Open Library of Humanities

OLH Annual Report 2025–2026





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It's easy to feel overwhelmed by events at the moment, both global and local. Universities across the UK, US, Europe, and Australasia are facing significant political and economic challenges. When funding cuts are implemented, they disproportionately impact the humanities.

Despite this difficult financial context, OLH's total income grew 13.6% to £897,815 in 2025–26. This demonstrates the confidence that libraries, consortia, and funding agencies have in OLH's non-profit mission. With increased income, we were able to accept five new journals to join our portfolio this year (p. 8). This included 'flips' to diamond open access from journals leaving Taylor & Francis and Springer Nature.

As I wrote in *Research Professional News* in November 2025 (p. 10), the buckling of commercial models alongside the maturing of community-led efforts promises major shifts in scholarly publishing. OLH's Robin Hood poster campaign (p. 13) focussed on this mission, asking libraries to divest from commercial academic publishing and join OLH in the fight to make knowledge free.

We launched *Semantics of Natural Languages* with the editorial board of *Natural Language Semantics* — a leading Springer Nature linguistics journal. This followed the publisher's threat to close the journal if editors refused to increase the number of articles they accepted for publication. We also welcomed our first legal studies title, the *Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal*, the scholarly society journal *Medieval Sermon Studies*, our first museum studies journal, *Science Museum Group Journal* (*SMGJ*), and accepted the *Nordic Journal of African Studies* (*NJAS*), which publishes articles in English, French, and Swahili.

OLH published 816 articles across 37 active journals this year. We have increased editorial outreach to authors and editors to support their day-to-day operations whilst working to improve the sustainability of their journals (p. 13). Our flagship *Open Library of Humanities Journal* (*OLHJ*) published across a record 21 Special Collections of articles on a fascinating variety of topics, including: Victorian infrastructures, mountaineering, humour studies, gaming, the medieval Latin Church, cultural heritage data, and electronic literature.

OLH's tech team hosted the second Janeway Symposium at Dublin City University in May 2026, co-organised with Michigan Publishing Services from the University of Michigan (p. 20). This well-attended event brought together library professionals, software engineers, scholars, and academic publishers. Discussions focussed on Janeway's scholarly communities and how the platform can embed user experience into its development. Technical work on Janeway's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) compliance continued, and the platform's accessibility audit data is now publicly available (p. 18). This ensures that OLH's accessibility work is truly open.

Meanwhile, our annual community awards have extended OLH's impact globally. The 2026 OLH Awards will fund projects to: improve metadata quality in Francophone African humanities journals; translate a Buddhist multimedia archive; increase access to the Ibero-American Presidential Archives; and empower scholars in North India to adopt OA publishing (p. 14). Since 2020, OLH has funded 17 projects supporting open access in 40 countries through this awards scheme (p. 15).

This year, our OLH team expanded and upskilled. We were delighted to secure two well-deserved promotions for our staff (p. 23). Dr Rose Harris-Birtill became Director of Publishing Strategy, and Siobhan Haimé became Systems and Discovery Manager. Following the successful recruitment of two PhD interns, Serafina Lee and Changxin Ke (p. 24), our team has grown to 13 members of staff.

I hope you enjoy reading about our many successes in 2025-26.

