lorenza Salvatore, EPFL, Switzerland; Guilaine Vittoz, EPFL, Switzerland

**Presenter:** Delphine Crubellier, CNRS-Episciences, France

- 5. Rethinking Data Stewardship Roles in Times of Automation and AI**

**Author/Presenter:** Johan Philips, KU Leuven, Belgium

- 6. An Open-Source Zotero Plugin for Automated Institutional Monitoring of Open Scholarship**

**Authors:** Kristen Scotti and Chasz Griego, Carnegie Mellon University, United States of America

**Presenter:** Kristen Scotti, Carnegie Mellon University, United States of America

- 7. Diamond Open Access in Flanders**  
**Author/Presenter:** Demmy Verbeke, KU Leuven, Belgium
- 8. A Multi-Stakeholder Approach to Designing a Dashboard for Open Source Programme Offices**  
**Authors:** Sabrina Granger and Morane Gruenpeter, Software Heritage, France and INRIA  
**Presenter:** Sabrina Granger, Software Heritage, France and INRIA
- 9. Developing a National Moodle Course on Managing Research Data According to Open Science Principles: Opportunities and Challenges for Librarian Professional Development**  
**Authors:** Irena Vipavc Brvar and Ema Grilc, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia  
**Presenter:** Irena Vipavc Brvar, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- 10. TRUST Framework for Evaluating AI-Based Information Search Tools**  
**Authors:** Samuel Mok, Stella Kruit, Grietha de Jonge, and Marit van Eck, University of Twente, The Netherlands  
**Presenter:** Stella Kruit, University of Twente, The Netherlands
- 11. From Data Lifecycle to Project Governance: A Project-Phase Model for Research Data Management and Research Security**  
**Authors:** Sina Mater and Cem Birol, Koç University, Turkey  
**Presenter:** Sina Mater, Koç University, Turkey
- 12. Diamond Open Access in Transition: Using Metrics While Moving Beyond Them**  
**Author/Presenter:** Lucy Amez, Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium

- 13. Data Quality Management as a Pillar of Usability and Reinvention for Digital Libraries. For Reliable Bibliodata in the Post-ChatGPT World**  
**Author/Presenter:** Sitthida Samath, CNRS Persée, France
- 14. Counteracting Fragmentation: Research Libraries as Multilevel Hubs of Openness**  
**Authors/Presenters:** Neža Podjavoršek and Brina Klemenčič, University of Maribor Library, Slovenia
- 15. Embedding the SDGs in Academic Library Strategy: Insights from the FER Library and the Role of Transformative Leadership**  
**Authors:** Ana Marić Turkalj and Branka Marijanović, University of Zagreb, Croatia  
**Presenter:** Ana Marić Turkalj, University of Zagreb, Croatia
- 16. Working Together in an Uncertain World: The European Print Initiatives Collaboration (EPICo)**  
**Authors/Presenters:** Karin Byström, Uppsala University Library, Sweden; Hannah Mateer, University Library of Edinburgh, United Kingdom; Wolfgang Mayer, University Library of Vienna, Austria
- 17. Building Capacity for Diamond Open Access: European Diamond Capacity Hub Services and Tools for Libraries and Publishers**  
**Authors:** Athina Papadopoulou, OPERAS, Greece; Johan Roroyck, OPERAS, Belgium; Pierre Mounier, European Diamond Capacity Hub (EDCH)  
**Presenter:** Pierre Mounier, European Diamond Capacity Hub (EDCH)

**18. Sustainability: Leading by Example**

**Author/Presenter:** Louise Zambianchi, Lancaster University, United Kingdom

**19. Academic Library Leadership for Sustainable Knowledge in Times of Uncertainty**

**Authors/Presenters:** Natálie Budilová and Martina Břeňová, NTK - National Library of Technology, Czech Republic

**20. Methodologies for Selecting High-Impact Publications for Open Access Award Recognition**

**Authors:** Jakaria Rahman and Patrik Bergvall, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden  
**Presenter:** Jakaria Rahman, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden

**21. Crafting Situations to Promote Discovery and Delight**

**Authors:** Christina Jones and Micaela Deogracias, Indiana University, United States of America  
**Presenter:** Christina Jones, Indiana University, United States of America

**22. Generating Content to Mediate Library Services: A FAQ-Based Chatbot**

**Authors/Presenters:** Timo Borst and Arben Hajra, ZBW Leibniz Information Center for Economics, Germany

**23. LIBER - Engaging with Rights and Values in an Evolving World**

**Authors:** LIBER Rights & Values Taskforce  
**Presenter:** Elisa Rodenburg, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**POSTER AWARD**

Poster voting opens at 15:30 on Wednesday, 1 July and closes at 12:30 on Thursday, 2 July. The winner will be announced during the plenary LIBER Awards session on Thursday (14:30-15:00), in which all poster presenters are encouraged to attend!

The Poster Award is supported by OCLC.

# PANEL SESSION I

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026 (16:00 - 17:00)

Location: R2

Moderator: Anja Smit, Dutch National Centre of Expertise and Repository for Research Data (DANS), Netherlands

Panelists:

Isabelle Eula, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL), Lausanne, Switzerland | Jeannette Frey, University of Lausanne, Switzerland | Randi Halveg Iversby, University of Oslo, Norway | Julien Roche, University of Lille, Lille, France | Frank Scholze, German National Library, Germany

## WHO LEADS NEXT?

### A EUROPEAN CONVERSATION ON SUCCESSION PLANNING IN ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

Leadership succession planning is a critical aspect of organizational sustainability, especially in academic libraries where the transition of leadership can influence the library's future direction and impact service continuity, institutional knowledge and employee engagement.

Many libraries currently observe a generational shift as leadership transitions are becoming increasingly frequent due to retirements or career advancement. Despite the efforts and importance of preparing future leaders, formalized succession planning may vary from institution to institution, potentially leading to instability, disruption or missed opportunities for professional growth.

This panel – composed of seasoned library directors across the European landscape – will examine challenges faced in implementing effective succession planning in their context and explore participants' perspectives to identify opportunities for improvement.

## The panel will

- investigate the state of leadership succession planning in selected academic libraries
- identify the challenges in succession planning, including institutional, cultural, structural, and resource-related obstacles;
- share perspectives on succession planning best practices and their views on how to address these challenges;
- propose recommendations for strengthening leadership succession in academic libraries.

To set the stage for discussion, each panelist will briefly introduce his/her institutional context, highlighting specific challenges, practices, or structural conditions relevant to succession planning. It will be followed by a moderated World Café-style discussion during which participants will rotate through 5 to 6 small thematic groups (e.g., organizational culture, human resources, governance mechanisms, leadership development, etc.). Each panelist will facilitate one group and synthesize the perspectives and insights shared by participants. All participants will be invited to reconvene in a plenary session to conclude the discussions.

## Learning outcomes.

At the end of the panel, participants will be able to:

- Compare institutional approaches and best practices in leadership development and succession planning across selected European academic libraries
- Identify key challenges affecting succession planning in academic libraries
- Apply shared insights to define or refine institutional succession-planning approaches and help shape actionable, collaborative recommendations across European libraries.



**Isabelle Eula** is Director of the Library at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (EPFL). She provides strategic leadership with a strong focus on Open Science and digital innovation and is active in several ETH Domain working groups. At the national level, she serves on the Board of the Swiss Library Network for Education and Research (SLiNER). Internationally, she is a member of the Board of Directors of the International Association of University Libraries (IATUL). Her career spans library leadership roles in Europe, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. Isabelle holds an MSc in Information Science (Université de Lorraine) and a certificate in Management Development (HGSE).



**Jeannette Frey** studied Ancient History, Archaeology, and Egyptology at the University of Fribourg (Switzerland) before launching a career in academic publishing. She managed the Photographic Collection of the Swiss National Museum (1992 -1998) followed by the Federal Archive for Historic Monuments (1998–2002), where she initiated major digitization projects. Between 2002 and 2004, she worked as an Information and Communication Manager in the private sector while studying Computer Science. She joined BCU Lausanne in 2004, became its Director in 2008, and has chaired the Renouvaud library network since 2016. She served as President of LIBER (2018–2022), was a member of the EOSC Executive Board (2020), and of IFLA's European Division (2021–2023).



**Randi Halveg Iversby** is Library Director at the University of Oslo since 2022. She holds an Executive Master of Management and an BA in Library and Information Science. She has a long career in the university sector and from 2008 held different leadership positions at the University of Oslo Library. Her focus has been organizational development, leading several change processes and developing the library's partnership within the university. Randi has leadership experience in organizations such as Universities Norway – Strategic Unit for Libraries, Norwegian Association of Researchers and is currently chair in the Norwegian Library System Consortia and a member of Sikt Negotiations Council (for publishing agreements in Norway).



**Julien Roche** is currently the Director of the Libraries and Learning Center as well as the Chief Data Officer for research data at the University of Lille, France. In July 2018, he was also elected as LIBER Vice-President and was approved as LIBER President in July 2022. From 2010 to 2016, he was Chair of the LIBER Leadership Working Group, responsible for the Emerging Leaders programme and the LIBER Journées, and has been for several years the co-chair of the national course for newly appointed research-library directors in France.



Before **Frank Scholze** joined the German National Library (DNB) as the Director General in 2020, he was the director of the library of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT).

From 2016 to 2022, Scholze was a member of the federal executive committee of the German Library Association (dbv). He is a member of numerous scientific committees and councils, including the Academic Council of German National Library of Science and Technology Hannover (TIB) and the ETH Library Lab. He is chair of the Conference of European National Librarians (CENL) since December 2021. In May 2025, Frank Scholze was elected to the board of the German Digital Library (DDB).



**Anja Smit** is the Director of DANS, the Dutch national centre of expertise and repository for research data. DANS is an institute of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and the Dutch Research Council (NWO).

Previously, Anja has served as a University Librarian at the Radboud University, Maastricht University and most recently at Utrecht University. Anja also worked with academic libraries in New England (USA) as an executive consultant at NELINET (now Lyris). She represents DANS in the National Open Science Network, CoARA and in several (inter)national research data infrastructures, such as ODISSEI, CLARIAH and CESSDA. Anja is active in global library networks, including the Board of Trustees of OCLC and the LIBER Executive Board. In addition, she is a member of the Board of the Dutch Library for the Blind and Board member of the Utrecht Archive. Anja holds an MA in Dutch Literature from Utrecht University.



# WORKSHOPS I

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026, 16:00-18:00

Locations: R22, R23, R90, R91, R92 & R93

## 1.1 RESILIENT LIBRARIES: SAFETY, ETHICS AND SERVICE PROVISION IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

Location: R23

Speakers: Linda Vidlund, Swedish Agricultural University Library (SLU), Sweden | Cecilia Ekström, Oslo University Library, Norway | Céline Ben Amar, Royal National Library of Belgium (KBR), Belgium

Organised by the LIBER Architecture WG

As open as possible, as secure as necessary — this workshop focuses on the everyday dilemmas that arise in running campus libraries and in meetings with university stakeholders.

Physical libraries are visible, accessible hubs that shape academic identity, provide workplaces and social space for students, and host learning, collaboration and research dissemination. Day-to-day decisions — about staffing, furniture, access, accessibility, censorship, and local policies — require balancing openness with safety. Under current economic and political pressures, these tensions become more frequent and urgent. As part of university campus planning, it is important to work actively on these issues.

Through practical examples and group discussion, the workshop will surface the key questions staff encounter, share solutions from different universities, and identify actionable approaches for handling these challenges in routine library work and institutional meetings.

The workshop participants are invited to bring their own cases to the discussions.

**Workshop Objectives:**

- To inspire library leaders and staff to improve the safety and accessibility of physical library spaces and to share experiences.
- To encourage collaborative problem-solving and innovative thinking.
- Participants will reflect on and share lessons learned to identify practical insights and next steps.

**Workshop introduction:**

A short thematic introduction, presented by the workshop facilitators, that highlights key aspects and provides international university examples. This will be followed by participant introductions and a sharing of expectations for the workshop.

**Group discussions and gallery walk:**

Participants will be divided into small groups and work on different cases and guiding questions provided at each table. Groups make summary posters at their tables, which are displayed and presented in a gallery walk.

**Reflective exercise:**

The workshop concludes with an individual reflection exercise that is shared in plenary.

## 1.2 INTEGRATING CITIZEN SCIENCE IN YOUR LIBRARY IN TIMES OF DEMOCRATIC CHALLENGES

**Location:** R93

**Speakers:** Alisa Martek, Zagreb National and University Library, Croatia | Sara Decoster, KU Leuven Libraries, Belgium | Susanne Blumesberger, Vienna University Library, Austria | Thomas Kaarsted, University Library of Southern Denmark, Denmark | Anne Kathrine Overgaard, University Library of Southern Denmark, Denmark

**Organised by the LIBER Citizen Science Working Group**

The aim of this workshop is to provide key elements for libraries to include Citizen Science in their strategy, while taking into account the context of a changing and uncertain world. Citizen Science support is a new task, which may be a challenge, but also an opportunity for academic libraries to position themselves as a trusted partner that contributes to a democratic society.

The interactive workshop will build on case studies provided by the Citizen Science working group, with examples from Denmark, Croatia and Austria.

A first theme of this workshop is aligning Citizen Science with the mission of the library and with overall priorities at institutional level. This includes dealing with expectations of university management. In addition to the well-known constraints in terms of resources for instance, this uncertain world requires a new emphasis on the balance between openness and the security of people, knowledge and infrastructure.

The next question is how to overcome barriers related to the implementation of Citizen Science by demonstrating its added value. The workshop will highlight more specifically how Citizen Science can contribute to democracy and increased trust in science, while also providing tools for science literacy, thus contributing to a more resilient society.

## 1.3 FAIR AND SECURE: DATA MANAGEMENT UNDER EU SOVEREIGNTY AND SECURITY RULES

**Location:** R22

**Speakers:** Elisa Rodenburg, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands | Manna Satama, University of Eastern Finland Library, Finland | Armin Straube, Glucksman Library, University of Limerick,

Ireland | Mari Elisa Kuusniemi, Helsinki University Library, Finland | Laetitia Bracco, SPARC Europe / Université de Lorraine, France | Jodie Double, University of Leeds Libraries, United Kingdom | Andrea Mervik, Lund University, Sweden | Irena Vipavc Brvar, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

**Organised by** the LIBER Research Data Management Working Group

In the past decade, the push towards open research practices has gained momentum, and research libraries across Europe have an important role to play in facilitating and supporting FAIR data practices. At the same time, the European research community has faced growing concerns around security, geopolitical risk, and technological dependence. In response, policymakers have introduced data sovereignty and knowledge security guidelines, alongside new legislation such as the Data Governance Act (DGA), the Digital Services Act (DSA), the AI Act, the Dual Use Act, the Directive on Copyright in the Digital Single Market and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). These frameworks have introduced intensified obligations for research organisations where libraries are working towards making data FAIR while complying with the applicable legislation and guidelines. In this workshop, we would like to bring these two developments together and translate FAIR into 'FAIR and Secure' choices for data, for example regarding licensing, access control, metadata and data reuse, under the relevant EU legislation. The workshop will contribute towards a joint guiding document containing checkpoints for data sensitivity, dual use, governance, and more, that will be useful for the researchers directly and for the libraries in their role as research support and stewards of data, knowledge and collections. Ideally, using such a document, libraries will be able to review key points relevant to the matter at hand, and will be able to support researchers in making informed decisions about their data management. The workshop will employ the fishbowl method, which is an active and structured discussion format between facilitators and participants. Through this method, participants and speakers build the basis of the guiding document together.



This proposal addresses the conference's theme directly by creating an instrument that can help libraries to support research and (cultural) heritage organisations and their researchers. Specifically, the guiding document that will be drafted in this workshop helps libraries to navigate the increased complexities and opportunities of FAIR research data, and applying the FAIR principles to collections-as-data, while always complying with guidelines and legislation about knowledge security and data protection.

#### 1.4 LIBERATING METADATA FLOWS TO IMPROVE FINDABILITY OF EUROPEAN OPEN TEXTBOOKS AND EXPLORING TOOLS TO IMPROVE ADVOCACY AND ADOPTION

**Location:** R91

**Speakers:** Helen Moore, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom | Toby Steiner, Thoth, United Kingdom

Tamara Pianos, Leibniz Information Centre for Economics – ZBW, Germany

Elina Kähö, Helsinki University Library, Finland

Elena Gallina, University of Modena and Reggio Emilia, Italy

**Organised by** the LIBER Educational Resources Working Group

LIBER's Educational Resources Working Group is continuing to focus on Open Educational Resources (OER) in recognition of their increasing importance in offering equitable access to quality learning resources. The main part of the workshop will showcase an ongoing project conducted by the Working Group to establish a joint open catalogue through the usage of Thoth (<https://thoth.pub/>). Following this, the workshop will outline further areas being taken forward by the group to improve the adoption of OER, with a focus on open textbooks.

### Area 1: OER discoverability

Currently, most examples of OER and OER repositories come from North America. Whilst European institutions have been able to benefit from the expertise of these colleagues, we are at a point in time where we need to look at developing our own infrastructure to improve the visibility and discoverability of European content.

The integration of open metadata management into textbook production workflows, library cataloguing systems, and long-term archiving solutions is gaining importance and urgency in the open access environment. Provided by the UK non-profit Thoth Open Metadata, this open source and community-led platform provides metadata management and distribution solutions to tackle the challenges of getting Open Textbooks and Open Access books into the wider book supply chain (incl. into libraries' catalogues), thus ensuring their long-term discoverability, sustainability and accessibility.

We will show how metadata for textbooks are being managed, exported, and disseminated to platforms and indices including OERSI and the Open Textbook Library; how DOIs get auto-registered with Crossref for books and chapters alike; how textbooks are registered with larger-scale indices such as ProQuest, and how publications are automatically archived in open repositories such as the Internet Archive and Zenodo through the Thoth Open Archiving Network, an open, transparent and auditable alternative to existing long-term preservation mechanisms.

Following an initial presentation to introduce the plan devised by our Working Group, we invite participants to collaboratively consider the requirements of such a catalogue, how to ensure sustainable upkeep, and to reflect on what kinds of open educational resources they would like to see included in such an open catalogue.

### Area 2: OER and AI

AI has many potential applications in relation to OER. In this workshop,

we will outline the role ChatBots can play in OER, how AI can help with translation, and how our community has engaged with new initiatives such as Sylla to improve the discovery and use of OER. We will invite participants to share initiatives from their own institutions.

### Area 3: Measuring the impact of OER

The working group has been exploring ways to measure the adoption and potential impact of OER as a way of supporting OER advocacy. We have done this through the collation of usage data and metrics. The aim has been to develop a reproducible, data-informed approach to understanding and advocating for OER in European research libraries. Within the workshop, we will seek feedback on the methodology we have developed to assess OER usage and visibility within university teaching collections.

1.5

## TAKING AGENCY IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD: DEVELOPING A CYBER-RESILIENCE TOOLKIT FOR RESEARCH LIBRARIES

**Location:** R92

**Speakers:** William Nixon, Research Libraries UK, United Kingdom | Nancy Graham, London School of Economics (LSE), United Kingdom | Jane Harvell, University of Sussex, United Kingdom | Ian Gifford, University of Manchester, United Kingdom | Kirsty Lingstadt, University of York, United Kingdom

**Organised by** Research Libraries UK

In today's interconnected digital research landscape, cyber incidents are now a clear and present risk for research libraries (it may not be "if" but "when"). In recent years, public libraries, national libraries and universities have all experienced incidents. Cyber-resilience is critical for research libraries which provide access to rich and unique



collections, support open scholarship, and provide essential research infrastructure.

This dynamic and engaging workshop will provide an opportunity for colleagues to explore their cyber-readiness through an overview of the cyber-resilience toolkit developed by Research Libraries UK. Through breakout sessions and group discussions the workshop will provide background and strategic context for the toolkit. It will also support attendees in developing an action plan and next steps in how they would respond to a cyber-incident through a four-stage lifecycle. The workshop recognises that this is not just a technical challenge, but a strategic, cultural and organisational one which can be explored collaboratively.

This cyber-resilience workshop aligns with the “Research Data and Knowledge Security” theme of LIBER 2026.

### Cyber-resilience lifecycle

The Cyber-Resilience lifecycle we will share covers these four stages which also be the basis for the breakout groups:

- **Readiness:** Establishing measures to reduce vulnerabilities and prepare for incidents, ensuring regular staff training, and developing an up-to-date incident response plan.
- **Response:** Acting swiftly and decisively when an incident occurs. Library directors should ensure clear decision-making plans are in place, with designated leads and communication strategies to maintain service continuity and to co-ordinate with the institutional response.
- **Recovery:** Restoring systems and services while maintaining trust with stakeholders. Recovery planning includes the prioritisation of core library services, secure restoration of access to collections and services (digital and physical) and collaboration with institutional IT teams.

