



## Scholarly communications, researchers' needs, and innovation

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### **Charlie Rapple and Yann Amouroux, UKSG Committee**

One of the things our members and delegates value most about UKSG is the fact that, as a community, we transcend the boundaries between librarians, publishers, and people who supply services to those groups. The unique viewpoint this gives us has helped to progress a range of initiatives such as COUNTER and KBART, and makes our events a valuable space for open and multi-perspective discussion of the issues affecting us all. A few years ago, with tightening budgets making attendance at our annual conference difficult for librarians in particular, we launched a one-day conference to provide an alternative event that we hoped would help more people benefit from and participate in the UKSG community. The immediate success of this event led us to partner it with a separate forum and exhibition, which take place the following day. These two events are taking place again next month and if the below is of interest to you, we encourage you to book by the end of October - act now to ensure you get a space!

### **The scholarly communications ecosystem: understanding and responding to evolving expectations**

[One-Day Conference, London, 15 November 2016](#)

The One-Day Conference provides a more interactive and intimate opportunity for strategic discussion; themes in recent years have included open access realities and the future of books. Feedback on past events includes comments such as "Excellent value for money, relevant, innovative and enjoyable" and "Great to have policy makers, publishers, librarians and researchers at the same event".

This year we will open with the latest research (CIBER's Harbingers study - what do early career researchers' publishing choices presage in terms of future changes to publishing or peer review) and go on to feature publishers, librarians, suppliers and start-ups explaining how they are developing their content and services to keep pace with scholars' needs: Steven Inchcoombe from SpringerNature will talk about 'turning the tanker' (how do you take a large, established publishing company and ensure it responds with relative agility to new needs), Sarah Thompson (University of York) and Angela Davies (University of Sheffield) will talk about innovation and collaboration by libraries (evidenced by the White Rose Consortium), and speakers from EBSCO and Cengage (as established suppliers to our community) and Iris.AI, Kolabtree and Penelope (as the latest start-ups targeting academics) will show how they too are responding to new needs.

We'll have several researcher voices too: Professor Jane Winters from the University of London will explore the role that publications have, in relation to other reputational factors, for researchers, and at the end of the day a panel of researchers will summarise their expectations of the scholarly communications ecosystem, and comment on whether the evolutions described by our publishers, libraries and suppliers / start-ups are enough!

Places are going fast so please do [book](#) soon.

## **The innovation game: breaking the rules**

[Forum and Exhibition, London, 16 November 2016](#)

The UKSG Forum started as a networking opportunity for everyone from the information community to get together and review the latest opportunities and challenges we all faced. Immediately the success of this new format was evident, and this was proved with the venue used in the first year actually proving too small! Now in its fourth year, and with a meeting that keeps on improving, we are attracting over 400 delegates from libraries, publishers and suppliers, as well as publishing / library students. The objective is still very much for the UKSG Forum to be first and foremost a networking event, with a fast pace of scintillating lightning talks covering all aspects of our ever changing and fascinating community.

Attendance is free for UKSG members and a modest £75 + VAT for non-members. With around 25 speakers covering topics including library engagement, technology and systems, and data, and an exhibition of over 40 tables, this promises to be another excellent and worthwhile event. Places are limited and also going fast, so again, don't delay in [registering](#) for yours!



This UKSG Editorial is taken from the industry newsletter *UKSG eNews*, published every two weeks exclusively for UKSG members. The newsletter provides up-to-the-minute news of current issues and developments within the global knowledge community.

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