



CONNECTING THE  
KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITY

# 2017

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*in* **REVIEW**



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# About UKSG

UKSG is a professional interest group for the knowledge community, working to bring together all parties that support scholarly communication.

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

- an efficient information chain
- a better information experience for scholars
- a world where all members of the scholarly and professional information supply chain understand each other

We have more than 470 organisational and individual members who come from the global scholarly information community. Our 2017 membership represents nearly 30 countries with most members coming from the UK, USA and western Europe.

## Values

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

“We continue to support practical examples of innovation, best practice and standards in our community”



To support these we encourage practical examples of innovation, best practice and standards in our community:

- supporting academics and scholarly communications through the Think.Check.Submit. campaign which provides guidance to scholars on submitting articles to trusted journals
- funding for the now completed Release 5 of the COUNTER Code of Practice. This will help users of the Code of Practice to navigate the Code to support effective implementation by publishers and ease of use by librarians

as well as:

- providing free events for members
- serving our international audience – webinars continue to be popular and serve our international audience well, with over 2,100 registrations from more than 17 countries during 2017. On average, 94% of those surveyed would recommend the webinar to a colleague
- helping members to gain the confidence and insight to put themselves forward for committee positions and other rewarding volunteering opportunities, including writing for *Insights* and *UKSG eNews*



# Comment from our Chair

## Ross MacIntyre

UKSG remains focused on enabling all constituents to reap the rewards of UKSG membership. Membership had been suffering a slight year-on-year decline for some time, owing to ongoing acquisitions and mergers in the publishing industry and ever-tighter budgets in the education sector, so it was cheering to end 2017 with 477 members, an increase of 23 on 2016. This figure included 40 new members (29 UK, 11 overseas), notable amongst which were 10 FE institutions which takes the total of FE members to 13.

UKSG continued to offer a wide range of benefits to its members in 2017, for example:

- UKSG eNews – a fortnightly round-up of our own news, plus that of our members and others in the sector, with guest editorials – sent to over 2,100 member contacts
- free attendance at the annual UKSG Forum
- discounted rates for UKSG seminars and events – including the annual conference
- free student workshops
- a free training event – *UKSG Make Yourself Heard!* – for potential speakers at UKSG events
- a free event tailored to Further Education professionals which was especially successful in 2017
- awards and bursaries to support attendance at various UKSG events

Income received from membership fees and events is used by UKSG in its not-for-profit capacity for the benefit of the wider knowledge community and future generations of professionals working in scholarly



communications. Still proving popular and well attended, the programme of webinars has continued to be run free of charge for everyone in the community.

## New Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee



The new Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee, chaired by Yann Amouroux, is set to address the need for UKSG to increase its connections with its own community. Comprised of members from across our membership organisations, it will hold its inaugural meeting in early 2018.



# Headline Events

## Annual Conference

10-12 April

Harrogate

The annual conference in Harrogate, at which we celebrated UKSG's 40th anniversary, was a great success, bringing together delegates and speakers from across the scholarly community. In response to a call for papers, more than 80 suggestions for topics and speakers for the programme were received. Delegate numbers were strong at 944, representing 25 countries and over 350 organisations.

Following the success of the new format introduced in 2016, we continued with the reduced plenary session/ increased breakouts ratio on the programme.

**95% of delegates rated the conference as Excellent or Very Good.**

In addition, we offered six free places for students, early career professionals and those that are newly qualified but still seeking work in the scholarly information community. The sponsored awards covered the cost of attendance at the conference, including all meals, entertainment and accommodation.

## One-Day Conference

15 November

London

Over 70 delegates joined the seventh annual One-Day Conference on the topic of *'Shrinking horizons: scholarly communication in an anti-globalisation environment'*. Delegates enjoyed a stimulating programme of talks on the impact of government policy, politics and the funding environment on the vitality of the scholarly communication ecosystem, with speakers from libraries, publishers, research funders and the HE sector.



# Headline Events

Forum

16 November

London

Now in its fifth year, the UKSG Forum is the essential London-based, pre-Christmas event in the scholarly communications calendar. This year's event was all about *Collaboration and adapting to change*. Supporting UKSG's mission 'to connect the knowledge community and encourage the exchange of ideas on scholarly communication', the UKSG Forum offers short sessions on best practice and interesting projects. This highly anticipated meeting was free for UKSG members to attend, attracting over 300 delegates and offering a comprehensive exhibition, together with ample networking opportunities.