- **Review:** Lessons learning from incidents to strengthen future resilience both for the institution itself and across the sector. Post-incident reviews should be conducted to identify gaps, update policies.

### Workshop Objectives

- Provide a strategic context for the importance of a Research Library focus on cyber-resilience, and how it complements institutional activities
- Introduce the RLUK Cyber-Resilience toolkit which provides a leadership framework, based around a four-part cyber-incident lifecycle of Readiness, Response, Recovery, and Review
- Demonstrate the practical benefits for Library leadership in engaging with staff to prepare for cyber-incident; and the importance of staff wellbeing
- Provide a roadmap for peer European research libraries to start developing and collaborating on their own cyber-resilience leadership framework
- Explore how we can work together collectively, sharing resources, templates and training to improve our cyber-resilience

### Key Outcomes

- A shared understanding of the strategic need for a Research Library cyber-incident leadership framework, and the implications for the leadership team and staff across the library
- An action plan and next steps for attendees to take forward (individually and collaboratively) to improve their own cyber-resilience
- A collective range of resources and next steps which could be shared to improve the sectors cyber-resilience

### Workshop Structure

- Cyber-incident icebreaker: Colleagues, including the workshop leaders will be invited to share their cyber-incident experiences [in confidence]
  - Why a Leadership Framework for Cyber for Research Libraries? Led by the Director of an RLUK library highlighting the unique challenges for research libraries
  - Our RLUK Toolkit Journey: Background and lessons learned in developing our toolkit including its launch, feedback, impact and our next steps
  - Cyber-Incident Scenario Breakout Groups: The breakout sessions will be organised around the same cyber-incident scenario with each group exploring one of the four stages: Readiness, Response, Recovery and Review.
- 
- Collective discussions and next steps: opportunities for collaboration
- 

1.6

## ALTERNATIVE PATHS TOWARDS THE FUTURE OF OPEN ACCESS – DEVELOPMENTS FOR AND BY LIBRARIES

**Location:** R90

**Speakers:** Sofie Wennström, Stockholm University, Sweden | Emma Nolin, Malmö University, Sweden | Hardy Schwamm, University College Cork, Ireland | Alicia Fátima Gómez, IE University, Spain

**Organised by** the LIBER Open Access Working Group

There is a shift underway in open science, particularly in open access publishing and library culture. The most significant change of late is due to a shift in how scholarly output is distributed and valued. There

are several descriptions of this change, such as the report “Publishing Futures” from Cambridge University Press, or the position paper “Embracing the Complexity of ‘100% OA’: From Percentage to Participation” by OASPA. We have seen new models emerge in recent years, such as the collaborative Diamond Open Access movement, the rise of community-owned publishing collectives and platforms for open peer review, and new ways of analysing scholarly output. What do these new initiatives mean for research libraries? New platforms are emerging, giving us a multitude of ways to disseminate researchers’ work in formats beyond the traditional journal article.

This workshop aims to showcase current alternative publishing options and how they work, and to offer a space for colleagues to discuss how libraries can continue to support the transition to open science. The workshop will provide participants with an opportunity to learn and share experiences on how to guide researchers towards an open future that safeguards academic freedom and the integrity of scholarly output. The workshop will include expert speakers presenting different examples of ongoing work and group activities. The list of speakers will be updated.

### Learning goals:

1. Knowing more about new and alternative models for open publishing,
2. analysing the current landscape with the help of shared experience and expertise,
3. bringing home tools and ideas on how to further develop support for open scholarly communication

DETAILED PROGRAMME  
THURSDAY



# PARALLEL SESSION 6

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## PRACTISING OPENNESS II

**Moderator:**

Hardy Schwamm, University College Cork, Ireland

**Location:** R2

### 6.1

#### FROM LIBRARY COLLECTION TO COLLEGE CURRICULUM

**Author:** Rene Tanner, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, United States of America

In the United States higher education landscape, the escalating cost of course materials remains a significant barrier to student success and retention. When textbooks and required media are not bundled with tuition, a pedagogical “equity gap” emerges: many students are forced to choose between accumulating additional debt or attempting coursework without the necessary materials. There is a growing institutional need for libraries to serve as proactive partners in mitigating the costs of educational resources through Open Educational Resources (OER) and licensed library materials.

This presentation will explore a transformative model where the academic library is integrated directly into the university’s formal course approval process. By positioning librarians as reviewers in the early stages of curriculum development, the library gains a strategic window to evaluate the “affordability profile” of new courses.

This intervention allows for two critical points of engagement:

1. Consultative Review: Librarians can identify high-cost textbooks or restricted media and initiate conversations with faculty about equivalent OER or existing library-licensed resources that are free for student use.
2. Strategic Support: The library can assess whether it can acquire multi-user licenses for required materials, effectively shifting the cost from the individual student to the institutional level.

The presenter will provide an in-depth look at the review system implemented at a large U.S. university. They will examine how data gathered during the course approval process is fed back into the collection development and renewal process. By tracking which materials are consistently required across the curriculum, the library can make evidence-based decisions on which licensed databases and e-book packages provide the highest return on investment for student learning.

Attendees will leave with a framework for navigating departmental politics to secure a seat at the curriculum table. The presentation will demonstrate that when the library moves from the periphery to the center of course design, it does more than save students money—it ensures that the library’s collection is an active, vital component of the university’s pedagogical mission.



**Rene Tanner** is at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas where she is the head of the Library Liaison Program. She has over 18 years of experience as a research librarian and has focused on topics such as sustainability and open access materials in libraries. Most recently she was part of a pilot study on the use of AI in library instruction and its impact on critical thinking. She is a seasoned presenter at national and international forums.



## 6.2

### LEAVING READ & PUBLISH AGREEMENTS TO PRESERVE ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND ACCESS TO KNOWLEDGE

**Authors:** Aurélie Terrier, Cantonal and University Library of Lausanne, Switzerland and Micaela Crespo-Quesada, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

**Presenter:** Aurélie Terrier, Cantonal and University Library of Lausanne, Switzerland

In the context of an uncertain financial environment and rising costs of electronic resources provided by major publishers, academic libraries must rethink their strategies to ensure a sustainable access to scholarly knowledge. At the Bibliothèque Cantonale et Universitaire de Lausanne (BCUL) in Switzerland, Read & Publish agreements now represent 61% of the library's electronic resource budget, absorbing a growing share of the budget at the expense of specialized databases, thematic ebooks, and smaller publishers. This concentration threatens bibliodiversity, strengthens the oligopolistic dominance of large publishing groups, and limits the library's ability to support a diverse publishing ecosystem.

To address these challenges, the University of Lausanne and the BCUL prepare for a gradual transition away from the Read & Publish model by developing a fund to support Open Access publishing in hybrid journals while retaining only a targeted set of subscriptions. This approach increases cost transparency, provides strategic flexibility, and enables a more balanced allocation of resources. It also strengthens academic freedom by ensuring researchers' choices are not constrained by the presence or absence of transformative agreements.

This presentation will outline the analysis that revealed the growing dependence on Read and Publish agreements, the tools and indicators used to continue delivering services, and the anticipated impacts on costs, content access, and the university's Open Access strategy.

In a period of uncertainty, this shift helps libraries regain autonomy over spending decisions, protect editorial diversity, and reaffirm equitable access to knowledge as a fundamental mission.



**Aurélie Terrier** is the head of the journals, ebooks, and databases service at the Bibliothèque Cantonale et Universitaire de Lausanne, in Switzerland. After beginning her academic career in environmental sciences in Quebec (2008–2016), she shifted toward the development of open science and scholarly communication in academic settings as well as for the general public. She is a member of the editorial board of LIBER Quarterly (<https://www.liberquarterly.eu/>), the program committee of LIBER (<https://libereurope.eu/conference-programme-committee/>), and SPARC Europe (<https://sparceurope.org/>). Through these commitments, she aims to actively contribute to the dissemination and sharing of knowledge, notably by supporting diverse open access models driven by universities and academic communities.

## 6.3

### SHAPING SUSTAINABLE SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING THROUGH THE EUROPEAN DIAMOND CAPACITY HUB AND NATIONAL CAPACITY CENTRES

**Authors:** Pierre Mounier, European Diamond Capacity Hub (EDCH); Johan Rooryck, OPERAS, Belgium; Athina Papadopoulou, OPERAS, Greece

**Presenter:** Pierre Mounier, European Diamond Capacity Hub (EDCH)

In an increasingly complex and fragmented scholarly communication landscape, research libraries can play a crucial role supporting and promoting community-led, equitable publishing efforts that enable access to knowledge and provide the model and structure for sustainable open solutions. The European Diamond Capacity Hub (EDCH) – an ongoing OPERAS program– takes the lead in this mission by offering services and coordinating a distributed network of National Capacity Centres (NCCs) that support Diamond Open Access (Diamond OA).

Building on the outputs of the DIAMAS and CRAFT-OA projects, the EDCH was created to serve as a central infrastructure fostering alignment, sustainability, and robustness of Diamond OA services and tools across the European landscape. It operates by facilitating coordination among NCCs, providing a platform for visibility and knowledge exchange, and streamlining services in support of publishers, service providers, and technology partners. Together, these national centres strengthen the Diamond OA ecosystem by offering regional support, advocacy, and capacity-building in ways that are responsive to specific regional community needs.

This presentation will show how research libraries and key Diamond OA actors can exercise purposeful leadership to sustain an open scholarly infrastructure and invest in Diamond OA. We will showcase how NCCs, as part of the broader EDCH network, are emerging as centres of excellence that drive the adoption of standards (such as the Diamond Open Access Standard (DOAS)), encourage collaboration, and empower local communities of practice. National Capacity Centres play a pivotal leadership role within the European Diamond Capacity Hub by acting as trusted national posts for Diamond Open Access.

To date, the EDCH has identified 21 National Capacity Centres, of which 11 are fully established and 10 are currently in development. This reflects both the maturity and the growth potential of this distributed publishing model. Embedded in local research and library ecosystems, NCCs bridge European-level coordination with national contexts of

legislation, education, and research, ensuring that policies, standards, and capacity-building efforts are adapted to local needs. By providing hands-on support, guidance on best practices, and pathways to professionalisation for Diamond OA publishers and service providers, NCCs enable libraries to move beyond advocacy and into action-oriented leadership. This model of distributed national Diamond OA centres strengthens resilience across the scholarly publishing landscape, empowering national communities to co-develop, co-own, and sustain open, non-commercial publishing infrastructures while remaining aligned with shared European goals.

This presentation will highlight how the EDCH mission strengthens Diamond OA and coordinates with key European and global stakeholders. It will demonstrate the strategic role of research libraries in championing initiatives like the EDCH and promoting inclusive, community-led knowledge production and sharing. It will also explore community-led governance models that enable shared decision-making, effective stakeholder engagement, and accountability.

Specifically, the presentation will explore:

- National Capacity Centre functions: Acting as national representatives, raising awareness, and offering training and practical guidance for implementing Diamond OA locally.
- Impact examples: Showcasing already established NCCs leading regional Diamond OA efforts and driving adoption of standards and best practices.
- Cross-institutional collaboration: Amplifying impact through partnerships that promote inclusive participation and strengthen the Diamond OA ecosystem.
- Challenges and lessons learned: Insights from coordinating NCC activities, managing resources, and aligning regional efforts to broader European goals.

# PARALLEL SESSION 7

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT I

### Moderator:

Sølvi Karlsen, NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

Location: R2

## 7.1

### DEVELOPING PRESERVATION SERVICES FOR SENSITIVE RESEARCH DATA

**Author:** Mari Elisa Kuusniemi, Helsinki University Library, Finland

Preserving research data throughout its lifecycle, particularly sensitive datasets, is a critical challenge for academic institutions. This case study describes how a university library developed trusted preservation services for sensitive research data, addressing key obstacles and lessons learned. Existing infrastructure supported confidential data but was inadequate for high-risk datasets, such as personally identifiable information. De-identification proved complex and costly, creating the need for secure storage and processing of data in its original form.

The library's medium- and long-term preservation services relied on two platforms: an institutional repository and a nationally maintained storage service. Neither initially met the required security standards, so both underwent significant adaptation to achieve compliance. Development was iterative, shaped by evolving legal, technical, and institutional contexts. Five phases defined the process: reviewing

This presentation will offer participants concrete insights into how research libraries and trusted partners are exercising leadership in collaboration with the European Diamond Capacity Hub and the National Capacity Centres. By examining the role of National Capacity Centres in practice, the session will highlight transferable leadership approaches that support sustainable, community-owned scholarly publishing and can be adapted to diverse national and institutional contexts.



**Pierre Mounier** is the Chief Strategy Officer of OPERAS, a European infrastructure dedicated to open scholarly communication in the social sciences and humanities, plays a pivotal role in monitoring and contributing to the strategic roadmap of the infrastructure. Pierre is affiliated with EHESS, where he serves as the head of the international sector of OpenEdition, the French infrastructure dedicated to open scholarly communication in the SSH. Additionally, he co-directs the Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) with Niels Stern. Recently, Pierre has dedicated his efforts to the development of the Diamond OA model in Europe, co-coordinating the European Diamond Capacity Hub with Johan Rooryck.



requirements, strengthening the expert network, enhancing team competencies, developing workflows, and implementing technical improvements.

### Reviewing requirements

The project commenced with a comprehensive review of requirements for handling sensitive data. This encompassed data protection legislation, information security standards, institutional practices, and research ethics. While the aim was to establish a clear understanding from the outset, many requirements only crystallised over time due to changes in legislation and the regulatory landscape.

### Strengthening the expert network

To manage sensitive data effectively, the team built a strong expert network within the university, leveraging existing institutional expertise. This network engaged legal advisors, data security specialists, ethics committees, and IT professionals. These collaborations enabled timely guidance on complex issues, such as assessing real datasets for compliance. The multidisciplinary approach proved essential for addressing the diverse challenges of sensitive data curation.

### Enhancing team competencies

Internal capacity-building was essential. The library's data preservation team expanded its responsibilities to include sensitive datasets, requiring significant upskilling before such data could be accepted. Training focused on assessing data sensitivity, advising on compliance, and producing documentation for reuse. A collaborative approach supported knowledge transfer from experienced staff to new colleagues. Practical skills were strengthened through direct engagement with researchers and evaluation of real datasets. Participation in the FAIR-IMPACT programme further enhanced expertise and ensured alignment with FAIR principles, reinforcing interoperability and reusability.

### Developing workflows and processes

Workflows were redesigned to accommodate sensitive personal data, dual-use datasets, and other high-risk research data. A Data Access Protocol (DAP) was introduced for restricted datasets, defining access conditions and reuse criteria. A GDPR-compliant Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) was completed for both services, and terms of use were updated. Preserving and enabling reuse of sensitive datasets requires extensive documentation, which researchers may perceive as unnecessary bureaucracy. A key principle was minimising user workload—an objective that proved challenging.

### Technical development

The most challenging aspect of the technical development proved to be designing adequate information security practices while ensuring the preservation service remained usable. The key areas for improvement included robust access control, encryption, and thorough documentation of the data security measures implemented. These enhancements occasionally conflicted with usability; for example, encrypting large datasets hindered transfer and access. To address these challenges, the current security status of both platforms was assessed, and a development plan was formulated in collaboration with IT and data security teams. Ultimately, only minor modifications were needed, but achieving this conclusion and getting formal approval for it required significant effort.

### Conclusion

Developing secure preservation services for sensitive research data has been a complex, iterative process shaped by legal, technical, and institutional factors. Collaboration, skills enhancement, and workflow refinement have established a sustainable, compliant infrastructure to meet researchers' needs. Providing secure preservation services remains challenging and demands specialised expertise. Future progress will rely on learning from similar initiatives, enabling continuous improvement and strengthening the knowledge base for sensitive data management.





**Mari Elisa Kuusniemi** (known as Mek) is an information specialist at the Helsinki university library, specialising in research data management and open science. She has been actively engaged in developing research data management practices and institutional policies, with a particular focus on ensuring that research data is managed, published, shared, and archived responsibly.

Kuusniemi has participated in numerous national and international projects that promote best practices in data management and assist researchers in addressing related challenges. She chairs the expert group on Open Data under Finland's Open Science National Coordination and is involved in training new professionals in research data management. Among other roles, she serves as an instructor in the international Data Steward training programme organised by Tampere University.

She is also a member of the Research Data Management Working Group of LIBER.

## 7.2

### RESEARCH DATA @NTNU: ENABLING ONE STOP RESEARCH SUPPORT

**Authors:** Ane Møller Gabrielsen and Ingrid Heggland, NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

**Presenter:** Ane Møller Gabrielsen, NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway

How do we enable sharing and reuse of research output while at the same time ensuring information security, GDPR, research ethics and knowledge security? What infrastructure, digital tools and competencies do researchers and students need to conduct safe, efficient

and FAIR research? What are possible challenges to efficient research support and how can they be overcome?

The support service Research Data @NTNU was set up to be a central contact point for all questions related to research data, coordinated by the University Library in close collaboration with the NTNU IT Division. The goal was to provide comprehensive support and advice on a broad variety of issues and topics in research data and open science by combining different expertise and disciplines. Many research projects need advice from different types of expertise in both planning and execution, and Research Data @NTNU aimed to make research support more efficient and streamlined. Today, Research Data @NTNU also involves close collaboration with legal advisors, as well as the institutional Data Protection Officer and research advisors at the faculty and department level.

The service provides support and advice ranging from formal agreements on data sharing and GDPR, data flow and information security, to practical user guidance related to tools and software. The support service also contributes to other services and infrastructure, ensuring a good understanding of both the needs and practices of the users in addition to the technical setup and possibilities. Research Data @NTNU also provides courses and training for researchers and students as well as networks and competency building for support staff. Research Data @NTNU has been able to detect shortcomings in institutional services and infrastructure and take measures to remedy these, including participation in projects developing new tools and services.

Collaboration across institutional divisions has been essential to build competency and understanding, enabling high level support on complex topics in research projects. At the same time, the proximity to researchers and students has been crucial to detect and understand the issues at stake. Several members of the team have PhDs and/or research background, which enables translation between researchers and support staff. Furthermore, a willingness to listen and learn from

others has proved to be valuable. By reaching out to potential collaborators without claiming ownership to topics and fields (such as data privacy and information security) has contributed to strengthening the role of the library as an academic enabler as well as contributing to a more holistic and interdisciplinary approach to research support.



**Ane Møller Gabrielsen** is a research librarian coordinating the central support service for NTNU, Research Data @NTNU. Anne is also a member of the Research Data Team at NTNU University Library.

## 7.3

### “DRIVING THE MACHINE”: LIBRARIES AND THEIR PARTNERSHIPS AS KEY ACTORS IN STRATEGIES FOR TRUSTWORTHY AI IN UNIVERSITIES

**Author:** Sébastien Perrin, Couperin, France

As a central player in scientific and technical information in France, the Couperin consortium has launched a strategic reflection to address the challenges raised by generative AI systems. Often described as technologies that generate random-looking texts while obscuring provenance, generative AI promises a kind of creative destruction in which library and information services might appear to have no place.

The purpose of this presentation is to show that libraries can instead position themselves as major actors in monitoring the development and implementation of AI in higher education, using “trustworthy AI” as a driver.

#### 1. Understanding AI system design: the need for a “documentary expertise”.

Research practices are currently fragmenting, with each community organizing its own response to AI. This fragmentation increases the

need for shared rules of governance grounded in research integrity and AI policy documents. European regulation responds to this need by promoting the notion of trustworthy AI, a concept that has been taken up in France by expert research communities.

Libraries occupy a distinctive position: they are the final purchasers of finished products (publishers’ AI tools) while also knowing the academic sources that feed these systems (open access and licensed content). Couperin has created a dedicated working group to leverage this competence. Its mandate is to support negotiators by assessing AI tools using a documentary analysis framework and by identifying specific use cases such as literature reviews or synthesis. It also aims to strengthen university AI charters by incorporating clauses of documentary expertise.

Then, libraries are in capacity to compare design choices of the AI released by publishers, using traditional documentation tools such as indexing quality, enrichment, and source selection. This is a cross-functional skill that counterbalances the tendency toward fragmentation.

New missions are emerging for libraries: providing lawful and relevant corpora, and helping to frame the development of energy-efficient AI systems.

#### 2. Building strategic partnerships to qualify and promote trustworthy AI.

By identifying key actors in the French AI landscape, Couperin has been able to raise the visibility of library expertise. A dialogue has been established with several types of partners. The presentation will highlight how a renewed partnership policy has enabled the consortium to position itself as a legitimate actor in the academic sector.

This strategy has involved:

- Determining the characteristics of a “trustworthy AI”, based on the compliance with academic method.