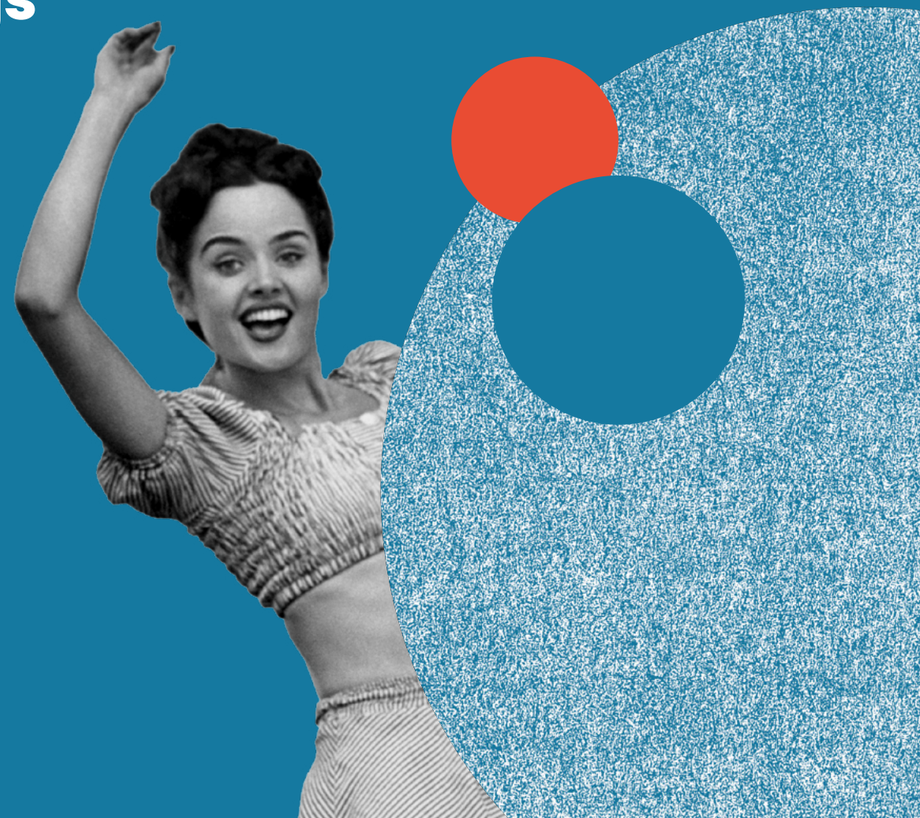


Professor Caroline Edwards

Executive Director, Open Library of Humanities

“For those feeling hopeless about the future of the world, please take heed and take heart from the extraordinary work of the Open Library of Humanities. This is genuinely a situation in which a small group of people has proposed a different way of doing things [...] This is how we build another university and another world.”

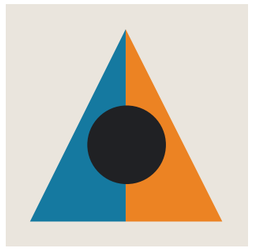
Dr Ben Spatz
Assistant Professor in Creative Practice, University of Birmingham and Editor of the *Journal of Embodied Research*



02.
Our year in numbers.



02. Our year in numbers.



41

Number of **journals published by OLH.**



62

Number of **university presses and scholarly associations** using the OLH's Janeway platform.



816

Number of **articles published by OLH journals** in 2025-26.



1,912

Number of **support tickets** the OLH team have handled in 2025-26.



443

Number of **journal articles published in OLH's flagship *OLHJ*** since 2015.



13

Number of staff working at OLH in 2026 (including funded internships).



529

Number of **Janeway development issues closed** or completed in 2025-26.



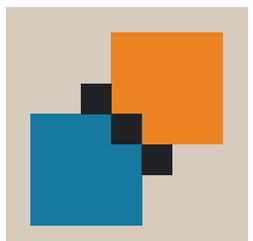
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Number of **journals joining OLH** in 2025-26.