The UKSG Forum is, in three words, **informal**, **interactive** and **informative**.

The recordings from the One-Day Conference sessions and some Forum sessions are available at:

<https://www.uksg.org/event/conference17>

Courtesy of IET.tv – The Institution of Engineering and Technology's video production service.



300



# Events and Webinars

## Seminars

UKSG Introduction to E-Resources Today  
 UKSG Understanding Resource Discovery and Delivery  
 UKSG Negotiation Skills for Librarians  
 UKSG Licensing Skills for Librarians  
 UKSG E-Resources for Further Education  
 UKSG Marketing Online Resources for Librarians

In 2017 nearly 200 delegates from eight different countries attended our seminar programme. Our events schedule is constantly being reviewed, so if you have a suggestion for a seminar that you would like to attend or lead, please get in touch!

### Encouraging FE participation

Budgeting for staff development continues to be challenging in the Further Education community. With that in mind, UKSG made day-delegate bursary places for the annual conference available to three library staff in the sector. We also held a popular free event specifically for librarians in this sector in November: *UKSG E-Resources for Further Education*.



**Anna Grigson,**  
 Head of Content and Discovery, LSE  
 and Chair, Education and Events Subcommittee,  
 UKSG



# Events and Webinars

## Webinars

January 2017 - *Optimizing the discovery experience through dialogue – a community approach* presented by Lettie Conrad, Consultant; Kathleen Donovan, Harvard University; Bruce Heterick, ITHAKA/JSTOR; Rachel Kessler, ProQuest; and Alexa Pearce, University of Michigan.

**Registrations: 481**

99% of survey respondents would recommend this webinar.

February 2017 - *eBooks Now: an introduction to managing eBooks and considerations for accessibility* presented by Vicki McGarvey, Staffordshire University; Erica Lee, Aston University; and Ben Watson, University of Kent.

**Registrations: 524**

100% of survey respondents would recommend this webinar.

March 2017 - *The Law on TDM in Europe: an introduction* presented by Giulia Dore, University of Glasgow and Nancy Pontika, CORE.

**Registrations: 265**

91% of survey respondents would recommend this webinar.

May 2017 - *Digital resources and library services: meeting the challenge of engagement* presented by Lis Parcell, Jisc and Elizabeth Newbold, Activate Learning.

**Registrations: 412**

89% of survey respondents would recommend this webinar.

July 2017 - *COUNTER Release 5 Code of Practice* presented by Lorraine Estelle, COUNTER.

**Registrations: 263**

98% of survey respondents would recommend this webinar.

September 2017 - *Blockchain in research and education* presented by Martin Hamilton, Jisc.

**Registrations: 235**

90% of survey respondents would recommend this webinar.

November 2017 - *Authentication technology update: RA21 and OpenAthens* presented by Josh Howlett, Jisc; Phil Leahy, Eduserv; and Tasha Mellins-Cohen, Microbiology Society.

**Registrations: 403**

94% of survey respondents would recommend this webinar.

## Student Workshops

Workshops for this academic year have taken place at:

- University College London
- Manchester Metropolitan University
- University of Sheffield



# Publications

## Insights



**Andrew Barker,**  
Associate Director,  
Library Services,  
Liverpool John Moores  
University and Chair,  
*Insights* Editorial Board

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

**Editors:** Lorraine Estelle and Steve Sharp

One article from 2017, written by Rick Anderson from the University of Utah on the subject of fake news, is already in the all-time most popular *Insights* articles, with over 2,100 views since publication in July 2017.

In 2017 it was decided that we would move *Insights* from an issue-based publication process to one of continuous publication. This has the following advantages:

- ability to publish articles in a much more timely and market sensitive manner, and promote the articles at an individual level
- spread the workload of editing, proofreading and producing the journal throughout the year, removing the peaks and troughs surrounding our current three-issue format
- an improved ability to forecast and manage expenditure through the year

## UKSG eNews

Our e-newsletter is published every two weeks and sent exclusively to UKSG member contacts – over 2,100 individuals. The issues include an editorial, UKSG news, industry news and company news. We also include product and library news, as well as the latest on journals, resources and people.