- Building on the national ISTEEX project, which moves to act as a “data lake” for higher education and research, underpinned by the TDM exception.
- Defining a common position on AI licenses clauses with expert groups.
- Working with publishers, including direct discussions with development teams.
- Sharing conclusions with libraries and the national community through conferences and workshops.

This presentation presents the key findings arising from these partnerships: changes to license terms, development of expertise, analysis grid, red lines for negotiations.

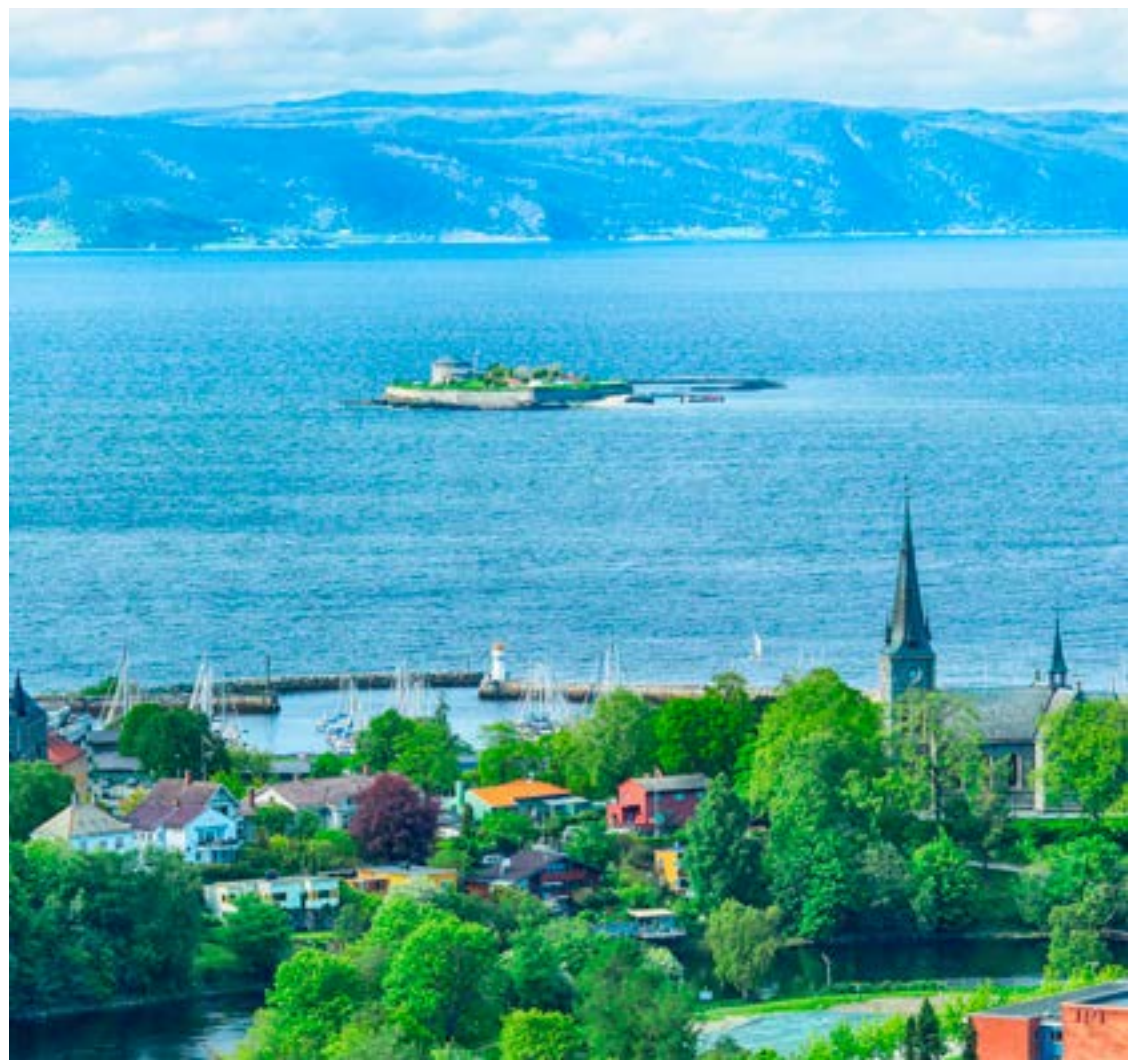
It also establishes two key concepts for the open science in the “AI age”: transparency and reciprocity. In particular, transparency means more than just providing mandatory technical documentation. In the context of trustworthy AI and supported by documentary analysis, it is a strategic tool for benchmarking and selecting AI tools and implementing them in their research and teaching ecosystem.

Thus, by contributing to the definition of quality criteria for trustworthy AI, libraries help to operationalize the AI Act and to ensure alignment with the European Text and Data Mining (TDM) exception. This expertise could also support national projects to develop AI systems for universities, as the one between the French State and Mistral AI



**Sébastien Perrin** is a librarian and director of the library at the École des Mines de Paris-PSL. He has spent most of his career in universities and higher education, holding various management positions. He has worked at the Ministry of Culture and Communication, in the book economy department, and was a member of the Paris-Saclay University planning group. As a member of the executive coordination team

of the Couperin consortium and co-head of the latter, he leads the consortium’s work on AI. His research focuses in particular on digital law: regulations surrounding e-books, text and data mining, and implementation of the AI Act.



# PARALLEL SESSION 8

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## AI AND COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT

### Moderator:

Karin Rydving, Oslo University Library, Norway

Location: R8

### 8.1

#### SUBJECTSEEKER AI: NO-CODE AI FOR SUBJECT MATCHING RARE BOOKS AT KU LEUVEN LIBRARIES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

**Authors:** An Smets and Tjamke Snijders, KU Leuven Libraries, Belgium

**Presenter:** An Smets, KU Leuven Libraries, Belgium

KU Leuven Libraries' Special Collections manages a unique collection of approximately 50.000 early printed books. While accurate subject assignment is essential for the discoverability and scholarly use of the collection, categorising this large dataset of works is resource-intensive when done manually. This paper details the development and impact of SubjectSeeker AI, a no-code AI Agent for subject matching rare books. It compares SubjectSeeker's performance to that of other AI solutions and shares practical insights for other institutions looking for accessible ways to use AI to enhance their library collections.

SubjectSeeker AI was not the first experiment with AI at KU Leuven Libraries Special Collections. Already in 2020, we started exploring AI-based methods to support the process of subject matching with the help of a company that specializes in strategies for digital heritage

and data services. An initial AI model, trained on preset rules and title information, aimed to predict relevant subjects. However, the model's effectiveness was limited: the often unique, multilingual, and archaically spelt titles posed challenges for accurate matching, resulting in substantial time spent on corrections.

The emergence of ChatGPT and other Large Language Models (LLMs) with direct access to internet data marked a turning point. Quick experiments revealed that simply providing title and author information to ChatGPT produced better results than our previous professional AI model. Importantly, adopting a no-code AI solution empowered staff members to perform subject matching themselves, eliminating the need to rely on external companies for both development and execution. Building on these insights, we collaborated with KU Leuven Libraries' AI Librarian to develop and test SubjectSeeker AI.

Our process involved developing, testing, and implementing the AI agent, with iterative adjustments based on initial results. As KU Leuven has a contractual agreement with Microsoft Copilot, ensuring that inputs and outputs remain private and cannot be used to improve the model further, the agent was developed with a M365 Copilot license. Throughout the process, we leveraged supporting documents such as the complete subject list, previously matched titles from the database, and in-house matching guides based on staff expertise – including lists of authors and keywords linked to specific subjects, as well as book codes mapped to the subject list. Our subject list is based on the STCV project (The Bibliography of the Hand Press Book in Flanders, stcv.be/en), an online database managed by the Flemish Heritage Libraries, which is enriched with a controlled vocabulary for subject keywords. SubjectSeeker AI demonstrated notable improvements in matching appropriate subjects for rare books, outperforming our earlier AI model in both accuracy and usability.

This paper offers a comprehensive overview of our process, covering the development, testing, and implementation of the AI Agents,



along with the adjustments made to our initial plans. We will present the SubjectSeeker AI's performance in matching relevant subjects, compare it with our previous AI solution, and showcase our agent's instructional prompt. Since our goal is not only to describe our specific use case but also to demonstrate how other institutions can apply AI Agents for topic matching, we will conclude with lessons learned and recommendations for library institutions.



**An Smets** is employed as a curator at the KU Leuven Libraries Special Collections. Her primary responsibilities include managing the manuscript collection, supervising digitisation projects and online exhibitions, providing guided tours to students and other visitors, supervising interns, and communicating with stakeholders. Since the widespread introduction of artificial intelligence in libraries and academia, she has been keeping up to date with recent developments that could be useful for Special Collections.

Before joining the library, she was a scholar who specialised in translating medieval scientific texts. To study these texts, she undertook research residencies in various libraries across Europe and the United States. As a librarian, she received a research grant from Leiden University Libraries in 2012, and in 2025 she participated in the British Libraries' International Leadership Programme.

## 8.2

### WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF AI ON DIGITAL COLLECTIONS? LESSONS LEARNED FROM A RESEARCH PROJECT IN OXFORD

**Authors:** Megan Gooch and Amy Warner May, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

**Presenter:** Megan Gooch, University of Oxford, United Kingdom

In this paper I will present work undertaken by myself and colleagues as part of the Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford's research project funded by AI company OpenAI. The overall research aim was to understand the scope and scale of the Bodleian's collections suitable for digitisation at scale. To reach this aim we undertook experiments in several areas to understand which items in our collection could be digitised, how this digitisation could be achieved, and looked more widely at the Libraries sector to see whether peers in other institutions had solved some of the common challenges.

To understand the volume of collection suitable for digitisation we adapted a museums collection audit methodology (Dun and Das, 2012) and worked with subject librarians across our many library sites, with data specialists and our special collections curators. Due to the limitations of copyright, conservator and curator hesitancy around digitising books predating 1800, and books already committed to other digitisation projects, we concluded the number of possible digitizable objects was about 250,000.

The next step was to understand how books could be digitised at scale. To do this we scaled up digitisation in our existing imaging studio and starting a new digitisation facility at our book storage facility. At both we tested new equipment and workflows and employed new staff. From these two experiments we learned that whilst there were ways we could raise imaging throughput, there were trade-offs that had to be made, such as in the levels of quality assurance, and image size, to ensure digitisation was able to be scaled across the workflow.

However, imaging alone is not sufficient to digitise an object. The biggest cost and time involved in digitisation is in cataloguing and resource description. We systematically tested different approaches to metadata creation and augmentation from full texts, title pages and card indexes. Our conclusions were promising: smaller (and therefore

environmentally and financially cheaper) AI models performed better, and we also concluded that the role of the expert librarian, curator or cataloguer was more important than ever in the age of AI. We reject the term humans in the loop, and have started using AI in the loop – as computation is part of our workflow, not us in theirs.

Finally, we created and circulated a survey to ascertain the state of AI implementation in libraries, and received over 400 responses from all inhabited continents, including many European research libraries. We are in the early phases of analysis of the data but can see libraries are using AI most in user-facing chatbots and in metadata augmentation. We also uncovered some strong sector attitudes to AI, both positive and negative, that we wish to share with LIBER colleagues.

We will conclude that whilst AI experimentation formed a relatively small part of our research on AI in libraries – the impact of AI is what drove the project, and many conversations and new projects around the wider implications of AI on creating, using, publishing and preserving our digital collections. The new context of AI drove the need for us to understand both the demand for digital collections from AI companies and other users, as well as the processes that we would need to undertake as a library to meet these emerging needs to access our wealth of content as digital collections.



**Dr Megan Gooch** is the Head of the Centre for Digital Scholarship at the Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford. She has worked in museum and heritage roles as a curator and producer. Her library work and research focuses on research data management, digitisation at scale, digital skills and AI.

## 8.3

### AI AND ARCHIVES: UTILIZING AI TO MAKE RETROACTIVE FINDING AID CONVERSION SIMPLER

**Author:** Alyssa Hyduk, University of Regina, Canada

The University of Regina Archives and Special Collections has been working over the past few years to establish a database for its archival holdings which provides a better and more user-friendly archival experience. AtoM, or Access to Memory, is an open-sourced software which uses archival descriptive standards to code and catalogue archival collections, and requires a specific template, in CSV or XML format, in order to work.

While this is, in essence, not an issue for processing and cataloguing archival collections on a go-forward basis, the UofR Archives also has over 2000 finding aids which have been created in Word/PDF format and are not conducive to AtoM's mandatory upload formats.

With budget and staffing constraints, an innovative and flexible approach to converting these finding aids was necessary to ensure full collection representation to researchers. Using Gemini and Google AI Studio, we have created a method to take these old finding aids and convert them into workable CSV/XML documents, with appropriate metadata mapped correctly.

This presentation aims to provide the audience with a demonstration of this AI method, with the aim of providing the following learning outcomes:

1. Ability to identify, based on the home institution's cataloguing needs, the appropriate metadata fields necessary for generating a working AI prompt compatible with the institution's database.

# PARALLEL SESSION 9

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## LEADERSHIP FOR SUSTAINABILITY

**Moderator:**

Najmeh Shaghaei, University Library of Southern Denmark, Denmark

**Location:** R9

### 9.1

#### SMALL CONSCIOUS STEPS TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: THE CASE OF MALMÖ UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

**Author:** Sara Kjellberg, Malmö University Library, Sweden

At a time when environmental and climate challenges demand resilient infrastructures, libraries serve as central, open spaces for knowledge exchange and community engagement. Viewed as social infrastructures where sustainability can be addressed in multiple ways, research libraries have the potential to contribute both through their own operations and as platforms for dialogue and learning.

Malmö University Library has developed a strategic approach to sustainability that aims to reduce its environmental footprint while creating opportunities that inspire sustainable action among staff, students, and the wider community. The ambition has been to exercise leadership for sustainability by driving change in a conscious manner, using modest but consistent measures. This presentation describes a three-year journey initiated by Malmö University's environmental and climate goals, and the library's efforts to translate these ambitions into everyday practice.

2. Generation of a working AI prompt which is flexible and customizable.
3. Techniques for reviewing and correcting data outputs, including editing prompts for improved accuracy.

Like all other tools at our disposal, AI is not a blanket fix, but a method to maximize limited institutional resources. Instead of staff spending hundreds of hours converting finding aids "by hand" into the acceptable format, AI can be used to drastically reduce the hours needed, allowing materials to be accessible and searchable by researchers. Human intervention is still required for accuracy and intervention as well as creating standardized language for AI use, however, if used effectively and responsibly, AI can be a powerful tool in the information professional's toolbox.



**Alyssa Hyduk** has been involved in the archival community in Canada since 2015 and is the University Archivist at the University of Regina where she oversees private records, collection development, reference and research. Her interests include cultural memory acquisition, digitization and preservation, AI in archives, and archival appraisal.



In response to the need for a structured approach, a Sustainability Group was established in 2023 with a mandate to integrate sustainability into library operations. Organisationally, the group reports directly to the Library Director. Its responsibilities include evaluating university goals from a library perspective, monitoring sustainability in operational planning, proposing staff development activities, and coordinating events in collaboration with students, researchers, the municipality, other organisations and the public.

One of the initial activities was to do a workshop involving the entire library staff, aimed at formulating a set of clear sustainability commitments aligned with university guidelines. In 2024, Malmö University Library became the first Swedish library to sign the Green Libraries Manifesto, joining a network of almost 300 libraries committed to placing sustainability at the core of library work. This affiliation has strengthened international as well as national exchange.

There are a lot of thematic weeks and initiatives that can help focus sustainability events. After exploring and tested several approaches during the first years the library decided in 2025 to join the Nordic sustainability initiative Week 17. This enabled closer collaboration with Malmö's public library, which joined the initiative simultaneously. Collaboration is key to work on sustainability to contribute to change. Through local, national, and international networking, the library has a platform for dialogue and development.

Over time, the Sustainability Group has worked systematically through three guiding principles: explore, disseminate and act. The presentation will provide concrete examples how these principles have been operationalised in practice to:

- Explore sustainability issues that require further learning and reflection, such as how a research library can address different dimensions of organisational climate impact.

- Disseminate knowledge by identifying what to communicate, where, and how to do this in the library environments.
- Act together by initiating collaborations and identifying relevant partners within and beyond the university.

Drawing on the experience from Malmö University Library the presentation will demonstrate how small, consistent steps can have significant impact, positioning the library as a catalyst for sustainability within the university context. It concludes by sharing lessons learned and how this work contributes to leadership for sustainability.



**Sara Kjellberg** holds a PhD in Library and Information Science and is currently the Director of Malmö University Library, a position she has held since 2018. Her professional background combines leadership in change and development processes within academic libraries with research focused on digitalisation and scholarly communication. She has extensive experience in strategic work across the higher education sector and has served on various steering and advisory boards. For five years, she chaired the Advisory Board for a Sustainable University, and Malmö University Library became the first in Sweden to sign the Green Libraries Manifesto. Collaboration and partnership are central to her professional ethos, and she is actively involved in several national and regional networks that support the advancement of libraries and open knowledge infrastructures. From mid 2025 she serves as Chair of the LIBER AI Taskforce.

## 9.2 SUSTAINABLE EMPOWERMENT OF THE LIBRARY LANDSCAPE IN SLOVENIA

**Author:** Mojca Rupar Korošec, National and University Library, Slovenia

We are co-creating the beginning of a new path, where the National and University Library (hereinafter NUL), together with its partners – other libraries – will co-create a sustainable knowledge society.

We are focusing on transforming ourselves into a modern digital center that uses advanced technologies, digitization of cultural heritage, and sustainable infrastructure to ensure secure, permanent, and effective access to knowledge and preserve Slovenian cultural memory. Key objectives include the digitization of collections, the management of digital resources, and the long-term preservation of digital heritage.

The NUL's mission in the field of services and education is to empower users to critically address current issues and future challenges, to help shape proposals for solutions to them, and thus to actively assume the role of agents of social change.

The NUL's mission in the field of research and development is to contribute, as an integral library, to solving social and environmental problems and to quality coexistence through its research and development work.

The NUL's mission in the field of social action is to contribute to the respect of common values in the NUL's organizational culture and, in cooperation and mutual exchange with stakeholders from the economy, politics, and civil society, to help shape responses to pressing issues of social transformation and a common sustainable future.

As part of our strategy, we are developing the NUL SUSTAINABLE AND GREEN LIBRARY PROGRAM, and we have decided, as required by law, that the document will serve as a framework for the development of national guidelines for sustainable libraries. We are a trustworthy institution that builds a democratic and sustainable society.

We rely on the effective European Code of Conduct for the Research Community, which promotes ethical thinking. Its principles are important throughout the research system and in all professional fields from the perspective of sustainability. We link sustainability and ethics in

the library and understand it as a natural process that means responsibility towards people, the community, and the future. The library is one of the few public spaces where these two dimensions meet in practice every day.

Our decision to transform the library into a sustainable and green one is based on a commitment to general environmental goals and programs in line with the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. We follow the goals defined in the Resolution on the National Program for Culture 2024–2031 (RNPK), EU strategies such as the European Green Deal, and international guidelines from IFLA and UNESCO.

We have structured a comprehensive view of sustainability issues based on the definition of three pillars (ecological, economic, social).

The inclusion of sustainable content in the educational program is one of our priorities. We have prepared educational content to promote sustainable practices. We will conduct research on the sustainable operation of libraries in Slovenia, which will be used to prepare an ACTION PLAN for the sustainable operation of libraries in Slovenia.

Through its activities, as defined in its 2025-2029 strategic plan, the NUL aims to become a reference example of a sustainable and green library that promotes sustainable practices and raises awareness among the general public about the importance of sustainable development, for Slovenian libraries.

The NUL is committed to consolidating its role as a central national and international center of knowledge, culture, and sustainable development.

By establishing educational and cultural content and sustainable partnerships at the national and international level, it aims to become a leading center for the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage, digital inclusion, and cultural and scientific integration.





**Dr Mojca Rupar Korošec** comes from the National and University Library (NUK) in Slovenia, where she is in the Department for Research, Development and Education. She is a Library Councillor and a member of the (NUK) Research Group.

She is a member of the IFLA Europe regional division committee.

She is also a member of EOSC FAIR metrics and Data Quality Task Force, the LIBER Research Data Management Working Group, LIBER TF Rights and Values and the DARIAH WG for Research data. Her main research interests are the ethical aspects of using artificial intelligence, a sustainable future in libraries, integrity, and democracy.

