

# 2018 in REVIEW



CONNECTING THE  
KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY



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# About UKSG

UKSG is a professional interest group for the information resources community. We work to connect the various sectors and encourage the exchange of ideas on scholarly communication.

Our vision is to use our breadth of knowledge and influence to:

- facilitate community integration, networking, discussion and exchange of ideas
- improve members' knowledge of the scholarly information sector and support skills development
- stimulate research and collaborative initiatives, encourage innovation and promote standards for good practice
- disseminate news, information and publications, and raise awareness of services that support the scholarly information sector.

We have more than 465 organisational and individual members from the global scholarly information community. Our 2018 membership represents a range of countries with most members coming from the UK, USA and western Europe.

## Values

We aim to foster:

- cross-community involvement and parity/equality
- analysis rather than advocacy
- objective facilitation

## Member Benefits

- in-person annual conference with discounted rates for members
- discounted seminar rates for members
- active free webinar programme and free entry to UKSG Forum
- free student workshops and free UKSG membership for students
- fortnightly UKSG *eNews* via email
- opportunities to get involved through committee and subcommittees
- awards and bursaries to help members attend UKSG events
- access to *Insights*, the UKSG journal, made possible through member support.



“ We work to connect the knowledge community and encourage the exchange of ideas on scholarly communication. ”

# Comment from our Chair

## Andrew Barker

2018 has been a year of major changes in UKSG, putting us in a strong position to ensure we evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of our community - a focus we have had since we were founded by John Merriman, 42 years ago.

We have successfully introduced a brand-new website and database which underpins our events programme, and following an organisational restructure which took place during the year, we will be looking at our governance and the work of the committee and trustees.

Facilitating research and innovation is a key theme and activity area for UKSG and we have often been at the start of collaborative research initiatives which have developed solutions to industry-wide issues which promote standards for best practice. On page 5, you can read more about this work and the plans that are underway. Also on page 5 you can read about the work of our newly formed Outreach and Engagement subcommittee who are working hard to make sure we are continuing to meet the needs of all of our constituencies.

I am delighted that Glasgow was such a success last year - over 360 organisations and 25 countries were represented! - and nearly 1/3rd of the delegates were first-timers, including seven expenses-paid sponsored places for early career professionals. Our seminar and webinar programme continue to get excellent feedback, and you can read more about our events on pages 6 and 7.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our members for their ongoing support, to the staff and volunteers who make UKSG what it is, and to all delegates who feedback about our events programme to keep it fresh and relevant.



**Andrew Barker,**  
Chair, UKSG  
Associate Director, Library Services,  
Liverpool John Moores University

“Facilitating research and innovation is a key theme and activity area for UKSG.”

# Groups and Subcommittees

## Research and Innovation Group

UKSG continues to listen to its membership, providing an organisation that meets the challenges of the changing scholarly communication landscape. UKSG has long been involved in developing collaborative research initiatives to ensure that we invest back into the community. In 2018, we returned to these roots, by re-launching our Research and Innovation group.

The group will focus on three key areas:

- innovation competition/award
- white paper series
- sponsored conference place

Information about these key areas and details on how you can engage with our plans are available on the Research and Innovation pages of the UKSG website.

In 2018, we refreshed and relaunched our website, and in 2019 we shall continue to develop it, so watch this space.



## Outreach and Engagement

Last year we also launched our new subcommittee, Outreach and Engagement, the focus of which is to develop the membership of UKSG and promote engagement with our community. This group works to ensure that our offer is relevant to our target groups. Specifically, the new group aims to reach out to the whole of our community, including under-represented sectors such as further education and corporate libraries.

Our '*E-Resources for Further Education*' seminar is one way we support the FE community, and we will review other ways we can engage with the sector.



Find out about our other groups and subcommittees on page 11.

# Headline Events

## Annual Conference

9-11 April

Glasgow

UKSG's 41st annual conference was a great success with delegates' representing 25 countries and over 360 organisations. The event provides a unique opportunity to meet representatives across all sectors of the scholarly information community, fulfilling UKSG's core mission to facilitate networking and the exchange of ideas.

To encourage participation, our conference awards allow students and early career professionals to attend with all expenses paid.

1/3 of delegates in 2018 were first timers.

Ahead of the event we received 80 suggestions on topics and speakers for the programme and 91% of the delegates rated the conference as Excellent or Very Good.

“Keep doing the conference!  
It is the best in Europe.”

360



## One-Day Conference

14 November

London

Nearly 100 delegates joined the eighth annual One-Day Conference on the topic of *'Doing More with Less'*.