The editorial elements of *UKSG eNews* are now archived in full text on the UKSG website, as part of plans to make it more visible to the wider community of site visitors.

**Editors:** Helle Lauridsen and Leo Appleton

## Contribute

To write a short editorial for *UKSG eNews* (500-1,000 words), please email:

[helle.lauridsen@gmail.com](mailto:helle.lauridsen@gmail.com) / [l.appleton@gold.ac.uk](mailto:l.appleton@gold.ac.uk)

To write a longer article for *Insights*, visit this page to find out more:

<https://insights.uksg.org/about/submissions/>

### Take part - register as a peer reviewer

We welcome volunteers to undertake peer reviews of scholarly articles in your area of expertise or research interest – visit this page to find out more:

<https://insights.uksg.org/author/register/reviewer>



# How to Get Involved



**Lorraine Estelle,**  
COUNTER Project Director

## **How did you get involved in the running of UKSG?**

My first attendance at a UKSG conference was a complete revelation. In a few days I learned so much about the issues of the day and met so many knowledgeable and helpful people, many of whom have become friends. When Steve Sharp and I became editors of *Insights: the UKSG journal*, we saw it as an opportunity to both contribute to UKSG and to learn even more. In 2017, I stood for the main committee and was delighted to be elected. I am very much enjoying my involvement in the committee, working with a group of fantastic people and supporting the organisation which has provided me with so many benefits.

## **How do you benefit from your involvement in UKSG?**

There has not been a conference or issue of *Insights* which has not contributed to my knowledge and understanding of the information environment. In my previous role, I was always keen that as many team members as possible attended the Annual Conference and Exhibition and the One-Day Conference and Forum. These events are an incredibly economic and effective way of providing professional career development. The other benefits are meeting and getting to know other information professionals, not

only those based in the UK but also from many other countries. Last, but not least, I have great fun! UKSG is not just about learning and development, it also provides a great social network. There have been some great conference dinners and quiz nights which will always stand out in my memory.



**Vibeke Christensen,**  
Det Kgl. Bibliotek/Royal  
Danish Library

## **How did you get involved in the running of UKSG?**

My interest in UKSG was sparked by the annual conference which I am sure has been an eye opener for many of my colleagues over the years. The diversity and inspiration of the webinars is another asset of the UKSG and when I was offered a chance to work behind the scenes of these events rather than just enjoy them, I was thrilled.

## **How do you benefit from your involvement in UKSG?**

Being a librarian from another part of Europe makes the learning curve quite steep but I am getting there. The committee is a very diverse group of people with all sorts of backgrounds and skills, which makes it a very inspiring forum. I get the chance to look into projects and initiatives that I would not know about otherwise and bring something back to the Scandinavian community.



# Financials

UKSG is in a strong financial position, thanks to careful planning, management and prudence.

Members remain loyal, events continue to be popular with delegates and exhibitors and the benefits of membership are significant in terms of discounted or free attendance at events and the bimonthly *UKSG eNews*.

UKSG's remit is to encourage debate and increase knowledge around scholarly publishing and with this in mind we are able to offer benefits to the wider community too:

- free-to-attend webinars with recordings also available post event <https://www.uksg.org/webinars>
- moving *Insights* to a 'continuous publication' <https://insights.uksg.org/>
- contributing financially to the technical writing of COUNTER Release 5 Code of Practice and to the work of Think.Check.Submit.



“Members remain loyal, events continue to be popular with delegates and exhibitors.”



## Join Us

### Education

Help design seminars and events that meet the needs of our diverse community – or lead a seminar or webinar yourself!

### Outreach and Engagement

Ensure that UKSG continues to meet the needs of its members and help craft the messaging that we use to keep them engaged and informed.

### Insights

Our flagship open access journal – free of charge and available to everyone. Volunteer as a peer reviewer, submit an article, or join the *Insights* Editorial Board.



## Contact us

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Charity number: 1093946  
Company number: 4145775

The full text of the annual report can be obtained from [www.uksg.org/agm](http://www.uksg.org/agm)