### 9.3

#### DEVELOP TO SUSTAIN: COLLABORATION, PROJECTS AND FUNDRAISING IN LIBRARIES AS MEANS TO ENCOUNTER A WORLD IN CHANGE

**Authors:** Päivi Maria Pihlaja, Liisa Näpärä, Minna Kaukonen, Anna-Elina Ukkonen, Anne Järvinen, and Mikko Lappalainen, National Library of Finland, Finland

**Presenter:** Päivi Maria Pihlaja, National Library of Finland, Finland

The ruptures and uncertainties around us today underscore the importance, both in libraries and elsewhere, of close and candid cooperation with similar actors and key stakeholders. Interactions are essential for tackling new complexities and building on shared interests related to libraries and their role in society. Current transitions also seem impactful due to their effect on pervasive conditions, such as funding, which contribute to the unpredictability of the environment.

In this presentation, we explore how the need to nurture institutional and research cooperation aligns with project and fundraising capabilities that can make networks more effective and powerful. In the National Library of Finland, the importance of cooperation and networks has been emphasised consistently in various sections of the organisational strategy for the years 2021–2030. Similarly, a new organisational structure, inaugurated in October 2024, built on similar motives. One notable revision to the structure was the creation of a new cross-cutting function dedicated to project collaboration and fundraising. The goal was to create a new internal platform for exchanges that could facilitate mutual learning and joint planning of activities related to these topics. Although the function was created around existing activities, it brought together competencies and job descriptions that had been carried out in somewhat secluded, separate settings.

Along with two other new “functions” devoted to data services and IT capabilities, the new entity was intended to advance the overarching goals of the new structure. One of these goals was to promote the idea of the NLF and its various service areas as a single entity. At the same time, collaboration and funding were seen as important ways to overcome challenges related to current transitions by improving the ability to communicate, act, and spread messages in concert with other actors.

In this presentation, we will provide an overview of the new entity that manages joint capacities in project collaboration and fundraising as described above. We will describe related operations before and after the reorganisation, and explain how the new function was organised in 2025. We will also discuss observations made during the process. Six different dimensions were provisionally identified to conceptualise essential aspects for further internal planning. We will explain how these areas could serve as alternative priorities in further progressive development.

The presentation will emphasise one of the six dimensions related to external networks and stakeholders. We will discuss how collaborations must be seen as integral to an organisation's functions and responsibilities; how they can increase understanding and the ability to monitor wider operational environments; and how they overlap or converge with the daily collaborations of the library's various experts. Finally, to outline future trajectories, we will ask how institutional capabilities could be cultivated to adapt to a rapidly changing operational landscape.



**Päivi Maria Pihlaja** works at the National Library of Finland as the head of Research Services, which is part of the Collection and Data Services service group. She holds a PhD in history from the University of Helsinki and has gained work experience at several state agencies that promote and fund academic research, education cooperation, and international projects. From 2021 to 2026, she coordinated externally funded project activities at the NLF (Library Network Services) and led the new cross-sectional function for project collaboration and fundraising from 2024 to 2026.



# PARALLEL SESSION 10

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## AI AND LIBRARY SERVICE DEVELOPMENT II

### Moderator:

Liisi Lembinen, University of Tartu, Estonia

Location: R7

## 10.1

### NAVIGATING CHANGE: ACADEMIC LIBRARIES AND AI

**Author:** Mauritzza Jade Frid, Linnaeus University, Sweden

Since the release of ChatGPT in November 2022, discussions about Artificial Intelligence (AI) in academic libraries have expanded. Many academic libraries are undergoing transformation in everyday work practices, interacting with technology. At the same time as generative AI (GenAI) continues to develop, academic librarians are trying to figure out when and how GenAI is relevant for the library. Academic libraries are considered reliable and trustworthy, and implementing AI into the library comes with many questions. The gap between traditional library roles and modern knowledge environments creates tensions in keeping core values within the libraries and maintaining necessary innovation.

In my doctoral study, I explore how four Swedish academic libraries navigate change. The purpose of the thesis is to investigate how academic libraries engage in and contribute to shaping understandings of AI as part of their activities. I want to understand in what ways, if any, artificial intelligence is becoming something to be implemented in the activities of academic libraries. I also want to understand to

what extent and in what ways artificial intelligence is being shaped and negotiated in academic libraries.

In this presentation, I will share the work in progress from my doctoral project. The study has a qualitative approach and is based on a sociomaterial perspective on technology in organisations. The starting point for the methodological study is conversations with participants about their practices in relation to AI, based on their roles and tasks at the library. Semi-structured interviews, follow-up conversations, and field notes from participants' meetings and workshops constitute the methods used in the thesis.

I have four questions I want to discuss:

- How does AI manifest itself as a strategic issue in the context of academic libraries?
- How do library staff describe their role in relation to AI implementation, and what issues arise regarding ethical responsibility when AI is implemented in the information environment of academic libraries?
- How are issues of learning and competence expressed in relation to AI in academic libraries?
- How does AI take shape in library work processes and activities, and how is the technology reconfigured through staff and organisational interactions?

These four questions could be described by the concepts of strategy, activities, ethics, and competence. Strategy deals with issues of power, direction, values, and ethics. Activities encompass action, application, and the technology used. Ethics concern's identity, ethical issues, and professional culture. Finally, competence covers issues related to change, knowledge, and reflection.





**Mauritz Jadefrid** is a PhD student in Library and Information Science at Linnaeus University, Sweden. She is affiliated with the Swedish research school ReSource: Transforming Reading and Source Criticism in Digital Cultures. Her doctoral project focuses on academic libraries and librarians' professional and institutional roles in relation to technological development. Previously, she worked as an academic librarian at the Gothenburg University Library, where she specialized in user education and embedded librarianship. She contributed to the anthology "Biblioteksgeografin" (2022) and has published research on library-faculty collaboration and embedded librarianship models.

Her research interests include academic libraries, learning environments, and the changing role of librarians in higher education.

## 10.2

### FROM COMPLEXITY TO CLARITY: ENABLING TRANSPARENT AND RESPONSIBLE AI-ENABLED DATA USE AT WUR LIBRARY

**Author:** Cristina Huidiu and Valentijn Evers, Wageningen University & Research, The Netherlands

**Presenter:** Cristina Huidiu, Wageningen University & Research, The Netherlands

At Wageningen University & Research (WUR) Library, we are reimagining how data-driven tools and AI can empower librarians, researchers, educators, and students by making complexity approachable. Our work responds to a fast growing change in academia: how can we engage with powerful AI technologies without compromising transparency, trust, or institutional control over sensitive data?

We present a portfolio of initiatives that translate this principle into

practice. First, we explore "Talk to Your Data" prototypes that allow users to interact with research output metadata using natural language. This approach demonstrates how generative AI can unlock data accessibility—without transferring any data to external models. In this context, we share our implementation of a privacy-preserving architecture where models are brought to the data, enabling question-answering and summarization tasks while safeguarding compliance with European data requirements.

A second focus is our investment in intelligent data quality pipelines. These combine automated validation, enrichment, and feedback loops to reduce manual metadata management. The result: improved metadata reuse across existing and new usecases without an exponential growth in cost.

The third layer focuses on advanced analytics use cases powered by shared, well-curated data products. These support research evaluation and strategic decision-making across departments: from standard bibliometric analyses to Standard Evaluation Protocol (SEP)-aligned reporting, with additional usecases on our roadmap centered around the estimation of ROI on research infrastructure and generating trust indicators to help researchers navigate the publishing landscape responsibly.

Our approach is grounded in the academic values of openness, reproducibility, and user empowerment. We design with non-technical users in mind, ensuring that tools support explainability, human oversight, and multilingual usability.



Through this presentation, we aim to spark conversation on how libraries can lead in embedding AI in ethical, accessible, and human centered ways as well as discuss the challenges and successes, both technical and human, we have learned from along the way

**Cristina Huidiu** is the Product Owner of Digital Library Services at



Wageningen University & Research (WUR) currently leading the data platform product and strategy.

With a background in library science, data analysis and a passion for humanizing data and technology, she has transitioned from humanities to technical roles, focusing on lowering technical barriers and enabling non technical users make the most of data and technology.

## 10.3

### USING LLMS TO DESIGN AN INDICATOR FOR CLINICAL RELEVANCE

**Authors:** Silvia Fattori, Matthijs de Zwaan, and Ruben Lacroix, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**Presenter:** Silvia Fattori, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Working in a research intelligence team within our university library, we often support research departments in medicine to explore and interpret trends in their research output. Increasingly, these research departments want to have more insight into the relevance of their academic work for application to societal issues. In the field of medicine, clinical relevance is a key component of such societal impact. Our current measures of clinical relevance include authorships of and citations in clinical guidelines. These measures are valuable, but cannot convey important gradations of relevance, and only measure relevance ex post. In collaboration with researchers from the Cancer Center Amsterdam (CCA) and with a researcher experienced in computational modeling, we propose a new framework where we use the capabilities of modern LLMs to categorize academic publications into user-defined levels of clinical relevance and apply this to the output of CCA. Our approach can potentially be adapted to other research

areas, providing a more nuanced measure of societal impact. This work could also contribute to the development of new research metrics and inform research policy decisions.

In the session, we will discuss the following points.

- How we conceptualized and validated the different levels of clinical relevance and how these levels were operationalized to work with the computational model. Our levels range from basic research using cell cultures to clinical work with human participants. These levels were validated by experts in cancer research.
- How we experimented with different LLMs and explored various prompt engineering techniques to improve the quality of the indicator, and how we evaluated the outcomes
- Preliminary results, limitations, ideas for future improvements, and other applications of the method in the context of academic libraries.



**Silvia Fattori** is the data scientist of the Research Intelligence team at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. With a background in Methodological and Applied Statistics, she focuses on data modelling and analysis, primarily applied to bibliometrics. Previously, Silvia worked as a data analyst for a consulting company in Milan, Italy.

# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026 (11:30 - 12:30)

## PATRICK WEIL

**Location:** R1

**Moderator:** Anna Clements, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom

**Speaker:** Patrick Weil, Historian, Founder and Chairman of Libraries Without Borders/Bibliothèques Sans Frontières

## THE POWER OF LIBRARIES IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD

In a time marked by political polarization, democratic backsliding, technological surveillance, and the spread of disinformation, libraries remain one of the most powerful yet underestimated pillars of democracy. Far from being neutral or passive institutions, libraries are active civic infrastructures: they guarantee access to knowledge, protect freedom of thought, and create spaces where individuals can learn, debate, imagine, and live together.

Drawing on his experience as a historian, public intellectual, and President of Bibliothèques Sans Frontières, Patrick Weil will explore how libraries play a decisive role in restoring dignity, social cohesion, and democratic life. From refugee camps where access to culture prevents violence and despair, to post-conflict societies where shared cultural spaces help rebuild co-citizenship, and increasingly within Western democracies themselves, where polarization, isolation, and disinformation erode the social fabric, libraries have repeatedly proven their capacity to pacify, empower, and reconnect communities.

This keynote will argue that libraries are not only places of preservation, but spaces of resistance and freedom. In an era where digital technologies can be shut down, monitored, or manipulated, the library—especially through the continued presence of the printed book—remains a safeguard against censorship and surveillance. More broadly, libraries offer something increasingly rare: a shared public space where people are free, anonymous, equal, and together.

In an uncertain world, strengthening libraries is not a cultural luxury. It is a democratic necessity. Libraries are not relics of the past—they are essential conditions for our collective future.



**Dr. Patrick Weil** is an emeritus research professor of history at the University of Paris1, Pantheon-Sorbonne. From 2008 to 2024, he was a Visiting Professor of Law at Yale Law School. In the fall 2025, he was a fellow at the University of Chicago Forum for Free Inquiry and Expression.

He is the author – in English – of *The Sovereign Citizen*, *Denaturalization and the Origins of the American Republic*, (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013) and, most recently of *The Madman in the White House*. Sigmund Freud, Ambassador Bullitt and the Lost Psychobiography of Woodrow Wilson (Harvard University Press, 2023, paperback 2025).

Patrick Weil is also the founder and the chairman of the international NGO Libraries Without Borders (Bibliothèques Sans Frontières).

Since 2006, Libraries Without Borders has been working to provide access to knowledge for all in some thirty countries. The NGO creates innovative cultural and educational tools and spaces to reach out to people affected by crises and precariousness, allowing them to enjoy themselves, continue learning and dreaming, forge connections, and (re)build their future.



# SPONSOR UPDATE – EBSCO

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026 (13:00 - 13:30)

## FROM DATA TO DISCOVERY: TRUSTED AI IN LIBRARY PLATFORMS

**Location:** R5

**Moderator:** Alicia Fátima Gómez, IE University, Spain

**Speaker:** Claus Wolf, Director of Library Services Engineering

As AI increasingly shapes research workflows, libraries must balance innovation with trust, transparency, and scholarly integrity. This presentation examines how EBSCO applies AI responsibly within library platforms and behind the scenes, guided by clear principles around quality, equity, data integrity, and human oversight. Addressing concerns that AI search risks replicating legacy discovery models, the session focuses on improving retrieval, ranking, and relevance rather than query translation alone. By combining AI with linked data, controlled vocabularies, and expert subject indexing, EBSCO delivers enhanced subject precision and more trustworthy discovery - strengthening libraries' role as stewards of research in an uncertain world.



**Claus Wolf** is Director of Library Services Engineering with extensive experience supporting research and academic libraries through technology. He specializes in designing and delivering custom solutions that connect library platforms, discovery systems, and open source tools. Claus has worked closely with libraries to integrate systems such as FOLIO and VuFind, translating complex requirements into sustainable, user focused services. His work focuses on interoperability, scalability, and helping libraries get the most value from tailored technical solutions.

# SPONSOR UPDATE – FRONTIERS

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026 (15:00 - 15:30)

## REIMAGINING OPEN SCIENCE: OPEN COLLABORATION, AI, AND RESEARCH INTEGRITY

**Location:** R1

**Moderator:** Alexander Hasgall, LIBER Europe

**Speaker:** Kamila Markram, CEO, Frontiers

Humanity has entered an era of unprecedented global challenges. The pace, quality, and trustworthiness of science will define our collective future. The question is no longer only what we discover, but how we mobilize knowledge at scale.

This transformation will depend on the availability of high-quality, interoperable data and the responsible use of AI - grounded in strong human oversight - to ensure that technological advances reinforce trust, accountability, and scientific rigor. In this plenary, Kamila Markram will set out a bold vision for the next phase of open science, where artificial intelligence augments peer review, strengthens research integrity, and enables a step-change in the reliability, accessibility, and scalability of knowledge. She will also highlight Frontiers' FAIR<sup>2</sup> initiative, designed to support institutions in data stewardship and advance AI-readiness to enhance interoperability, machine-readability, and guarantee full compliance with evolving data-sharing mandates.

Drawing on Frontiers' global initiatives, including the Science House at the World Economic Forum in Davos and the Frontiers Planet Prize, this talk will outline how science is evolving into a truly

integrated, mission-driven enterprise: accelerating innovation, informing policy, maximizing societal impact, and delivering tangible solutions for healthy lives on a healthy planet.

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# LIBER AWARD FOR LIBRARY INNOVATION

This session will offer an opportunity to reflect on how the role of libraries - as trusted stewards of research, supporting open, transparent, and responsible knowledge systems at scale - will evolve.



**Kamila Markram** PHD is the CEO of Frontiers, one of the world's largest and most impactful research publishers dedicated to peer-reviewed, quality-certified science openly accessible. Frontiers published over three million researchers across 222 community-led journals covering approximately 1,700 academic disciplines. Frontiers articles have been cited more than 10 million times and viewed over 4 billion times.

She also launched initiatives like Frontiers for Young Minds, a journal which engages children in reviewing scientific articles, and the Frontiers Planet Prize, a global competition that rewards and funds groundbreaking research to maintain planetary health.

Kamila holds an MSc in Psychology from the Technical University of Berlin, did her Master thesis at the Max-Planck Institute for Brain Research in Frankfurt and obtained an award-winning PhD in Neuroscience from the Swiss Federal Institute Lausanne. Her groundbreaking "Intense World Theory of Autism" was featured in popular science magazines and was subject of a book about her family, *The Boy Who Felt Too Much*. Her leadership and innovation have earned her numerous accolades, including recognition by L'HEBDO Forum 100 and the EU Prize for Women Innovators.



The LIBER Award for Library Innovation was instituted by LIBER and is supported by OCLC.

OCLC is a global library organisation that provides shared technology services, original research, and community programs for its membership and the library community at large. With thousands of library members in more than 100 countries, we come together as OCLC to make information more accessible and more useful.

OCLC's commitment to knowledge, education, and public service includes furthering the advancement of librarianship. OCLC does this not only through its research and advocacy efforts but also by financially supporting awards and scholarships. As an innovative organisation, we are proud to sponsor the LIBER Award for Library Innovation for 2026.

The Award for Library Innovation recognises the three abstracts which best describe innovative work within the overall theme of the Annual Conference 'The Power of Libraries in an Uncertain World'.

The criteria (in order of importance) for the Award are:

- Level of innovation
- Impact on the wider library community (especially the European library community)
- Originality
- Quality of the abstract

The three abstracts which best fulfil these criteria are selected by the Conference Programme Committee. The Award comprises the opportunity to present the winning abstracts at the LIBER Annual Conference 2026 in Trondheim (Norway), free Conference registration, and travel expenses and accommodation.

The Conference Programme Committee for the 55th LIBER Annual Conference has decided to present the 2026 LIBER Award for Library Innovation to:

**Libraries United: Sumy State University and the University of Liverpool**

Matthew Greenhall, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom; Olha Krytska and Yana Fandikovia, Sumy State University, Ukraine

**DSpace Reimagined: AI-Powered Search and Accessibility**

Piotr Masalski, Mateusz Adamiak, Łukasz Wawer, Małgorzata Paszkowska, and Maciej Iwaniszewski, PCG Academia, Poland

**Monitoring Strategic Technologies Using Open Research Information**

Matthijs de Zwaan, Silvia Fattori, and Ruben Lacroix, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

We congratulate the Award winners and look forward to presenting them with their Awards at the Annual Conference in Trondheim this summer!

**Giannis Tsakonas**

Chair, LIBER Conference Programme Committee

**Axel Kaschte**

Executive Director, Product Strategy, EMEA and APAC, OCLC



# PANEL SESSION II

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026, (16:00 - 17:00)

Location: R5

Moderator: Juliane Tiemann, University of Bergen Library, Norway

Panellists:

Layla Bloom, University of Leeds Library, United Kingdom |

Eleonora Gandolfi, University of Surrey Library, United Kingdom |

Laura Shanahan, Library of Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

## GIVING KNOWLEDGE AND TRUTH VISIBILITY AND A PLACE IN SOCIETY: CASE STUDIES IN CIVIC ENGAGEMENT LEADERSHIP

In an increasingly uncertain world, within a constantly shifting financial, technological and geo-political context, societal cohesion is under threat on a global scale. Deploying case studies of initiatives delivered in their respective libraries, representatives from cohort 7 of the LIBER Emerging Leaders Programme will explore why civic engagement is so vital for the future position of research libraries within and for society.

Research libraries are positioned at the epicentre of the knowledge ecosystem: linking cutting edge research and artefacts of historical significance to multiple audiences. They play a fundamental role in the learning experience of students and scholars and perform a key public function in showcasing research through means of storytelling in public exhibitions, talks, and other engagement events.

Social cohesion is critical to the survival of the academic realm, as well as vital to economic and human development. However, the threats are increasing: experts are under attack from anti-elite sentiment, and the dynamism of migrant communities are threatened through

a populism infiltrated by profiteering, among others. The Emerging Leaders posit that research libraries play an important civic role in countering these challenges.

Research Libraries can support personal skills development and self-actualisation, serve local community needs for integration and belonging, as well as contributing to placemaking and identity. Civic engagement contributes to knowledge equity; it supports decolonising knowledge, in co-production with diverse communities and dismantling barriers to access. When delivered ethically and collaboratively, civic engagement can lead to more resilient systems of knowledge.

Such complex activity requires responsible strategic leadership. It requires a paradigm shift in the organisational understanding of the value of civic engagement, and necessitates a fundamental overhaul in support for programmes of civic engagement.

This panel presents case studies of innovative civic engagement activity from the ELP7 cohort, reflecting on achievements to date and sharing a leadership vision for the future. It will be followed by an open invitation to the audience to discuss these issues creatively and productively:

- How can leaders in research libraries drive civic engagement strategically and sustainably?
- What are the risks if we do not make civic engagement a core function of our operations?
- How can we ensure that we are being ethical in our civic engagement activities?
- In what other ways can we ensure that research libraries remain relevant to society, and fulfil our wider academic and sectoral mission for knowledge growth and development?





**Layla Bloom** is Head of Public Programme & Cultural Engagement within the University of Leeds Libraries (UK). A leader within the Cultural Collections & Galleries team, she has strategic responsibility for public programming and cultural engagement, helping ensure that our cultural collections contribute to the intellectual life of the campus, as part of the Libraries' ambitious vision for the future, Knowledge for all. She leads a team to deliver cultural collections-linked exhibitions and events, participatory work with target audiences, community engagement and learning, cultural collaborations and civic engagement across campus and externally. She is the lead for the University of Leeds Art Collection, including Public Art on campus and the on-campus art gallery, the Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery.