Librarians, researchers, publishers and technology providers are all being required to create time and monetary savings and be more productive in order to work with smaller budgets. In this conference we explored how to plan and test new ideas more efficiently, tools and technologies to help surface libraries' content and services, and whether library schools and professional courses are equipping staff with the right skills to thrive in this environment.



# Events and Webinars

## Events

Our seminars range from introductory level to intermediate and advanced events on specific themes for professional development. In October, we ran a new seminar, *'Introduction to Open Access Publication Lifestyles and Compliance'*, and a refreshed seminar on *'Usage Statistics for Decision-Making'*. We also ran 3 events in June and 1 in November. A total of 162 delegates attended plus a wide range of speakers.

## Webinars

You can attend our webinars live or listen to the recordings at your leisure. There were six webinars in 2018, with over 2,100 registrations. Topics included *'Writing for Academic Publication'* and *'An Introduction to Metadata Quality'*.

These webinars allow us to broaden our engagement with members both in the UK and internationally.

The majority of webinar attendees are from the UK, Europe and North America; in addition they continue to attract listeners from elsewhere in the world. We aim to cater for all levels across the sector, running more practical and information-delivering sessions alongside opinion pieces, in order to allow practitioners to keep up with new topics.



2100



### Workshops:

We ran two student workshops in 2018, one in Manchester and one in London.

### Plans for 2019:

In 2019, we plan to review the geographic spread of our seminar programme and refresh our seminars to ensure that we appeal to all sectors of UKSG's membership.

More information about seminars and webinars are available on the UKSG website.

“Webinars continue to attract listeners from all around the world.”

# Publications

## Insights

Our peer-reviewed journal, *Insights*, offers a mix of research articles, case studies, commentary, opinion pieces and reviews, as well as profiles on people in the global knowledge community.

**Editors:** Lorraine Estelle, COUNTER;  
Steve Sharp, Sheffield Hallam University

2018 started with a change to the way that we publish UKSG *Insights*. Traditionally a journal that published three issues a year, in January 2018 it moved to a continuous publication model; this move facilitated the publication of articles in a more timely and market sensitive manner. This move to continuous publication facilitated the publication of articles in a more timely and market sensitive manner. It has also enabled us to market articles at an individual level, shining a brighter light on articles, and to publish specific pieces to tie in with relevant events.

The move to continuous publication has also enabled the *Insights* Editorial Board to think more strategically, with a special issue on Gold open access post-Finch due in 2019, edited by Graham Stone and Frank Manista of Jisc.

Looking ahead, January 2019 will see the *Insights* Editorial Board begin a two-year pilot partnership with Kudos, a cloud-based toolkit to help authors of scholarly content explain and share their publications with the aim of broadening reach and impact. UKSG *Insights* is your journal, and the editorial team are always looking for content that supports UKSG's mission to connect the information community.

To find out more about how you can contribute to *Insights*, visit this page:  
<https://insights.uksg.org/about/submissions>

## UKSG eNews

The UKSG *eNews* member newsletter is published every two weeks and provides up-to-the-minute news of current issues and developments within the global knowledge community, sent to more than 2,100 member contacts.

The issues include an editorial, UKSG news, industry news and company news. We are actively exploring developments to *eNews* in the year ahead.

Editorials are now available on the UKSG website two weeks after publication in *eNews*.

**Editors:** Helle Lauridsen and Leo Appleton

To contribute an editorial for UKSG *eNews* (around 1,000 words), please email [pr@uksg.org](mailto:pr@uksg.org)

To sign up, please visit:  
<https://www.uksg.org/publications/enews>





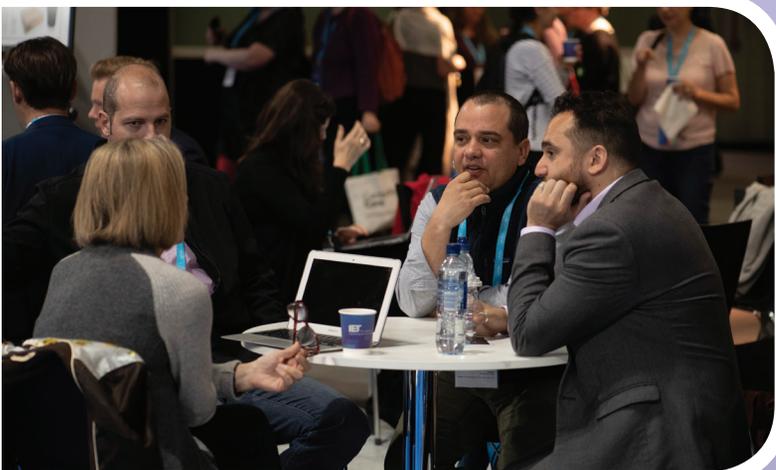
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## Financials and Governance

### Governance

Following a staffing restructure in October 2018, we have plans to refresh the governance structures of UKSG. Specifically, we plan to review the role of the main committee of trustees and the honorary officers. UKSG is a charity, and members of the main committee are trustees. We will work to ensure that we provide our members with a governing body that is relevant to the changing shape of our community. Providing a body of trustees who give support to the leadership within the organisation is key to our future success.