17

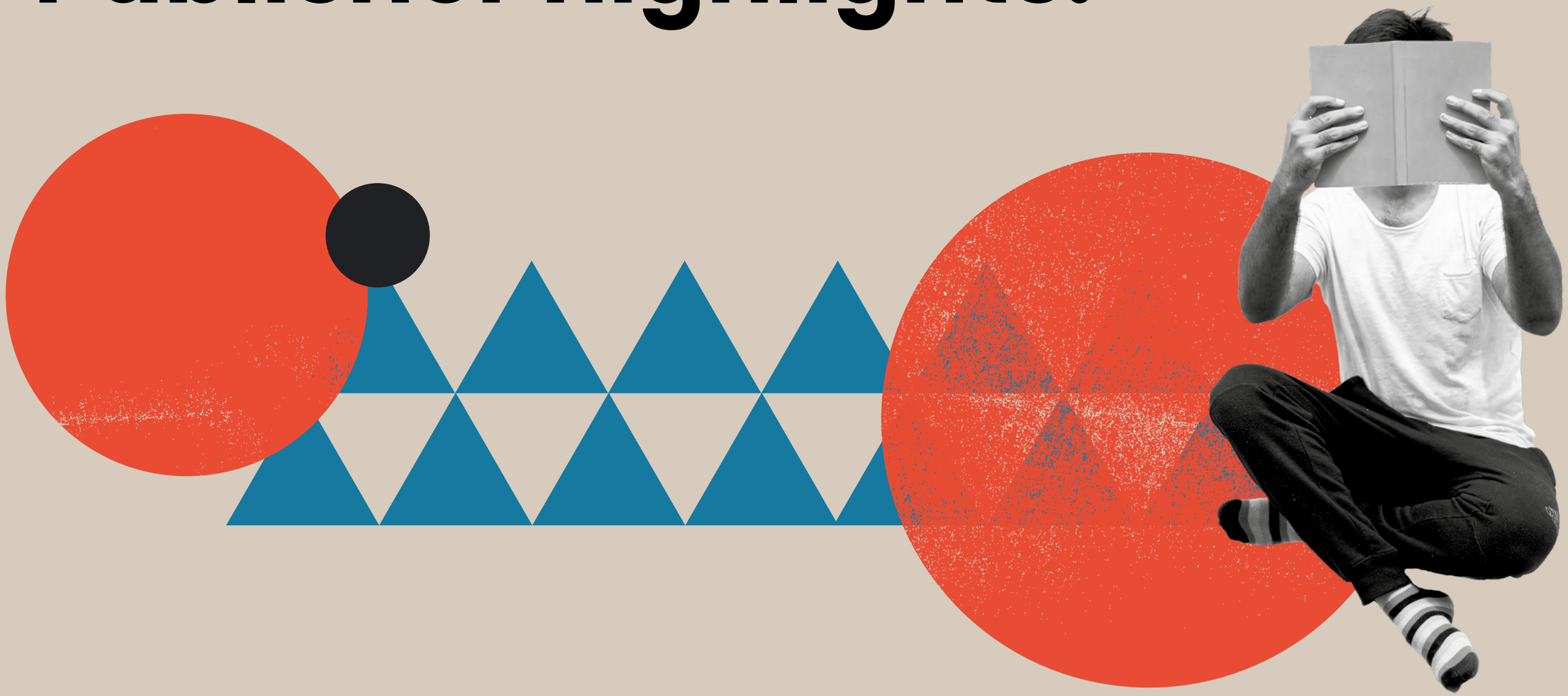
Number of **global projects in open access funded by the OLH** since 2020.



65

Number of **Janeway installations run by the OLH tech team.**

03.
Publisher highlights.



03. Publisher highlights.

We've worked hard to expand OLH's journal portfolio in line with growth in our library membership income. Library funding in 2025–26 enabled us to accept five journals to join the OLH.

Accepted journals include:

- *Semantics of Natural Languages* (Springer Nature flip)
- *Medieval Sermon Studies* (Taylor & Francis flip)
- *Nordic Journal of African Studies* (open access journal, at risk of closing without OLH funding)
- *Science Museum Group Journal* (open access journal, at risk of closing without OLH funding)
- *Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal* (Taylor & Francis flip)

Three of these journals flipped from commercial publishers (Taylor & Francis and Springer Nature); the other two journals were at risk of imminent closure without OLH funds.

With the ongoing crisis in higher education funding, OLH is seeing a steep rise in applications from at-risk open access journals that have had their funding cancelled from university departments and research councils. We're delighted to be able to prevent this from happening to the *Nordic Journal of African Studies* and the *Science Museum Group Journal*.

In December 2025, we were able to announce the launch of *Philosophical Logic* (included as an embargoed journal in last year's annual report). This flagship philosophy journal was launched by the editorial team of the *Journal of Philosophical Logic* published by Springer Nature, who resigned in response to Springer Nature's commercialisation of the publishing process.

The editors of *Philosophical Logic* were inspired by similar editorial resignations from two Wiley flagship titles that led to OLH launching *Political Philosophy* and *Free & Equal* in 2024. As the Editors-in-Chief, Professor Thomas Icard (Stanford University), Professor Wesley H. Holliday (University of California, Berkeley), and Professor Francesca Poggiolesi (IHPST, CNRS, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne) commented: "Science and culture should be public goods, open and accessible to everyone, without financial or institutional barriers."

"Science and culture should be public goods, open and accessible to everyone, without financial or institutional barriers."

The Editors-in-Chief, *Philosophical Logic*

Journal of five national UK museums joins the OLH.