**Eleonora Gandolfi** in her current role as Associate Director (Research and Innovation) at the University of Surrey, she is managing the development of innovative Library services supporting digital research and education to better communicate research to the wider public. In her role, developing programmes and projects of digital transformation with a focus on Library collections and content, including digitisation, publication models (OER and Open Access Articles), community digital curation, and digital preservation. As part of her role, she has been supporting the Library and University's civic engagement collaborating with colleagues on projects such as Surrey Learn, to promote reading for fun, and working with local public libraries to share access to collections and resources.



**Laura Shanahan** has been Head of Research Collections at the Library of Trinity College Dublin since 2018. In her role, she is responsible for leading the teams and services associated with the manuscripts, archives, early printed books, special collections and the map library. Current priorities include informing the work of the Old Library Re-development Project, to reimagine the eighteenth-century library fit for a twenty-first century researcher and tourist visitor experience, and to deliver a portfolio of projects under the Virtual Trinity Library,

specifically ensuring these unique collections are available and accessible for the widest possible audiences. Her previous experience includes leadership roles with modern collections, capital development projects, and service change programmes. Laura has been on the Board of Directors for the Consortium of European Research Libraries since 2023, and is a member of the seventh cohort of the LIBER Emerging Leaders Programme (2025-2026).



**Juliane Tiemann** is a Senior Academic Librarian and the Academic Manager of Digital Development at the University of Bergen Library, a position she has held since 2021. She leads a dedicated team of developers embedded within the library and is responsible for the technical development and maintenance of services supporting, among others, digital research infrastructures. In this role, she facilitates dialogue between the library and principal investigators across a range of research projects, bringing together her professional expertise and interdisciplinary humanities background. She is also the leader of the CLARINO Bergen Centre and a member of the seventh cohort of the LIBER Emerging Leaders Programme.

# WORKSHOPS II

THURSDAY, 2 JULY 2026, 16:00-18:00

Locations: R22, R23, R90, R91, R92 & R93

## 2.1 USING THE OPENALEX API TO EXPLORE METADATA FOR 250M+ RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

Location: R93

Speakers: Jesper Solheim Johansen, Keenious | Christian Headley, Keenious | Ian Hughes, Creighton University, USA | Ioana Manea, Keenious

Organised by Keenious

As many libraries look for open alternatives to subscription-based databases, OpenAlex has emerged as a major resource. It offers a comprehensive web interface for searching, but unlike many proprietary tools, it also provides fully open access to its underlying data. This dataset contains metadata for hundreds of millions of works, authors, and institutions.

This workshop is a practical introduction to the data side of OpenAlex. We will start by providing an overview of OpenAlex: what it is, what data it contains, and how that information is organized. The main part of the session will be hands-on and focus on accessing data directly through the OpenAlex API. We will use Google Colab to walk through some examples and provide pre-made scripts that allow us to query the data and explore the results immediately in the session. We will explain how the scripts work and allocate time for participants to test their own queries and experiment with the data on their own laptops.

Finally, we will look at how this data is used in the real world. Using Keenious as an example, we will show how we take raw OpenAlex data and use it in a working research tool. We will walk through the process

of turning raw data into a finished product and discuss the practical challenges of handling such a large dataset.

**NOTE:** There are no formal requirements or technical skills needed to attend this session. However, to take part in the hands-on exercises, we recommend bringing a laptop and having a Google account ready, as we will be using Google Colab.

## 2.2 IMAGINING AND CO-CREATING LIBER'S AI FUTURES: A WORLD CAFÉ FOR FUTURES THINKING AND STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Location: R22

Speakers: Sara Kjellberg, Malmö University Library, Sweden | Karin Rydving, Oslo University Library, Norway | Arben Hajra, Leibniz Information Centre for Economics - ZBW, Germany | Tamara Pianos, Leibniz Information Centre for Economics - ZBW, Germany | Ines Vodopivec, Secretary General, AI4LAM | Alex Fenlon, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

Organised by the LIBER AI Taskforce

This workshop aims to explore both long-term perspectives and immediate strategic priorities for LIBER's work with AI. It seeks to actively engage LIBER members in forward-looking discussions on the future role of libraries in relation to artificial intelligence (AI). By creating a collective space for futures thinking, the workshop also aims for the results to contribute to the topic of AI in the LIBER strategy beyond 2027.

The session will be structured as a World Café, a well-established participatory method designed to support iterative, in-depth exploration of complex questions through focused group dialogue. Participants will rotate between themed discussion tables, allowing ideas to be



developed, deepened, and connected across multiple rounds.

The discussions address key AI themes and the role of libraries, guided by principles of responsible AI use. The themes are drawn from the LIBER working groups workplan of AI, formed during 2025 coordinated by the LIBER AI Task Force. The Task Force consists of members from LIBER working groups, ensuring strong anchoring in ongoing activities and initiatives related to AI across the organisation. In the workplan the suggested activities and topics have been organised in the following headings: copyright, law and ethics; security and infrastructures; AI literacy (for us as librarians as well as for our communities of users); applications (why, not how); and networking within and beyond LIBER. Inspired from these headings the themed discussion tables will have an open question that serves as a starting point for discussion. The questions are not intended to be easily solved, instead they will support an explorative approach to avoid getting stuck in present-day problems. Members of the AI Task Force will introduce the themes and questions with short lightning talks and then chair and facilitate the different thematic tables in the World Café.

By collectively focusing on future-oriented perspectives, the workshop aims to move beyond isolated initiatives and instead generate shared priorities, starting points and concrete formulations to guide strategic work ahead. The outcomes will serve two main purposes:

- to inform and support the development of a forthcoming LIBER strategy
- to capture valuable insights on where LIBER should already focus its efforts and resources today

In addition, this collaborative approach will allow the workshop participants to learn from one another and gain new inspiration around AI and the role of libraries.

## **SUSTAINABLE LEADERSHIP IN AN UNCERTAIN WORLD**

**Location:** R91

**Speakers:** Linda Vidlund, Swedish Agricultural University, Sweden | Pedro Príncipe, University of Minho, Portugal | Emma Nolin, Malmö University, Sweden

**Organised by** the LIBER Leadership Programmes Working Group - Alumni

In a time of an uncertain world, libraries play a crucial role in democracy, sustainability with collaboration and engagement. Our workshop, “Sustainable Leadership in an Uncertain World” aims to create a dynamic platform for library leaders to share experiences, discuss challenges, and inspire one another. With this workshop we aim to inspire library leaders through personal leadership stories and to reflect and discuss the challenges in an uncertain world.

### **Workshop objectives:**

- To facilitate discussions about leadership and working conditions in libraries in an uncertain world.
- To encourage collaborative problem-solving and innovative thinking.
- To provide a reflective exercise for participants to envision their future impact.

### **Workshop structure:**

#### *Icebreaker activity*

Participants will introduce themselves, share their location on a map of Europe, and write in a padlet about sustainable leadership and working conditions that are current at their library.



### *Leadership Stories*

**Daniel Forsman**, Swedish National Archivist, and **Isabelle Eula**, Director, Scientific Information, Library Services and Archives, EPFL, Switzerland will share their leadership journeys and insights within the context of the conference theme.

### *Group Discussions*

Participants will be divided into groups to discuss questions related to the theme and the leadership stories they have heard. These discussions will focus on collaborative strategies and innovative solutions to sustainability and leadership in an uncertain world.

### *Reflective Exercise*

Participants will have a reflective exercise about what they will bring into their own leadership based on the leadership stories and group discussions.

### **Expected Outcomes:**

- Enhanced understanding of sustainable leadership in an uncertain world and working conditions in libraries within different countries in Europe.
- Strengthened networks among library leaders.
- Practical ideas and strategies for addressing sustainability in libraries.
- Personal reflections and commitments to future actions.

By engaging in this workshop, participants will leave with renewed inspiration, practical insights, and a sense of community, ready to lead their libraries in addressing sustainable leadership in an uncertain world.

2.4

## **GENERATIVE HUMANS: MEDIATING AUTOMATION & AI THROUGH IMPACTFUL ENGAGEMENT AND EXPERIENCE WITH CULTURAL COLLECTIONS**

**Location:** R92

**Speakers:** Andy Corrigan, University of Cambridge Libraries & Archives, United Kingdom | Jodie Double, University of Leeds Libraries, United Kingdom

**Organised by** the LIBER Digital Scholarship and Digital Cultural Heritage Collections Working Group

'The essential nature of the historical spirit consists not in the restoration of the past but in thoughtful meditation with contemporary life' (Gadamer, 1989)

Having collaborated on LIBER's DS Topic Guides, the Digital Scholarship and Digital Cultural Heritage Collections Working Group (DSDCH) is reflecting further on methods of upskilling our library workforces in response to the challenges of artificial intelligence and LIBER's 2023-2027 Strategy. The most compelling benefits of digitised collections stem from their distinction to their physical analogues - liberated from time and place (Stanford, 2020). As gatekeepers to communities of knowledge, libraries and archives are uniquely suited to facilitate this proposition in response to uncertainty. We're accustomed to controlling access to collections and databases, so it's no wonder their reinterpretation by generative AI and ready availability in people's pockets makes us prone to automation anxiety. This doesn't mean libraries and archives have less power to connect the past to the future via our present, but it could need a different approach (Bassett & Roberts, 2019).

The DSDCH aims to build on previous work and recent research into our experience of cultural heritage and measuring its impact. The Europeana Impact Playbook continues to influence through projects like

the SmartSquare in Hamburg, demonstrating how cultural heritage can revitalise our urban landscapes. Europeana's self-guided walking tours and Data Conversations for Impact project, as well as Andy Corrigan's Encountering Digital Collections project (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.12704347>), explore these ideas and provide inspiration to innovate. These projects provide new ways to think about using our cultural heritage and build the confidence required to be more creative about how we approach automation.

Librarians and archivists don't have the answers to automation and AI anxiety, but we do have the knowledge and methods that can help navigate data and information, translating them into wisdom and experience. Taking to our feet and participating in hybrid walking methodologies is a method that encourages creative and collaborative ideas and outputs, it makes the experience of cultural heritage more dynamic. This empirical workshop shows how automation can be balanced through renewed human interaction and consideration of how the environmental impact of our digital infrastructures relates to the real world location of Trondheim. A constructive process rather than destructive or anti-technology, situating the important role our staff have in mediating the digital - the bit we're pretty sure AI can't do very well.

The workshop, led by the DSDCH co-chairs, and facilitated and assisted by members of the working group. Before the conference they will identify relevant content and prepare challenges for participants to consider during the workshop that will relate the infrastructure of Trondheim to our digital infrastructures. Practical aspects, like accessibility and weather, are inherent to the method, requiring participants to respond to any challenges they might encounter. This presents an opportunity to develop skills and confidence, adapting to the agile and experimental nature of digital scholarship that the DS Topic Guides seek to support.

Following a short introduction participants will split into small groups,

each setting out to different areas of Trondheim in the spirit of a flâneur or dérive, to explore and consider the challenges they face. Participants will use mobile devices to document their experience during the workshop and this evidence will tell a story about what we can learn from our experience in Trondheim. Any text, images, photos, audio, GPS data, scans created will be collected in a shared Google Drive or GitHub repository and made available/presented after the event. Using Peripleo, we will compile a gazetteer of this experience, creating a legacy of the event that can continue to develop the work of the DSDCH working group.

## 2.5 LIBRARIES LEADING EQUITABLE SCHOLARLY PUBLISHING: IMPLEMENTING THE DIAMOND OPEN ACCESS STANDARD

**Location:** R23

**Speakers:** Joanna Ball, DOAJ | Marcel Wrzesinski, Charité – Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany | Margo Bargheer, Göttingen University Library, Germany

European research libraries are increasingly supporting open access publishing while managing rising costs, and growing concerns around quality, sustainability, and trust. Many libraries are looking to support community-led, Diamond Open Access publishing as an equitable alternative to commercial publishing, but require shared, practical tools to assess, support, and scale these initiatives within their institutional contexts.

This workshop focuses on one of the services of the European Diamond Capacity Hub (EDCH): the Diamond Open Access Standard (DOAS), a community-developed framework that can be used to strengthen and quality-assure community-led publishing. DOAS includes transparent

criteria covering funding; legal ownership; open science practices; editorial management, editorial quality, and research integrity; technical service efficiency; visibility and impact; and equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging. As such, it provides a common reference point to support dialogue, development, and informed decision-making.

The workshop will introduce participants to the structure and scope of the Diamond Open Access Standard and explore how libraries can apply it in practice: to guide support for institution-based publishing, inform funding and service decisions, embed quality expectations in library-led publishing programmes, and articulate the value of community-owned publishing to institutional leadership and research assessment processes. Bringing in examples and experience from different European contexts, the workshop will demonstrate how DOAS can help libraries support academic freedom, bibliodiversity, and long-term sustainability in an increasingly uncertain scholarly communication landscape.

This workshop aligns with the conference theme “The Power of Libraries in an Uncertain World” by framing libraries as active contributors to equitable scholarly publishing. The proposal aligns most closely with Academic Freedom and Access to Knowledge and Leadership for Sustainability.

## 2.6 THE EDITOR IN THE AGE OF GENERATIVE AI: PAST, PRESENT, AND POSSIBLE FUTURES

**Location:** R90

**Speakers:** Christina Lentz, UIT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway | Tiernan O’Sullivan, Tilburg University, The Netherlands | Leticia Antunes Nogueira, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway | Heli Kautonen, University of Turku, Finland

## Organised by the LIBER Quarterly Journal

Editorial work carries substantial responsibility, given the considerable power editors hold to select, shape or reject scholarly contributions throughout the editorial process.

As generative AI (GenAI) tools have proliferated into many aspects of academic work, editorial practices are undergoing rapid change. Editors and those with an interest in a more open publishing landscape are confronted with a range of questions related to quality control and research integrity (Bjelobaba et al., 2024), strain on peer review (Ebadi et al., 2025), authorship and accountability, editorial workflows and decision-making (Moorhouse et al., 2025), equity and global inclusion, data privacy and confidentiality, governance, policy and standards (Taeihagh, 2025). Editorial considerations such as these carry long-term epistemic effects and influence whether growing scientific output facilitated by these technological tools translates to substantive advancements in understanding (Kapoor and Narayanan, 2025).

Drawing on our experience as academic journal editors and research library professionals, this workshop will explore how GenAI intersects with editorial and institutional missions, and how such technologies might be integrated into publishing workflows in ways that are ethically responsibly, maintain high qualitative standards, and enhance recourse efficiency. It examines which aspects of editorial workflows are already being affected, how emerging AI applications may further reshape editorial roles, and what these developments mean for quality assurance, accountability, and editorial autonomy.

Methodologically, the workshop combines retrospective and forward-looking perspectives. We begin by revisiting longstanding challenges in editorial work to assess whether – and in what ways – current GenAI-related issues represent a qualitative shift. We invite participants to share their own experiences and challenges. Building on this

analysis, we employ future-thinking approaches (Inayatullah, 2008) to explore possible, probable, and preferable futures. Rather than predicting a single outcome, participants will collaboratively identify trends, drivers of change, and key uncertainties, and examine how different combinations might shape future editorial practices.

#### Goals of the workshop:

The workshop aims to challenge technologically deterministic assumptions or views of how Gen AI will influence scholarly publishing and foster long-term, systems-oriented thinking. By drawing on the collective experience of the LIBER conference attendees, we will use this environment to support the development of resilient, proactive, and ethically informed strategies for scholarly publishing. It will prepare decision-makers in research libraries, academic journals, and related publishing institutions to navigate AI's editorial disruptions with resilience, ethics, and strategic foresight.

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# Building the Future of Research Repositories

Meet PCG Academia at LIBER 2026



- AI Search & Accessibility
- Low-code Low-code
- CRIS DSpace CRIS
- UX Modern UX

## About PCG Academia

PCG Academia is one of Europe's leading partners for research repository and CRIS implementations in higher education and research institutions. We combine deep sector expertise with modern open-source technologies to help universities and libraries build scalable, accessible, and future-ready repository ecosystems.

- 100+ higher education institutions
- End-to-end implementation & support
- CRIS, Open Science & AI specialists
- Platinum DSpace Service Provider

## Join Our Sessions in Room R20

Throughout LIBER 2026, the PCG Academia team will host lightning talks, live demos, expert roundtables, client discussions and repository strategy sessions. Topics include:

- AI in repositories
- CRIS integration
- AI Managing AI traffic
- Modern DSpace UX
- Workflow automation
- Research project workflows

### Featured Sessions

- The Great Repository Census - See the Live Results and Win Prizes  
Wednesday | 10:45
- AI in the Repository: Hype vs. What Actually Works  
Wednesday | 10:30
- Open Access, Closed to Bots: Managing Repository in the Age of AI  
Thursday | 13:00
- ZORA-Fallstudie und Premiere des neuen Repository-Produkts  
Friday | 10:35



Scan the QR code to view the full PCG Academia session agenda

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# DETAILED PROGRAMME

FRIDAY



# PARALLEL SESSION 11

FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## LEADERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE

**Moderator:**

Ann-Sofie Axelsson, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden

**Location:** R8

### 11.1

#### BUILDING A FUTURE-READY LIBRARY: LESSONS AND CHALLENGES FROM THE BCUL 2024 USER SURVEY

**Authors:** Adrian Baumann, Maël Goarzin, Félicien Lovis, Michel Maillefer, and Giovanni Nicoli, Cantonal and University Library of Lausanne, Switzerland

**Presenter:** Adrian Baumann, Cantonal and University Library of Lausanne, Switzerland

Digital transformation, the proliferation of scientific publications, and the recent emergence of artificial intelligence have contributed to changing how students, teachers, and researchers access and interact with information. In a rapidly evolving academic landscape, the Unithèque site of the Bibliothèque cantonale et universitaire Lausanne is facing a decline in physical loans and limited visibility into its users' practices. The library must assess the relevance of its collections and their development, the effectiveness of their availability, and its integration within the university, for which it acquires resources but remains institutionally peripheral. The central challenge is to understand how the library's collections and services can stay relevant and accessible in this changing context.

In 2024, the BCUL conducted a survey of the entire university population to investigate these issues. The online questionnaire, developed in collaboration with the Swiss Centre of Expertise in the Social Sciences, examined users' interactions with the collections across study, teaching, research, and leisure activities. The analysis was segmented by respondent profiles (students, teachers, and researchers) and their respective disciplinary fields.

The survey yielded 1,678 responses from 21,023 invitations, resulting in a comprehensive dataset on both physical and digital use of the collections. Descriptive and segmented analyses identified differences in user practices, points of friction, and opportunities to optimize the composition and availability of collections, as well as the library's service offerings.

The analysis revealed two main modes of library use: as a learning space for students and as a documentation hub for teachers and researchers. Key findings included: the problem of resource unavailability and inaccessibility, which puts library collections in competition with other channels for resource acquisition; divergent preferences for digital or physical formats depending on the type of resource; and the enduring role of the physical library in facilitating serendipity. The resources used in teaching are predominantly accessed via a university platform rather than the library, thereby restricting the ability to track the use of library-provided materials. Additionally, the library encounters difficulties in promoting its services and offerings.

These observations led to the development of recommendations and the design of an action plan, the first steps of which will be presented at the LIBER 2026 conference alongside the survey results. These steps will focus on monitoring the collections' availability, the consequences regarding acquisition policies, and cooperation between the library and the teaching and research staff of the University of Lausanne, illustrating how university libraries can strengthen their role and impact in an unpredictable landscape.





**Adrian Baumann** holds two Master's degrees: one in International Business Development from the University of Neuchâtel and another in Philosophy from the University of Lausanne. He spent four years working at a digital agency based in the EPFL Innovation Park, collaborating closely with startups on projects at the intersection of technology, innovation, and strategy. He later joined the Bibliothèque cantonale et universitaire Lausanne (BCUL) as chargé de missions stratégiques et administratives. He currently leads the Project and Valorisation Team, overseeing transversal projects and focusing on enhancing the visibility and impact of library services within the academic and research ecosystem.

## 11.2

### FROM STRUCTURE TO STRATEGY: BUILDING FUTURE-READY LIBRARY TEAMS AT UAB

**Authors:** Núria Casaldàliga Rojas and Anna Florensa Farré, Autonomous University of Barcelona, Spain

The UAB Libraries are committed to delivering an enhanced user experience while reinforcing their central role within an evolving information ecosystem, shaped by continuous technological advancements, generational transitions, and profound social transformations.

To meet this challenge, we launched a strategic project four years ago with a clear objective: to review and redesign the organizational structure of library staff, aligning it with the future needs of our academic community.