Forty-two years after UKSG began, this organisation is still working, uniquely, across the sector, bringing librarians, publishers, intermediaries and others in our community together. Our charitable status reflects our wider charitable activities, and we are committed to continuing to play a central part in connecting the knowledge community.



### Financials

Dut to mergers and acquisitions membership dipped a little overall in 2018 however we also gained 25 new members.

Our reserves remain healthy and in 2018 we built on the foundations laid in previous years to adapt and innovate to meet the needs of members and the wider community. We successfully introduced a new website with underlying database that will enable us to more efficiently engage with our members. Continued use of the online voting system has seen a sustained increase in member engagement in elections. Maintaining an open access journal demonstrates that UKSG is serious about its core mission of encouraging the exchange of ideas on scholarly communication, and sets an example by its actions.

Our support for *'Think, Check, Submit'* and COUNTER 5 underlines our commitment to globally significant research projects and follows in the line of previously completed and important works.

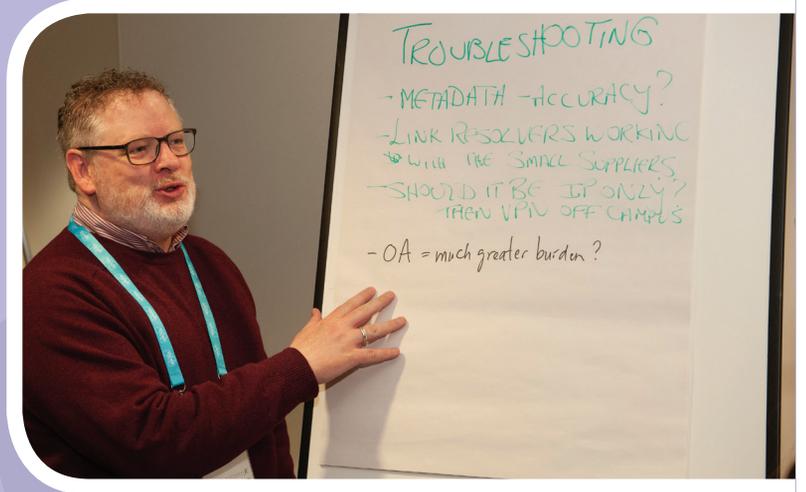
“Our charitable status reflects our wider charitable activities.”





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## Join Us



TROUBLESHOOTING

- METADATA - ACCURACY?
- LINK RESOLVERS WORKING WITH THE SAME SUPPLIERS
- SHOULD IT BE IP ONLY? THEN VPN OFF CAMPUS
- OA = much greater burden?



# How to Get Involved

## Get involved as a Member

Join UKSG to gain full access to all of the benefits and be eligible to take part in our committees and other working parties:

- stand for election on the main committee
- self-nominate to join our subcommittees:
  - Education and Events
  - *Insights* Editorial Board
  - Outreach and Engagement
  - Research and Innovation
- vote at our Annual General Meeting
- make connections and cement relationships with practitioners, researchers and others in the information and scholarly community
- keep up with the latest tools and technologies
- attend our annual conference, UKSG Forum, seminars and webinars to develop your professional knowledge and skills
- grow your confidence, influencing and interpersonal skills through participation in our subcommittees, groups or committee
- read UKSG *eNews* and our journal *Insights* to keep up with news and leading ideas in the knowledge community across the world.

## Join UKSG as an Individual or Organisation

- fees are waived for student members
- fees for individuals and sole trader businesses are £51.50
- fees for libraries and other organisational members ranges from £105 to £232 per annum.

Find out more at <https://www.uksg.org/join>



“Grow your confidence, influencing and interpersonal skills through participation in our subcommittees.”



CONNECTING THE  
KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

## Contact us

UKSG

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info@uksg.org

Charity number: 1093946  
Company number: 4145775

The full text of the annual report can be obtained from <https://www.uksg.org/agm>