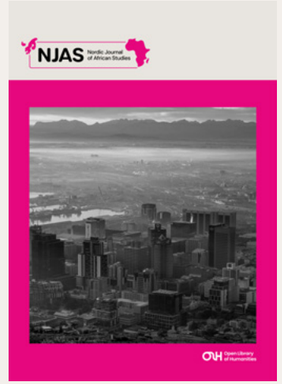
In July 2026, we were delighted to announce that the *Science Museum Group Journal* (*SMGJ*) will join OLH in Autumn 2026. SMGJ is the official journal of the five national UK museums in the **Science Museum Group** — the Science Museum in London, the National Railway Museum in York, Locomotion in Shildon, the National Science and Media Museum in Bradford, and the Science and Industry Museum in Manchester.

SMGJ fosters innovative and creative approaches to science and its history, material culture, communication, display, and presentation in museums. Publishing biannually, the journal has a wide readership of academics and museum professionals, and covers curatorial practice, science communication, archival work.

With its transdisciplinary film and sound research, *SMGJ* joins other multimedia journals at OLH including *[in]Transition: Journal of Videographic Film & Moving Image Studies*, *Journal of Embodied Research*, and *Open Screens*, the official journal of the British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies.

Read the press release.

OLH support saves African Studies journal from closure.



The *Nordic Journal of African Studies* (*NJAS*) is an interdisciplinary African Studies journal founded in 1992 by Professor Arvi Hurskainen of the University of Helsinki. *NJAS* publishes original empirical and theoretical research in the social sciences, cultural and historical studies, language studies, and literary studies.

The journal values and promotes Africa-based scholarship, publishing in English, French, and Swahili. 75% of published linguistics articles have at least one author based in Africa, while 67% are led by authors affiliated with African universities. As the leading African Studies journal in the Nordic countries, it has long played an important role in building and maintaining scholarly ties between the Nordic region, Europe, America, and Africa.

NJAS is the official journal of the **Nordic Africa Research Network** and has also been affiliated with the **Forum for Africa Studies** at Uppsala University. It was initially funded by the Nordic Committee for the Publication of Periodicals in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NOP-HS) and has long operated under a diamond open access model.

Read the press release.

Medieval Studies journal leaves Taylor & Francis to join OLH.

Another Taylor & Francis journal successfully applied to join OLH this year — *Medieval Sermon Studies*. First published in 1977 as the *Medieval Sermon Studies Newsletter*, it became a fully-fledged scholarly journal in 1988 and has been known as *Medieval Sermon Studies* since 1991.

The journal is the recognised flagship of a strong and close-knit scholarly community, the **International Medieval Sermon Studies Society**. It publishes articles in English, French, Italian, German, and Spanish, reflecting the diverse geographical spectrum of its authors and editorial board.

Dr Shari Boodts, editor of *Medieval Sermon Studies* commented:

"With this transition to diamond open access, made possible by the OLH's ambitious and future-oriented model, *Medieval Sermon Studies* hopes to inspire other editorial boards to take the leap and serve the changing needs of their communities."

The journal is now open for article submissions ahead of its launch at the OLH in January 2027. **Visit the journal's new webpage.**

"Jumping ship with a long-established publisher": Editors walk away from Springer Nature journal.



In June 2026, the editorial board of *Natural Language Semantics* walked away from Springer Nature. This followed the publisher's ultimatum to significantly increase the number of published articles.

Fed up with the commercial publisher's "complete disconnect" with the journal and its research field, the editors resigned to launch *Semantics of Natural Languages* at the OLH as the intellectual heir to *Natural Language Semantics*. The journal is dedicated to the study of meaning in natural languages, with a particular focus on the relation between meaning and linguistic structure. While the journal is firmly grounded in semantics, it welcomes contributions in related fields such as logic, philosophy of language, psycholinguistics, and cognition.

The editors were inspired by other OLH journals that have moved their research communities away from commercial publishing – in particular, the influential linguistics journal *Glossa* (formed by the editors of Elsevier's journal *Lingua* in 2015), and *Philosophical Logic* (formed by the editors of Springer Nature's *Journal of Philosophical Logic* in 2025).

As Professor Florian Schwarz (University of Pennsylvania) noted in an interview with OLH's Editorial Officer Dr Maddie Sinclair, "*Glossa* really provided the template for jumping ship with a long-established publisher and carrying forward its tradition in a new open access model."