The first phase involved an approach based on the Library Service process map, analysing the expected evolution of each process, identifying operations being phased out or representing new opportunities,

determining key activities, and mapping them to job categories. We introduced a data-driven methodology, creating a detailed grid covering 11 processes and their activities, complemented by indicators and weight analysis to ensure objective assessment. This framework provided a top-down view of organizational dynamics, enabling evidence-based decision-making.

The outcome was a comprehensive report structured around a 4-helix analysis, integrating process data, job categories, performance indicators, and trends identified in the literature on university libraries.

The second phase focused on adaptive workforce design, redistributing staff across libraries according to the study's findings, updating professional profiles, and introducing new roles to address emerging challenges such as digital scholarship, data management, and user experience design. This step emphasizes flexibility and future-readiness, ensuring alignment with evolving academic priorities.

The third phase, following approval of the model by the university board and unions, is currently in progress and focuses on developing a two-year implementation roadmap.

To provide context, the UAB Library Service comprises seven libraries, central services, and Library Management, supported by a team of 166 professionals. This project has impacted 87% of the staff (145 individuals) through a comprehensive review of their profiles. Notably, 77% of these positions (112 roles) have received category and salary upgrades. Furthermore, 13 basic positions have been reclassified as technical roles, strengthening the team's expertise.

By integrating data analytics, strategic foresight, and role design, this project positions UAB Libraries as a proactive agent of change, ready to deliver high-impact services in a rapidly shifting academic landscape.





**Núria Casaldàliga Rojas** is Director of the Libraries at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB) since 2019. She represents UAB Libraries in various national and international consortia and associations, with a strong focus on strategic planning, human resources management, and open science. In addition to her leadership role, Núria has experience as a university lecturer.

She holds a degree in Information Science and has completed specialized training in leadership, reinforcing her commitment to innovation and excellence in academic library services.



**Anna Florensa Farré** is serving as Deputy Director of UAB Libraries since 2023, where she focuses on team development, data-driven decision-making, and overall management. Her journey at UAB began 25 years ago in the subscription department, and over the years, she has gained extensive experience in collection development and led the technical office of the libraries.

Anna holds degrees in Information Science and Philosophy. She also regularly participates in professional development courses to strengthen her management skills.

## 11.3

### BEYOND HIERARCHY, NOT BEYOND RESPONSIBILITY: ETHICAL LEADERSHIP IN A ROLE BASED ACADEMIC LIBRARY

**Author:** Gabriela Lüthi-Esposito, ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland

Academic libraries are operating in an environment characterized by technological acceleration, social change and increasing political and economic uncertainty. At the same time, they face rapidly evolving

user expectations, growing resource constraints, the need to develop new competencies, shifts in service portfolios and a shortage of specialized professionals. These conditions require libraries to rethink not only what they do, but also how they organize themselves to remain resilient, effective, and sustainable.

Against this background, the University Library of the ZHAW Zurich University of Applied Sciences began a transformation towards agile ways of working five years ago, with the explicit goal of placing people (users and staff) as well as innovation and leadership at the center of organizational development. Building on this foundation, the library worked intensively throughout 2024 on the design and implementation of a role based circle model (inspired by holacracy and sociocracy). This organizational approach replaces traditional hierarchical structures with clearly defined roles, distributed decision making authority, and interdisciplinary collaboration across former departmental boundaries – while remaining attentive to critiques and limits of holacracy style models. The transformation combined bottom up and top down approaches to foster participation and acceptance while maintaining strategic coherence.

Since June 2025, the university library has been organized according to a role based circle model. Following a six month pilot phase (June–December 2025), the transformation process and the degree to which its objectives have been achieved will be jointly evaluated in early 2026 through a structured feedback process. This evaluation will form the basis for evidence based adjustments and further development of the model.

The objectives of the transformation include increasing transparency regarding roles and responsibilities; strengthening organizational and individual performance; fostering interprofessional collaboration and breaking down silo thinking. Central to these aims is strengthening the organization's capacity to anticipate, absorb, and respond rapidly to changing conditions to sustain innovation and high performance in an



increasingly uncertain environment. To support this, decision making is shifted closer to where relevant expertise resides, enabling faster and more context sensitive responses to emerging challenges.

Even within a self organizing model, staff require clear orientation and reliability. Leadership therefore shifts from operational decision making toward setting frameworks, designing governance structures and cultivating organizational culture. While formal leadership remains legally accountable for areas such as budgets, personnel, compliance, and crisis management, subject specific decisions are increasingly embedded in clearly defined roles and processes.

This experience based contribution analyses the transformation of the ZHAW University Library and offers practice oriented insights into challenges, successes, and lessons learned. I am going to reflect critically on the competencies required for such a shift, emphasizing that self organization, decision making capacity and constructive conflict management must be developed and supported through psychological safety. With a focus on leadership, governance, and organizational resilience, this contribution addresses practitioners planning or implementing role based or agile organizational models in academic libraries.

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**Gabriela Lüthi-Esposito** is Head of the University Library of the Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), a position she has held since 2018. She is a qualified documentalists and holds a diploma as an academic librarian, an Executive MBA from the University of St. Gallen and a Master's degree in Media & Education from the University of Rostock.

She has held senior management roles since 2000, with a strong focus on organisational development, strategy, innovation management, and leadership in complex institutional environments. Since 2020, her work has increasingly concentrated on agility, self organisation, and the performance and resilience of organisations and employees in times of uncertainty and change.

Her professional profile combines long standing leadership experience with a reflective and practice oriented approach to organisational transformation in academic and knowledge based institutions.

# PARALLEL SESSION 12

FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT II

### Moderator:

Pedro Príncipe, University of Minho, Portugal

Location: R5

### 12.1

#### AI 4 RDM: EXPLORING AI FOR RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT SUPPORT AT KU LEUVEN LIBRARIES

**Authors:** Miara Fraikin and Johan Philips, KU Leuven Libraries, Belgium

**Presenter:** Miara Fraikin, KU Leuven Libraries, Belgium

At KU Leuven, Research Data Management Support is organised as a collaborative network, coordinated by the RDM Competence Centre. Within this network, the library plays an important role: its staff provide training for researchers, curate comprehensive RDM webpages, assist via an RDM helpdesk, manage the institutional data repository, organise RDM-related events, review data management plans, and the library heads the RDM Competence Centre. In addition, we have been exploring how AI can enhance these RDM support services. This presentation will share our approach, progress, and key insights from the AI4RDM project.

While researchers are increasingly aware of the importance of sound research data management, RDM is still often viewed as an administrative burden taking away valuable research time. It also appears that researchers often struggle to find the right support channels, resulting

in only a small proportion of our 14,000 researchers and 7,000 PhDs accessing the library's RDM support staff and materials. Recognizing AI's potential to deliver personalized information and improve scalability, we have begun exploring how AI can be used to enhance our RDM support services since September 2024.

In this presentation, we will detail four (pilot) projects, each focusing on a specific aspect of AI integration within RDM-support workflows. Our first project, in collaboration with the Research Coordination Office and the context of a master thesis in the advanced master programme of Artificial Intelligence, explored using AI to automate the review of Data Management Plans (DMPs). Rather than manually reviewing all 700 DMPs each year, we aimed to improve efficiency by automatically categorizing them and only manually reviewing those needing feedback. A key finding was the need for structured domain knowledge. This knowledge, currently distributed across various unstructured sources, was at risk of no longer being compliant with the recently updated KU Leuven RDM policy. Since manually reviewing all materials would be resource-intensive, our second project, in partnership with the master of digital humanities, uses AI to identify conflicting documentation.

While the first two projects focus on improving internal RDM support workflows and documentation, the third and fourth projects are intended to benefit researchers more directly. The third project involves developing an AI agent with access to our RDM documentation and evaluating its potential as a chatbot on the KU Leuven RDM website to further strengthen researchers' RDM self-reliance. The fourth project examines researchers' workflows, assessing which AI tools are currently used for research data management, evaluating their compliance with KU Leuven regulations, and identifying further needs that could be addressed with tailored solutions.

In summary, this presentation explores the potential use of artificial intelligence within Research Data Management support at KU Leuven. By sharing our experiences across four distinct projects, we aim to

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highlight the practical opportunities and challenges of integrating AI into RDM workflows. We hope our findings will contribute to ongoing discussions about AI's role in academic support services and offer useful insights for institutions facing similar challenges.



**Miara Fraikin** is AI Librarian at KU Leuven Libraries, where she provides guidance on adopting AI in library workflows. She holds a PhD in Art History from KU Leuven and Utrecht University and also works as a guest lecturer in architectural history at KU Leuven's Department of Architecture.

## 12.2

### HUMAN-CENTRED AI FOR DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT

**Authors:** Anne-Marie Tuikka, Juuso Repo, and Jukka Rantasaari, University of Turku, Finland | Jari Friman, Maria Kekkonen, and Salla Huuskonen, Tampere University, Finland | Johanna Laiho-Kauranne, CSC, Finland

**Presenter:** Anne-Marie Tuikka, University of Turku, Finland

Research libraries are increasingly expected to safeguard responsible research data practices under conditions of technological uncertainty, rising administrative burden, and constrained resources. In this context, a central question is whether generative artificial intelligence can reliably support expert-led research data governance without undermining quality, accountability, or trust. This presentation addresses that question by empirically examining how AI-generated assessment of Data Management Plans (DMPs) can support rather than replace professional judgement in research data management.

We present a study of DMP Analyser, a prototype AI tool developed by the authors to support expert review of DMPs using established evaluation criteria. The system applies a modular analysis pipeline to produce structured and traceable outputs and explicit audit trail from each judgement to sentence-level evidence in the original DMP. This design enables experts to inspect, validate, and contest AI outputs, positioning the tool as a decision-support system rather than an automated evaluator. The analysis pipeline is configurable and can utilise different large language models and evaluation rubrics, enabling institutions to apply shared criteria consistently and to accumulate an institutional knowledge base grounded in expert-validated DMP assessments.

The study analyses a corpus of DMPs submitted to the 2025 Research Council of Finland funding call from Tampere University and the University of Turku. All funded projects are required to submit a DMP, which is reviewed by institutional data support professionals who provide written feedback based on a shared evaluation rubric. This setting offers a realistic governance context in which expert judgement is formally embedded and documented.

Following expert assessment, the same DMPs are independently analysed using the DMP Analyser between January and May 2026, which produces structured evaluations aligned with the criteria used by human reviewers. AI-generated assessments were then systematically reviewed by the research team and compared against expert feedback and the original DMP texts.

To support this analysis, the DMP Analyser was extended to store expert comments, AI outputs, and validation decisions, enabling the calculation of quantitative indicators of agreement and divergence across individual assessment criteria. This allows us to examine how the reliability and usefulness of AI support vary by topic and type of judgement, and to identify where human oversight remains essential.

The findings highlight both the potential and the limitations of AI-assisted DMP support. While AI performs well on structurally explicit criteria, it struggles with context-sensitive judgements and ambiguous descriptions. Rather than treating this as a benchmark of AI performance, the study demonstrates a human-centred approach in which such limitations are made visible, traceable, and actionable for expert reviewers. The contribution lies in showing how generative AI can function as a transparent and verifiable decision-support infrastructure that strengthens professional judgement and institutional responsibility, rather than replacing them.



**Anne-Marie Tuikka** is an Information Specialist at Turku University Library, focusing on research data management. She has a pragmatic approach to the design and implementation of data services, drawing on her experience in IT services and diverse research projects. Her solid theoretical background in information systems enriches her efforts to advance data management and open science initiatives across institutional and national networks.

## 12.3

### DEVELOPING A NATIONAL RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR IRELAND

**Authors:** Armin Straube and Marcus Leaning, University of Limerick, Ireland

**Presenter:** Armin Straube, University of Limerick, Ireland

This paper reports on the development of a national Research Data Management (RDM) Framework for Ireland by the iFrame project, which runs until April 2026. The project is funded by the Irish National Open Research Forum (NORF) as part of the National Action Plan for Open Research (NORF 2022).

The project embraced an evidence-based, open and collaborative process aimed at evaluating the current level of service provision at Irish Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) and then drafting and finding consensus with all stakeholders on recommendations for future developments.

The evaluation of Irish RPOs was done with a maturity model on RDM service provision (Leaning and Straube 2025), which measured activities across the research lifecycle both quantitatively (levels of maturity) and qualitatively (capturing information on how services are delivered).

Research was conducted via a collaborative self-evaluation that saw research support staff from Irish RPOs evaluating their own services with the help of a project researcher. These evaluations led to institutional reports co-authored by project researchers and staff members of the RPOs. The reports feed into an upcoming national report and build a key resource in drafting the national framework. Other inputs into the framework are outputs of other NORF-funded projects, a desk-review of international best practices and a series of consultation workshops with stakeholders.

The framework starts with the premise that RDM is not an aim in itself or an indulgence of funder requirements, but a means to achieve excellent research. It aims to further establish RDM as a standard research practice across all disciplines and research endeavours.

The framework looks at the areas of policies, of infrastructure, and of human capacity, both at the institutional and national/international levels.

The policy section of the framework, entitled “Making the Rules Work for Research”, aims to further integrate RDM policies with other policies supporting and governing research. This allows RDM to support areas like data protection, research ethics, research integrity, commercialisation, open access, research assessment and IT and knowledge

security. Integration also needs to cover procedures and guidelines, for example, for PhD supervisors to become an integral part of all research workflows.

The sections on infrastructure (“Getting the right tools for RDM”) and human capacity (“Enabling targeted support”) are all about creating a support environment focused on the needs of the researchers. In regard to the technical infrastructure, the framework refers to and supports other initiatives, for example, the ongoing development of an Irish EOSC node. The focus of the framework is rather on how to ensure that support across different institutional units (library, IT, research office, data protection office, ethics committee, technology transfer office etc.) is consistent, coordinated, and focused on the needs of the researchers. Coordination and tailored support are also key in helping researchers navigate a technological landscape with local, national and international services, for example, in choosing suitable research software, services, or repositories.

While the research carried out by the iFrame project found that human capacity was the best developed area in Irish RPOs, there was a clear lack of discipline-specific RDM support, and the framework proposes a national network of discipline-specific data stewards that can offer reciprocal support beyond their respective institutions.

For now, the framework is “just” a set of recommendations, but a proposed next stage is the development of a Code of Practice based on the framework that both funders and RPOs will sign up to.

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## 12.4

### LIBRARIANS IN THE LOOP: HYBRID AI FOR RELIABLE DATA EXTRACTION FROM HISTORICAL LOAN REGISTERS

**Authors:** Christopher Kermorvant and Léa Périssier, TEKLIA, France | Viera Rebolledo-Dhuin, Université Paris-Est Créteil, France | Cécile Obligi and Laurie Aoustet, Bibliothèque Interuniversitaire de la Sorbonne, France

**Presenter:** Christopher Kermorvant, TEKLIA, France

The PRET19 project, led by the Bibliothèque interuniversitaire de la Sorbonne (BIS) and the Université Paris-Est Créteil in partnership with other libraries and TEKLIA, converts 19th-century handwritten loan registers into a reusable dataset on the history of reading, academic disciplines, and higher education. Rather than relying on a single “black box” AI system, PRET19 employs a controlled, stepwise approach in which various tools are integrated and librarians verify each stage, from identifying borrower entries to connecting books with the national Sudoc catalogue. When applied to five registers from 1850 to 1893, this process reconstructs tens of thousands of individual loans and several thousand borrowers, with the majority of loans successfully matched to at least one catalogue record. PRET19 demonstrates how research libraries can responsibly utilise AI to re-engage with loan registers as a vital component of their documentary heritage, as well as for analysing the circulation of books and ideas.



**Christopher Kermorvant** is a computer engineer and AI researcher



# PARALLEL SESSION 13

FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

specializing in the analysis of historical and cultural documents. He holds a PhD in Artificial Intelligence and conducted research at École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) and the University of Montreal. In 2015, he founded TEKLIA to develop advanced AI solutions for the recognition, structuring, and exploration of collections in libraries, archives, museums, and art galleries

## OPENING RESEARCH INFORMATION

**Moderator:**

Matthew Greenhall, University of Liverpool, United Kingdom

**Location:** R2

## 13.1

### MONITORING STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGIES USING OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION

**Authors:** Silvia Fattori, Matthijs de Zwaan, and Ruben Lacroix, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

**Presenter:** Matthijs de Zwaan, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, The Netherlands

European and national policy frameworks addressing strategic autonomy and knowledge security, such as the EU Strategic Technologies for Europe Platform (STEP) and the Dutch National Technology Strategy (NTS), identify technologies that are expected to drive economic competitiveness and societal transitions. Monitoring progress in these areas informs funding and governance decisions, but the information used for this purpose often relies on proprietary data sources that limit transparency, reproducibility, and independent verification.

Our work presents a framework for profiling academic research in these strategic technologies using open research information. Developed in collaboration with Universiteiten van Nederland (the association of Dutch universities), the project examines the contribution of Dutch universities to the objectives of the NTS and demonstrates how re-

search libraries can support policy monitoring using openly available metadata. This approach differs from previous approaches in two important ways. First, our approach is fully transparent. Second, it is relatively simple and flexible and can be quickly adapted to new developments in the technologies we are describing.

The framework is built on OpenAlex as the primary data source. A large language model is used to classify research outputs into the technology clusters defined in the NTS, enabling alignment between policy categories and scholarly research fields. We combine standard bibliometric indicators on research output and citation impact with a measure of relative specialisation, allowing institutional and national strengths to be assessed in an international context.

The results show that it is feasible to construct a transparent and reproducible evidence base for monitoring strategic technologies using open data and methods. The framework illustrates how research libraries can use their expertise in working with research data to offer strategic analytical support. As such, it provides a practical example of how open research information can be used to inform research assessment and policy discussions without dependence on proprietary systems.



**Matthijs de Zwaan** is the team lead for the Research Intelligence team at Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam. The team helps research units to answer strategic questions about the scholarly and societal impact of research at the university by providing and visualising relevant data. Before joining the university library, Matthijs did empirical research in economics.

## 13.2

### TRAJECTORY MODELLING OF OA PUBLISHING COSTS USING OPEN RESEARCH INFORMATION

**Authors:** Cameron Neylon, Independent, Sweden; Bianca Kramer, Sesame Open Science, Netherlands

**Presenter:** Cameron Neylon, Independent, Sweden

Understanding the full costs of scholarly publishing across national and regional systems remains a challenge. What information is available is generally limited and the best data is usually confidential and private. The argument for Open Research Information is that the benefits of sharing outweigh the risks. We sought to examine this by building a large scale model of costs and savings in the scholarly publishing system using public information.

Combining bibliographic resources including OpenAlex and OpenAIRE with cost information at the level of APCs (OpenAPC, DOAJ, and open datasets of archived list prices) and agreements (from full text agreements listed in ESAC) we can estimate the overall profile of OA publishing costs and use these to model the development of future costs under various sets of assumptions.

The cost model for a given institution, consortium or country starts with the overall output volume and the proportion of outputs in each Open Access category. Within each category the proportion of outputs with a corresponding author is estimated. This is then compared to the set of outputs that are known to have been covered within agreements. For each category of paid open access (hybrid and APC-gold) we estimate list price APCs. For those outputs within agreements we also calculate the average cost per output (separating hybrid and gold), taking into account 'publish' and 'read' parts of the agreement, where applicable.

Using this cost model, we then extrapolate to generate estimated future prices per output for each category (APC-gold, hybrid, within and outside agreements). These price estimates are then used to calculate the overall cost of each category in various scenarios. We use baseline estimates for subscription costs, and estimate current expenditure on repositories and diamond OA publishing venues as a baseline for infrastructure contributions.

Scenarios covered in the trajectory modelling can include increasing the number and coverage of R&P deals, paying APCs out of contract, switching to only full gold OA publishing deals, shifting focus to diamond OA and/or repository-based OA, as well as mixed scenarios.

The modelling approach can be validated by comparing data from open research information sources with data supplied by consortia directly. Consortial data can also be used to further refine the model, as these often include data that are not publicly available.

This includes data on articles published as part of publisher agreements, as well as additional financial information on publisher agreements (including on subscriptions) and investments in repositories, diamond OA publishing and (other) open infrastructures.

In this presentation, we will show how a national, regional and global model of publishing costs can be built using Open Research Information. Through two case studies, we will demonstrate the value of information shared by library consortia to this modelling approach, and encourage library consortia to make information on publishing costs information openly available.



**Cameron Neylon** is a researcher, analyst and advocate for open research practices. From 2015 to 2024 he was Professor of Research Communications at Curtin University where he was co-founder and co-lead of the Curtin Open Knowledge Initiative. He is a member of the Steering Board of CoARA, the Scientific Advisory Board of OpenCita-

tions, and the steering group member for the Barcelona Declaration. He has written on research evaluation, review, open access and technology including the books *Open Knowledge Institutions: Reinventing Universities and Open Scholarship* and *The Need for Collective Action* as well as being an author of the altmetrics manifesto, the Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure and the Panton Principles for open scholarly data.

### 13.3 BEYOND LICENCES AND APIS: A HUMAN-CENTRED DECISION FRAMEWORK FOR FINANCE DATA IN RESEARCH LIBRARIES

**Author:** Tsvetanka Slavcheva, Sofia University, Bulgaria

In today's unpredictable environment, decisions about selecting materials in research libraries go far beyond issues of coverage and cost. These choices influence who gains access to knowledge, how reliably research can be replicated, and whether scholars can conduct their work with dignity and thoughtful support. The banking and finance sectors pose an especially complex challenge, given their rapidly evolving markets, multilayered regulations, and a patchwork of data sources that include proprietary databases, official statistics, academic indexes, and repositories.

This talk presents insights from a comprehensive scoping review of finance data sources conducted between 2019 and 2025 (with the latest update in September 2025). It introduces a human-centred framework to guide decisions in collection development and library service design. The review examines four types of sources: (1) global financial databases (like Bloomberg, Refinitiv, S&P Capital IQ, and FactSet); (2) official and regulatory statistics (such as those from

the ECB, IMF, Eurostat, and national statistics agencies and central banks); (3) academic discovery platforms (including Scopus and Web of Science); and (4) repositories from institutions, nations, and central banks. The sources were evaluated through a mix of document analysis and comparative review, using weighted criteria like source authority, thematic and geographical scope, how often they're updated, quality of data and metadata, discovery tools, and licensing terms.

Moving past just technical assessments, this framework also incorporates metrics rooted in care: the burden of ensuring reproducibility, the mental load required to use the data, the stress caused by restrictive licenses and use conditions, and the wider benefits to communities through open standards and machine-readable licenses. These care-based metrics are not arbitrary. They're drawn from established research in reproducibility, human-computer interaction, care ethics, and open science, and have been translated into practical tools for library collection decisions. The findings highlight that while proprietary platforms are often timely and integrate well into workflows, they tend to obstruct transparency and reuse. Official statistics are authoritative but still struggle with integration across systems, and repositories bring valuable grey literature to light but remain poorly connected to broader systems. Ongoing gaps in FAIR data principles, especially regarding versioning, persistent IDs, and citation standards, continue to threaten research integrity.

The proposed framework brings together a scored evaluation rubric and a decision tree based on typical finance research scenarios. It helps libraries maintain a healthy balance between open and licensed resources, make hidden risks like vendor lock-in visible, and provide built-in support for user training and data literacy. Ultimately, it reimagines collection development as a form of scholarly care, blending human values with strong evidence to enhance equity, reproducibility, and researcher well-being.



**Tsvetanka Slavcheva** is a doctoral student (part-time/extramural) in Public Communications and Information Sciences, enrolled in the PhD programme Theory of Scientific Information – Information Provision at the Faculty of Philosophy, Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski”, under the supervision of Assoc. Prof. Eli Popova. Her dissertation, “A Model for Innovative Library and Information Provision in the Banking Sector,” focuses on the Special Library of the Bulgarian National Bank as a case study.

She holds a Master’s degree in Library and Information Sciences and Cultural Policy (Information Provision for Science, Business, and Education) and has over 15 years of professional experience in an academic and research libraries. Tsvetanka is an individual member of the Bulgarian Library and Information Association (BLIA) and presented “Digital Transformation and Institutional Memory: The Model of the BNB Library” at the 35th Jubilee National BLIA Conference (June 2025, New Bulgarian University).

Her research interests include theory of scientific information, special libraries and institutional memory, Open Science, digital collections and services, and the use of AI to support library and information provision in the banking sector.

# PARALLEL SESSION 14

FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## SHIFTS IN RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

**Moderator:**

Lucinda Jones, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands

**Location:** R7

### 14.1

#### RESHAPING RESEARCH ASSESSMENT: MONITORING AND REWARDING OPENNESS

**Authors:** Evgenios Vlachos, Thea Marie Drachen, Regine Ejstrup, Anne Thorst Melbye, and Bertil Dorch, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

**Presenter:** Evgenios Vlachos, University of Southern Denmark, Denmark

Research assessment reform is gaining momentum across Europe, guided by principles such as those promoted by the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA). Universities are seeking models that recognise diverse research contributions, promote transparency, and reduce dependence on journal and publication metrics. Since 2024, the University of Southern Denmark (SDU) has implemented a comprehensive process that links institutional incentives to the systematic monitoring of openness. We will present the SDU Open Science Champion Awards, which are granted annually to the most open research unit within each faculty, as a case study of how universities can start reshaping their research assessment practices by cultivating cultural change via monitoring, and rewarding openness.

The SDU Open Science Champion Awards recognise research units demonstrating strong performance in open access publishing, sharing FAIR datasets, and actively communicating research to society. The initiative encourages research units to make their outputs as openly available as possible, and to ensure that all publications, datasets, and outreach activities are registered in SDU's research information management system (RIMS), where the OADO (Open Access, Data and Outreach) indicator is calculated. This creates a clear incentive to practice open science while improving the completeness and quality of research metadata. The OADO indicator aligns with the CoARA principles by recognising varied research outputs and practices, supporting qualitative assessment with responsible quantitative indicators, and rewarding behaviours that contribute to a transparent and engaged scholarly environment. Importantly, the OADO indicator helps assess research units on metrics they can directly influence, empowering them to improve openness through their own practices. To ensure fair comparisons across disciplines, we applied a weighted version, the weighted-OADO, which benchmarks research units against disciplinary peers. This avoids inappropriate cross-field comparisons, provides actionable insights for improvement, and encourages consistency in open science practices across faculties and departments.

We hope the combined effect of the OADO indicator and the Open Science Champion Awards to lead to a measurable increase in awareness and practice of open science, greater registration of outputs in RIMS, and visible recognition of research units. By linking recognition to behaviours researchers can control, universities can establish a transparent connection between open practices and institutional reward.

This presentation will outline the methodology behind the OADO indicator, the award selection workflow, and the observed outcomes. It will also invite discussion on how award-linked openness indicators can support CoARA-aligned reform, foster cultural change, and contribute to broader shifts in research assessment across Europe.





**Evgenios Vlachos** received the MSc degree in electronic automation from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece (2009), and the MA (2012) and PhD (2016) degrees in human centered communication and informatics from Aalborg University, Denmark. Since 2016, he was a Postdoctoral Researcher at the Department of Electronic Systems, Aalborg University in a robotic project supported by the Danmarks Frie Forskningsfond. Currently, he is an Associate Professor at The Maersk Mc-Kinney Moller Institute, University of Southern Denmark where he does research on social robotics and human-robot interaction, and a Research Librarian at the University Library of Southern Denmark. He is leading the Research Data Management Support Team where the focus of interest revolves around research data management, open science, data storage, and responsible conduct of research.

<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8235-0423>

## 14.2

### LET'S NOT RECREATE RANKINGS: THE PRINCIPLES OF OPEN SCIENCE MONITORING

**Author:** Laetitia Bracco, University of Lorraine, France

In May 2023, the G7 Science and Technology Ministers emphasized the need for a shared framework for monitoring Open Science. While Open Science policies and practices have seen growing international support, monitoring efforts remain fragmented across national and institutional levels. Various dashboards and tools - such as the French Open Science Monitor, Germany's Open Access Monitor, the COKI Dashboard in Australia, the Open Access Monitor in Korea - showcase both innovative thinking and varied approaches, but lack a unified global framework.

Despite multiple important guidelines, such as the UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science, the POSI, or the recent PathOS Open Science Indicator Handbook, no shared, global framework for open science monitoring existed until recently. The Open Science Monitoring Initiative (OSMI, <https://open-science-monitoring.org/>) aims to fill that gap by offering principles, guidance and community engagement that support comparability, interoperability, and responsible reuse of monitoring indicators through common guidelines.

To co-create and refine the first draft, designed by a group of French experts, an international workshop was held at UNESCO in December 2023, gathering over 50 experts from very different institutions, including CERN, NASA and CWTS. Following intensive collaborative drafting, a global consultation process amplified by UNESCO was a success, with an open call for participation that received contributions from more than 150 people from 40 countries across the world. This first collaborative effort was the spark for the creation of OSMI, an initiative that does not aim to create monitoring dashboards itself, but rather to bring together various stakeholders to encourage the sharing of best practices, in particular through its working groups, which have a total of nearly 200 participants.

OSMI's Principles of Open Science Monitoring <https://open-science-monitoring.org/principles/> were published on 7th of July 2025 at a conference hosted by UNESCO and, in November 2025, they have already been downloaded more than 6,000 times. An important aspect is not to encourage the creation of new university rankings based on open science, but rather to promote best research practices and capture the nuances in how open science is monitored globally.

The Principles are organised around three core pillars:

- Relevance and significance: all open science monitoring initiatives should be well-defined, relevant, and adaptable to diverse research contexts. They should support evidence-based policies and deci-

sions, be developed through inclusive and participatory collaborative processes, and reflect the diversity of disciplines and stakeholders. Ensuring modularity, transparency, and consistency allows for reliable assessment while accommodating different needs and practices.

- Transparency and reproducibility: open science monitoring should, wherever possible, prioritize the use of open, transparent, and reproducible information, including metadata. It should further draw on infrastructures and methodologies that adhere to shared, agreed-upon principles and rely on publicly accessible data sources.
- Self-assessment and responsible use: open science monitoring initiatives should aim for continuous improvement through regular self-assessments and alignment with these Principles of Open Science Monitoring. Importantly, open science monitoring should be used to understand and incentivise open science practices. It should not be used in isolation to evaluate individual researchers but instead as part of a multifaceted approach to assist institutions, stakeholders, academic and non-academic communities in understanding and improving their research practices.

The Principles provide a solid and international framework for developing or refining approaches to monitoring open science, at a time when this activity is becoming increasingly common in university libraries.

This presentation will introduce the Principles, discuss some initial practical applications of its content by libraries around the world, present the working group's current outputs and activities, and outline the outlook for the coming years.



**Laetitia Bracco** is the Deputy Head of the Library Research Support Services at the Université de Lorraine. She oversees the “ADOC Lorraine” data workshop, a key service dedicated to research data support, and leads the Bibliometrics Unit.

At the national level, Laetitia heads the Research Data Working Group of the Couperin Consortium and acts as project leader for the French Open Science Monitor, focusing on research data and software code.

Internationally, she co-coordinates the Open Science Monitoring Initiative (OSMI), contributes as a member of the SPARC Europe Board, and participates in the Open Science Programme Reviewers' Pool of Swiss universities.

### 14.3 HAL AS AN OPEN INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AUTOMATED OPEN-SCIENCE MONITORING: INSIGHTS FROM UNIVERSITÉ PARIS-SACLAY'S BISO

**Authors:** H el ene B egn is, CCSD/CNRS, France | Delphine Le Piolet and Henri Bretel, University of Paris-Saclay, France

In a context marked by the evolution of research evaluation frameworks—including the integration of artificial intelligence, new bibliometric indicators, technological challenges (such as interoperability and data preservation), and geopolitical tensions (access restrictions, scientific sovereignty)—academic libraries require certified, interoperable, and sustainable infrastructures.

HAL (<https://hal.science>), the French multidisciplinary open archive, stands out as a unique model in Europe for addressing these challenges. Certified with the Core Trust Seal and compliant with the POSI principles, HAL does more than provide access to over 1.5 million full-text documents: it equips libraries with practical tools to implement Open Science mandates covering publications, datasets, and software.

As a national research infrastructure (HAL+ label), HAL plays a central role in France's Open Science policy. Its governance, overseen

by the CCSD (a consortium including CNRS, INRIA, and INRAE) in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education, national funding agencies, and over 150 academic institutions, ensures its longevity and sustainability.

HAL promotes the dissemination and reuse of publication metadata through APIs and the use of FAIR standards and norms, enhancing its interoperability and integration into international research ecosystems.

Libraries play a pivotal role in this ecosystem, mobilizing over 1,000 librarians to ensure the quality of metadata, thereby aligning HAL with national policies and local research needs.

Université Paris-Saclay, one of Europe's largest research-intensive universities (with 230 research units, over 8,000 researchers, and 13,000 scientific publications annually), has been fully committed to Open Science for several years (DORA, Barcelona Declaration, etc.). Its Open Science strategy is formalized in a framework document and supported by the Open Science Support Service within the Department of Libraries, Information, and Open Science (DiBISO, <https://www.universite-paris-saclay.fr/recherche/science-ouverte>). This service is embodied in the Open Science Research Referents Network (3RSO), a group of librarians involved in promoting Open Science.

Within this context, DiBISO developed the BiSO (Bilan Science Ouverte), an annual report that provides each laboratory with an overview of its Open Access scientific output based on data from HAL. Designed as an assessment tool, this report adapts to the scale of laboratories and can be generated for any corpus of publications deposited in HAL. Its added value lies in its automated yet customizable nature.

The first version features 12 metrics and visualizations, including the open access rates of articles and conference proceedings, information on the economic models of journals, and maps and lists of international collaborations. These are supplemented by a customized overview of

Open Science initiatives undertaken by each laboratory, along with recommendations for improvement.

The code (<https://github.com/dibiso-upsaclay/dibisoreporting>) is fully open-source and uses HAL data enriched with information from open databases like OpenAlex (<https://openalex.org/>). An open access pre-print (<https://universite-paris-saclay.hal.science/hal-05336463>) details the technical choices that led to this automated and reproducible tool.

BiSO operates through the collaboration of researchers who deposit their work in HAL and the 3RSO referents who consolidate and enhance the data to produce a comprehensive and qualitative report. The benefits are immediate: laboratories receive rich, personalized reports that help them support Open Science dynamics, develop an open archiving culture, and highlight their Open Science strengths and actions. The 3RSO referents save time and strengthen their ties with their communities.

In this presentation, we will focus on the methodology and selected metrics, and the data needed to produce them. We will explore how these components enhance the monitoring, valorization, and institutional support of Open Science, thereby advancing global knowledge accessibility.



**H el ene B egnis** heads the « Support, Training, and Community Engagement for HAL and SciencesConf » Service at the Centre for Direct Scientific Communication (CCSD), a joint service unit of CNRS, Inria, and INRAE. The CCSD develops and manages HAL (France's national open archive), SciencesConf (its conference management platform), and EpiSciences (its diamond open access journal platform). These three platforms are united under the HAL+ label, a cohesive infrastructure supporting Open Science.

With a team of 12, she focuses on supporting users—through training, technical assistance, and community engagement—in adopting HAL

and SciencesConf. Her service is also responsible for processing and publishing deposits with files on HAL. By delivering tailored training and resources, her team ensures the effective adoption of HAL and promotes open science practices and policies, advancing open access in research.



**Delphine Le Piolet**, librarian since 2013, is part of the 'Publications' team from Université Paris-Saclay's department of Libraries, Information and Open Science (DiBISO), as a Research and Open Science referent for 8 research units. She is also in charge of several doctoral trainings and takes part in the project Paris-Saclay University Press (POPS), an open-access digital publishing platform launching in 2026.



**Henri Bretel** is in charge of Bibliometrics in Université Paris-Saclay's department of Libraries, Information and Open Science (DiBISO). He has been working on international rankings, open-data and qualitative science evaluation, as well as the development of open-source CRIS systems in the context of French Higher Education and Research.



# PARALLEL SESSION 15

FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026 (09:00 - 10:30)

## HUMAN INTERFACES WITH TECHNOLOGY

### Moderator:

Alisa Martek, Zagreb National and University Library, Croatia

Location: R9

## 15.1

### HACKATHONS AS METHODOLOGY: ADVANCING COLLECTIONS AS DATA THROUGH INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

**Authors:** Ayla Karaman and Megan Gooch, Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford, United Kingdom | Roman Kuhn, Dorian Grosch, Emma Lesburgueres, and John Woitkowitz, Berlin State Library, Germany

**Presenters:** Ayla Karaman, Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford, United Kingdom | Roman Kuhn, Berlin State Library, Germany

In an era of rapid technological change, evolving research practices, and increasing geopolitical and epistemic uncertainty, research libraries play a critical role in shaping how digital collections can be accessed, interpreted, and reused as data. This paper discusses the findings of the collaborative project “Exploring collections as data: a cross-cultural GLAM labs approach” between the Centre for Digital Scholarship at the Bodleian Libraries, UK and the Stabi Lab at the Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin, Germany. The purpose of this international collaboration is to investigate how and why different user groups interact with digital collections data. Expanding on previous exchanges between both institutions as part of a wider international initiative created in

the wake of Brexit, the project sought to identify user needs and use cases to develop best practices and recommendations to advance the publication of collections data and develop responsive data services. Though working in different countries, and in an academic library in Oxford, and a State library in Berlin, we share common questions about the use and impact of our collections as machine-actionable and computationally reusable data, particularly in relation to emerging digital and AI-driven research practices.

The use of collections data has emerged as an established mode of inquiry across academic fields, in artistic works and for citizen science projects. The collections-as-data project has led discussions around creating responsible and participatory data cultures in institutions (Padilla et al., 2023, doi:10.5281/zenodo.8341519). Yet as libraries and other heritage organisations create machine readable collections data and consider developing interfaces to facilitate access, user needs and requirements remain poorly understood. The publication of digital collections data, however, must be informed by an understanding of institutions’ user practices, shared standards and criteria to assess impact.

The project “Exploring collections as data” uses a cross-cultural and participatory approach to address this gap and to contribute to a user-centric development of collections data and data services. Open data hackathons organised at the Stabi Lab in Berlin and the Centre for Digital Scholarship in Oxford attracted participants from a range of backgrounds, including academic research, creative industries and software development. At each event teams experimented with curated datasets from libraries and other cultural heritage organizations at GLAM Oxford and the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz, producing prototypes that suggested yet unexplored use cases for the wealth and breadth of library and cultural heritage data. In doing so, they made visible practices for accessing and transforming collections data. Moreover, they identified gaps in collections data documentation, tech-



nical support and skills development. The findings demonstrate how libraries can exercise their institutional power by acting as enablers of access, mediators between technology and users, and stewards of responsible data cultures. The paper concludes by outlining how insights from this collaborative work can inform strategic service development at both libraries and offer transferable lessons for research libraries seeking to strengthen access to digital collections and knowledge in an uncertain world.



**Ayla Karaman**, Digital Scholarship Manager, Bodleian Libraries (University of Oxford). Ayla has over 10 years of professional experience working in GLAM institutions (Ashmolean Museum, British Museum & Bodleian Libraries) and has extensive experience working with physical and digitised GLAM collections. Currently Ayla develops and leads the events programme in the Centre for Digital Scholarship (Bodleian Libraries), with a focus on digital tools and methods used in research and collections. She holds a Masters degree in Public Archaeology from University College London.



**Roman Kuhn**, Stabi Lab, Berlin State Library. Roman Kuhn studied Comparative Literature and completed his PhD in the same field at Freie Universität Berlin. After earning his doctorate, he completed a Master's degree in Library and Information Science and held two postdoctoral positions (Freie Universität Berlin and University of Oxford). Initially trained in largely “analog” methods, his work has shifted toward the Digital Humanities, with a particular interest in library collections as data.

## 15.2

### MAPPING STAKEHOLDER TENSION IN AUTOMATIC TEXT RECOGNITION (ATR) PRACTICE

**Author:** Joseph Nockels, University of Sheffield, Digital Humanities Institute, United Kingdom

This presentation surfaces methodological tensions within Automatic Text Recognition (ATR) practice, the AI-enabled process of converting images-of-text into machine-processable data (Mühlberger et al., 2019), across cultural heritage research and institutions. It focuses on two main user communities - research libraries and digital collection users, while arguing for embracing friction as productive engagement with AI-driven systems: distinguishing access-oriented from research-oriented transcriptions, institutional and user expectations, and the foregrounding of documentation in producing ATR outputs and (re) using transcription models. In doing so, this presentation addresses an urgent need to discuss how individual libraries are integrating AI tools into curatorial, technical and bibliographic protocols (Terras, 2022: 144).

Through consulting National Library of Scotland (NLS) curators and digital staff as to their attitudes, priorities and problem-areas regarding ATR, our approach is grounded in the values and priorities of the sector (Gooding et al., 2025). Six interviews were first conducted with NLS staff in 2024 and re-evaluated with the same participants in 2025, as part of an internally funded project. These interviews followed an action research methodology, defined as ‘a practice changing practice’ (Kemmis et al., 2014: 2) to further understand how participants orientated themselves toward emerging AI tools for collection processing. This was followed by group discussions with the ATR user community, specifically the membership of academic cooperative Transkribus(<https://www.transkribus.org/>). Transkribus was chosen due to it being the largest consumer-level ATR system and having a

clearly defined community of practice (Terras et al., 2025). From this, a finite list of ATR practices was constructed by categorising latent themes and core ideas (Drisko & Maschi, 2015: 405). This followed Unsworth's (2000) 'scholarly primitives' model for digital humanities research and core ATR practices to be mapped as Trading Zones across organisational contexts (Kemman, 2021: 39-58).

This presentation demonstrates, as findings, how tension arising from disparate AI practice can be better negotiated, in turn ensuring that sectoral values of findability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability are maintained. Subsequently, it moves beyond external theorisations of curation and research, instead mapping where divergence occurs between infrastructural assumptions of automation, scalability and universality, and libraries' status as trustworthy sources of data specificity, interpretive labour and situated analysis. By mapping ATR practice, research libraries are provided a visual resource that informs complex decision-making around internal resourcing of digitisation tools, model training and parameter setting, against the constantly evolving and uncertain world of AI development.

Mühlberger, G., et al. (2019). Transforming scholarship in the archives through handwriting text recognition, Transkribus as a case study. *Journal of Documentation*. 75(50): 965-967. doi: 10.1108/JD-07-2018-0114/full/html

Drisko, J.W., Maschi, T. (2015). *Content analysis*. London: Oxford University Press.

Gooding, P., et al. 2025. The adoption of handwritten text recognition at the National Library of Scotland. In *Navigating AI for Cultural Heritage Organisations*, edited by Lise Jaillant, Claire Warwick, Paul Gooding, Katherine Aske, Glen Layne-Worthey and J. Stephen Downie. 187 - 207. UCL Press.

Terras, M. 2022. The role of the library when computers can read: Critically adopting handwritten text recognition (HTR) technologies to support research. In *The Rise of AI: Implications and applications of artificial intelligence in academic libraries*, edited by S. Hervieux and A. Wheatley, 137-48. American Library Association.

Terras, M. et al. 2025. The artificial intelligence cooperative: READ-COOP, Transkribus, and the benefits of shared community infrastructure for automated text recognition. *Open Res Europe*, 5:16. doi: 10.12688/openreseurope.18747.1

Kemman, M. 2021. *Trading Zones of Digital History*. De Gruyter.

Kemmis, S. et al. 2014. *The Action Research Planner*. Springer.

Unsworth, S. 2020. *Scholarly Primitives*. Available at: <https://people.brandeis.edu/~unsworth/Kings.5-00/primitives.html>



**Dr Joe Nockels** researches how heritage institutions and libraries are adapting to AI collection processing and its subsequent impact on accessibility, preservation and cultural representation. He currently works as the Research Associate for Digital Representations of Cultural Artefacts at the University of Sheffield, Digital Humanities Institute, leading research into advancing the state-of-the-art in digitally capturing, interpreting and representing physical culture. He completed a PhD from the University of Edinburgh in 2024, supported by the National Library of Scotland (NLS): focusing on Automatic Text Recognition's (ATR) impact on library stakeholders, internal digital workflows and the broader information environment. Joe is involved in numerous projects: researching interpretable benchmarking for ATR processes as the NLS's 2025 Digital Fellow, audience responses to AI synthetic museum exhibits and, while a Kluge Research Fellow at the Library of Congress, undergoing mixed method analyses using text recognition and analysis for digital autobiographical research.

## 15.3

### FROM LOCAL MEMORY TO RESEARCH-READY KNOWLEDGE: COMMUNITY-DRIVEN URBAN HISTORY IN A RESEARCH LIBRARY REPOSITORY

**Author:** Agnes Koreny, Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library, Budapest

Research libraries face the challenge of integrating lived, local, and informal knowledge into their collections while maintaining scholarly standards. This presentation demonstrates how community stories and citizen science methodologies can be embedded into research library infrastructures, highlighting both benefits and challenges without compromising research integrity.

The case study is presented through the Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library of Budapest (FSZEK), which represents a hybrid library model particularly relevant in this context. FSZEK functions simultaneously as Budapest's public municipal library network, a nationwide public library service, and Hungary's national specialist library for sociology. Its long-established special collections - focused on Budapest, music, and sociology - reinforce its character as a research library. At the same time, through its Central Library and a network of 46 branch libraries operating in every district of Budapest, FSZEK reaches a broad and diverse audience, from everyday city residents to academic researchers, university lecturers, and students. This dual role positions the library at the intersection of civic knowledge and scholarly research.

The project builds on Mihály Ráday's urban survey conducted in the early 1980s, which documented buildings, functions, and social life in Budapest's inner districts. Decades later, the initiative continues through a contemporary extension in which residents, students, and volunteers contribute photographs, observations, interviews, and contextual information using a structured citizen science approach. This

process captures urban change while preserving everyday memories that would otherwise risk disappearing.

Community contributions are curated, contextualised, and preserved within the Budapest Electronic Archive (BEA), FSZEK's institutional digital repository based on DSpace. Controlled metadata, editorial review, and ethical guidelines ensure that community-generated materials become discoverable, citable, and reusable research resources, transforming local narratives into structured content suitable for urban studies, heritage research, and social research.

The presentation will showcase:

- how citizen science can be integrated into digital collection development as a core professional activity;
- the workflows that connect community contributors with research-library standards of quality, documentation, and long-term preservation;
- how community stories can enhance—rather than weaken—the analytical value of local history collections;
- the role of institutional repositories in balancing openness, academic freedom, and curatorial responsibility.

Beyond the local case, the project invites reflection on how research libraries—particularly those operating at the boundary between public service and scholarly infrastructure—can actively shape the future of knowledge creation. The session will examine the transferability of this model across diverse research library contexts and discuss its strategic implications for citizen science and digital collection development. By opening this discussion, the presentation aims to contribute to a broader dialogue on how libraries can build resilient, inclusive, and research-ready knowledge infrastructures in times of uncertainty.

# NATIONAL INSIGHTS: NORWAY

FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026 (11:00 - 12:00)

**Location:** R1

**Moderator:** Thomas Kaarsted, University Library of Southern Denmark, Denmark

**Panellists:** Anna Løken, NTNU - Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Norway | Randi Halveg Iversby, University of Oslo, Norway | Johanne Raade, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway | Jannicke Røglar, Trondheim Public Library, Norway

## GLIMPSE INTO THE NORWEGIAN LIBRARY LANDSCAPE

In this session, four library directors will provide an insight into the Norwegian library field. From their respective perspectives in the academic as well as the public library sector, they will talk about networks, collaborative projects and committee work in which they are involved. The purpose of these collaborative projects is to find good joint solutions for the benefit of libraries and library users in Norway. Joint solutions offer both opportunities and challenges and the speakers will reflect on this in their talks.



**Anna Løken**, Library director at NTNU since April 2026. Former Library director at the Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences. Chair of the Universities Norway's (UHR) Library committee (2022–2026). Member of the National Library of Norway's Strategic Council (2020–2025), and member of Sikt's portfolio board for research and knowledge resources. Member of the advisory board for the Norwegian Library of Talking Books and Braille (2017–2025).



**Agnes Koreny** is Director-General of the Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library of Budapest (FSZEK), Hungary's largest public library network and the national specialist library for sociology. She leads a hybrid institution operating at the intersection of public service, research support, and cultural heritage, serving both everyday city residents and academic communities across Budapest.

With more than ten years of professional experience at FSZEK, her work focuses on helping a large library system function well, evolve, and remain closely connected to the city—through clarity, transparency, and a human-centred approach. Leading a network of 47 libraries, she sees leadership as teamwork built on dialogue, attention, and steady, thoughtful progress.

Her professional interests include digital collections, research-ready repositories, citizen science, and the role of libraries as civic knowledge infrastructures. She believes libraries are strongest in simple things: welcoming spaces, practical help, accessible knowledge, and communities people enjoy being part of.



# KEYNOTE SPEAKER

FRIDAY, 3 JULY 2026 (12:00 - 13:00)

## JEMIMAH STEINFELD

**Location:** R1

**Moderator:** David Tréfás, Basel University Library, Switzerland

**Speaker:** Jemimah Steinfeld, CEO, Index on Censorship

## MISSING PAGES:

### THE GLOBAL ASSAULT ON RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Freedom of expression depends on robust academic freedom, which in turn depends on rigorous, world-class research. But across the globe, libraries - including those supporting academic research - are coming under attack. Drawing on Index on Censorship's research into libraries worldwide, this talk outlines some of the ways these attacks manifest: from Cambridge University Press and Springer Nature removing more than 1,000 journal articles containing keywords such as Tiananmen, Tibet and Xinjiang from their platforms in China, to executive orders in the USA that have led to the deletion of thousands of datasets and government websites, covering subjects from climate change to public health. Libraries are also being targeted through cyberattacks, with ransomware incidents crippling leading institutions and rendering their rich archives temporarily inaccessible.

These pressures are unfolding alongside a broader rise in attacks on libraries as public institutions. Book challenges and bans are accelerating in the United States, but this is not a uniquely American story; similar pressures are increasingly visible in the UK, Canada and elsewhere.



**Randi Halveg Iversby**, Library Director at the University of Oslo since 2022. She holds an Executive Master of Management and an BA in Library and Information Science. She has a long career in the university sector and from 2008 held different leadership positions at the University of Oslo Library. Her focus has been organizational development, leading several change processes and developing the library's partnership within the university. Randi has leadership experience in organizations such as Universities Norway – Strategic Unit for Libraries, Norwegian Association of Researchers and is currently chair in the Norwegian Library System Consortia and a member of Sikt Negotiations Council for publishing agreements in Norway.



**Johanne Raade**, Library Director at UiT the Arctic University of Norway since 2015. Member of the National Library of Norway's Strategic Council (2020–2025), Head of the Negotiation council of Norway.



**Jannicke Røglér**, Library Director at Trondheim Public Library since 2020. She holds a master's degree in library and information science and is a graduate of the Senior Librarian Program at Oslo and Akershus University College. Her extensive career history includes significant leadership and advisory roles both in the private and public sector. Ms. Røglér has also held numerous professional and political engagements, notably serving as a Board Member of the Norwegian Library Association (Norsk Bibliotekforening) and as a member in the IFLA section for statistics and analysis.

This talk explores how restrictions on access to information undermine the rich plurality of thought and enquiry that is essential to academic life, and how research libraries are not merely repositories of knowledge - they're frontline institutions protecting intellectual freedom. What should the response be? How can librarians and those working within academia fight back and what can they learn from other librarians who've confronted these challenges? These questions, and the possibilities for collective action, will be addressed to ensure the focus is as much on solutions as it is highlighting the problems.



**Jemimah Steinfeld** is CEO of Index on Censorship, a UK-based NGO that reports on and campaigns for freedom of expression worldwide.



## INVITATION TO THE LIBER 56<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2027 COLCHESTER, UNITED KINGDOM

### The City

Established in AD43, Colchester was Britain's first city and the capital of Roman Britain. The remains of the city wall can still be visited alongside Colchester Castle, the largest Norman keep in Europe. Having been restored to city status in 2022, Colchester is now home to the University of Essex, drawing an international community. Colchester is easily accessible by air, rail and sea. A one-hour train ride will take you into Central London, whilst London Stansted Airport is just 56km away, and daily ferries go between Harwich and the Hook of Holland.

### The Venue

Wivenhoe Park, made famous in John Constable's painting, is the venue for the conference. This award-winning parkland is home to the University of Essex's Colchester campus, and is equipped with exceptional facilities. This includes the 1,000-seater Ivor Crewe Lecture Hall, which will be the central venue. Wivenhoe Park also contains the University's four-star hotel, Wivenhoe House Hotel, as well as over 1,000 accommodation rooms across campus, which are available to be booked by conference delegates.

### The Host

Founded in 1964, the University of Essex is committed to excellence in both education and research and is a founding member of the ResearchPlus mission group. Essex is connected across Europe as a member of both YUFE and YERUN. The University Library sits at the heart of campus and is named after our founding Vice Chancellor, Sir Albert Sloman. The iconic Library is home to over 70 named special collections and archives, and the library team also curate and manage the University's art collections, including the Essex Collection of Art from Latin America.

We look forward to welcoming you to Colchester in 2027!



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# LIBER ANNUAL CONFERENCE FUND

At LIBER's Annual General Assembly in 2005, members decided that a small premium should be added to the Annual Conference registration fee in order to permit grants to be made to assist member libraries in selected European countries to send representatives to attend LIBER Annual Conferences. The LIBER Annual Conference Fund supports participants from specific European countries each year on the basis of need and taking into account the location of the Annual Conference. The countries are agreed by the LIBER Executive Board annually at its October meeting, and decisions on applications to the Fund are made by the Conference Programme Committee.

The countries selected by the Executive Board for 2026 were Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine.

The Conference Programme Committee for the 55th LIBER Annual Conference has decided to make awards from the LIBER Annual Conference Fund to the following applicants:

Anthi (Anthoula) Baliou | University of Macedonia Library, Greece  
Yana Fandikova | Sumy State University Library, Ukraine  
Anna Florensa Farré | Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain  
Nadezda Firsova | National Library of Technology (NTK), Czech Republic  
Agnes Koreny | Metropolitan Ervin Szabó Library, Hungary  
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Sina Mater | Koç University - Suna Kiraç Library, Turkey  
Neža Podjavoršek | University of Maribor Library, Slovenia  
Tsvetanka Slavcheva | Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Bulgaria  
Ana Marić Turkalj | University of Zagreb Library, Croatia

We warmly congratulate Fund recipients and look forward to meeting them at the Annual Conference in Trondheim this summer!



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# LOCAL ORGANISERS & VOLUNTEERS

## ABOUT NTNU UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

NTNU University Library is a public scientific library, it was established in 1996 with the establishment of NTNU. The library has roots back to 1768 and is the oldest scientific library in Norway. NTNU University Library has 13 branch libraries, 11 in Trondheim, one in Gjøvik and one in Ålesund. Additionally, the library has a repository library in Trondheim which is not accessible to the public. The library's mission is to support research and teaching. NTNU University Library has 108 staff, working to serve both the university and the general public.

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# ABOUT NORWAY / TRONDHEIM

In the far north in Europe, on the Scandinavian peninsula, you will find Norway. A country not only known for its Viking heritage, but also for its majestic and varied nature with high mountains and deep fjords, the Northern Lights, Midnight Sun, chocolate, baked goods and seafood. And of course, the concept of “hygge” and “kos” – enjoying a cosy atmosphere, well-being and the simple pleasures in life.

Norway’s epic coastline, which stretches 102,936 km from Sweden in the south to the Russian border in the north, has shaped this country into a large maritime nation. In addition to mainland Norway, Jan Mayen and Svalbard are also part of this Nordic country.

As of 2024, Norway’s population is estimated at approximately 5.6 million. Most of whom (82%) live in and around urban areas and cities such as Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger and Trondheim.

The Sami people are the indigenous population of Norway. Their traditional settlement areas are in the northern parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia, but about half of the population lives in the northern parts of Norway.

Therefore, there are two official languages: Norwegian and Sámi, although several different languages are spoken, written, and signed in Norway. Most Norwegians (90%) also speak English.

Norway’s history is shaped by the sea, mountains, and adventurous people. Famous for its fearless seafarers: the Vikings, who set sail from these coasts, exploring, trading, and leaving their mark across the world.

After spending centuries in unions with Denmark and Sweden, Norway wrote its own constitution in 1814 – making it one of the oldest in the world still in use. Full independence came in 1905, when the nation chose its own king and established a modern monarchy.

Today, Norway is known for its democracy, equality, and reputation as a peace nation trying to promote dialogue, peace diplomacy and conflict resolution. Although it is a modern country with innovative technology, it is still a country where history and nature meet in unforgettable ways.

Norway’s climate is as varied as its landscape. Along the coast, the Gulf Stream keeps winters milder than many visitors expect, and summers can be surprisingly warm and sunny.

Southern Norway is considered a summer paradise, with beautiful beaches, boating and sunshine. North of the Arctic Circle, you can experience the Midnight Sun in summer and long, dark, snowy winters lit by the Northern Lights. Trondheim does not get midnight sun, however the summer evenings are long and light. It usually doesn’t get properly dark. You can however rest assured that Norwegian hotels take this into account and have thick curtains to keep the light out, but bring a sleep mask if you are worried.

No matter the season, Norway’s weather changes quickly – so travelers should be prepared to dress for both sunshine and rain. As we say in Norway, “There is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing.”

Trondheim is located in the heart of Norway, and with its 210,000 inhabitants, it is one of the largest cities in this country far to the north.

Nestled along the scenic Trondheimsfjorden, with its beautiful mountains and fresh air, Trondheim is a vibrant city with its blend of rich history, cutting-edge innovation, green initiatives, and cosy Nordic charm. This former Viking capital offers a unique and authentic Norwegian experience.

Founded in 997, more than 1000 years ago, Trondheim was Norway’s first capital city. But now, instead of Viking raiders and Hanseatic traders, visitors encounter jazz musicians, tech entrepreneurs and an international student body enjoying Trondheim’s city life.



Trondheim's crown jewel is the Nidaros Cathedral, the largest medieval building in Scandinavia. Built over the burial site of Saint Olav, it has been a pilgrimage destination for centuries. Visitors can admire its stunning Gothic architecture, experience the fantastic light in the cathedral, and view Norway's royal regalia.

Just across the river Nidelven lies Bakklandet, the city's charming old town. With cobbled streets, colourful wooden houses, and cosy cafés, it's the perfect place to stroll, sip coffee, and soak in the atmosphere.

Trondheim is a city of music and art. From classical concerts and jazz to heavy metal festivals, the city pulses with creative energy. Two music museums showcase Norway's rich musical heritage, while local galleries and street art add a modern twist.

Foodies will love Trondheim's culinary scene. As part of the European Region of Gastronomy, the city celebrates local flavours—from fresh seafood to ingredients harvested from forests and fields. Here you can get everything from Michelin-starred restaurants offering Nordic cuisine with a twist, small local cafés with their own specialities, and of course, the well-known international restaurant chains.

Even from the city centre, nature is never far away. Trondheim is a paradise for outdoor lovers, with activities year-round—from summer swims to winter skiing. For a more peaceful experience, tranquillity is never far away – enjoy a nearby sauna, a quiet forest trail, the sound of the ocean and the fresh air.

The compact city centre makes it easy to explore on foot, and public transport is efficient and tourist-friendly.





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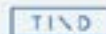


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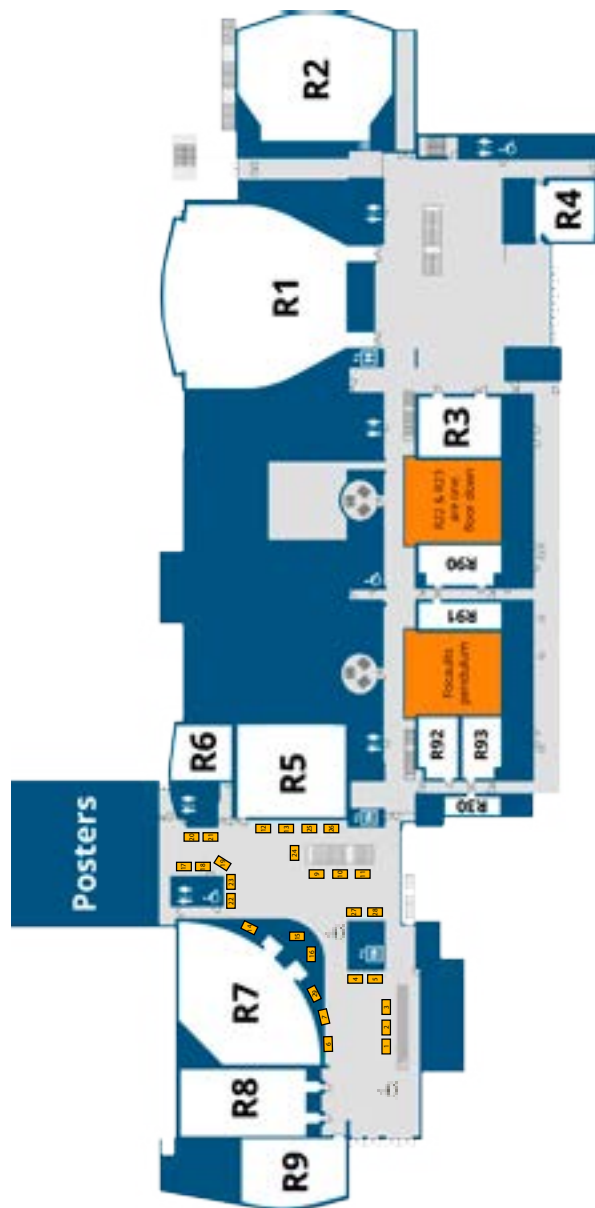
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