Read the full interview.

"Academic journals should serve academics, not for-profit publishers, and we consider the diamond open access model the future of academic publishing."

Professor Amy Rose Deal (University of California, Berkeley), **Professor Florian Schwarz** (University of Pennsylvania), and **Professor Clemens Mayr** (University of Göttingen), Editors of *Semantics of Natural Languages*



"In joining the OLH we feel like we have won a much-coveted prize."

Dr Shari Boodts (Radboud University, The Netherlands), Editor of *Medieval Sermon Studies*

Free to Publish, Free to Read.

This year, we commissioned a customised OLH rubber stamp to help spread the word that all our journals are free to publish in, and free to read. The idea was to make visible across our journals that OLH is a diamond open access publisher, something that is important for diamond open access indexers like the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). The stamp features our OLH logo, two diamond icons, and the words 'free to publish, free to read'.

Working with designer Nicky Borowiec, we experimented with a variety of textured paper and tested different coloured inks. The resulting monochromatic digital badge has an undeniably material quality recalling traditional wood block printing. Better still, we now have our own stamp to take to events and conferences!





Oxford Law Journal flips from Taylor & Francis to the OLH.



In June 2026 the OLH accepted an application from the *Oxford University Commonwealth Law Journal* (*OUCLJ*), which will leave Taylor and Francis to flip to diamond open access at OLH. Launched in 2001, the *OUCLJ* is the flagship journal of Oxford University's postgraduate law community, publishing original peer-reviewed research articles as well as book reviews, case comments and judges' speeches.

Professor John Armour, Dean of the Oxford University Faculty of Law, said of the move:

"The OLH is an innovative publisher run by academics for academics and has a sector-leading model for ensuring open access for all, to the benefit of readers and authors. We look forward to a fruitful partnership."

OUCLJ General Editors Amy Hemsworth and Zoya Yasmine said: "We are thrilled to be the first law journal published by OLH. The *OUCLJ* has worked for 25 years promoting the exchange of legal scholarship throughout the Commonwealth, and to make all of this research freely available to readers across the world is really valuable for the academic community."

The *OUCLJ* is currently in the process of migrating to the Janeway platform and will publish its first issue with OLH in Spring 2027. A new journal website with submissions portal will be announced shortly.

Chaos is coming!

As part of her international advocacy to support diamond open access, our Executive Director Professor Caroline Edwards spoke at numerous events in 2025-26 about divesting library funds away from commercial publishers. This led to Caroline writing an article for *Research Professional News* titled **'Chaos is coming for scholarly publishing'** published in November 2025.

Caroline considered the seismic shifts currently taking place in scholarly publishing within the context of UK higher education. As the sector enters a protracted financial crisis, budget cuts have forced UK university librarians to make difficult choices. Unaffordable commercial journals packages are being scrutinised, with libraries walking away from subscriptions and licensing agreements with the Big Five commercial publishers (Elsevier, Springer Nature, Wiley, Taylor & Francis, and Sage).

Diamond open access, which the OLH has championed since 2015, offers libraries an affordable alternative to these exploitative business models. Caroline highlighted the launch of the **Open Journals Collective** as an alternative to these exploitative commercial packages. "A chaotic transition is coming as universities shift away from commercial models to cheaper, more sustainable, non-profit alternatives," she argues. "By investing in OJC-supported journals," she wrote, "libraries get more control over how their funding is spent and can collectively design an exit ramp from commercial big deals."

04.
Editorial highlights.



04. Editorial highlights.



It has been a busy year in editorial! We were delighted to see our environmental humanities journal *Regeneration* win a Council of Editors of Learned Journals Award for Best New Journal. We also celebrated Ten Years of *Glossa*: A Decade of Diamond Open Access in Linguistics, while *The Comics Grid* editor Dr Ernesto Priego also won an SST Deans Award for Research Excellence. A very warm congratulations to all involved from the OLH.

At the end of last year the OLH reached a significant milestone in its history. September 2025 saw OLH celebrate its 10th birthday, an amazing achievement for a small humanities publisher that has grown from a small handful of titles to a portfolio of some 41 journals. It has been a privilege to help OLH grow from a shrewd start-up to a global force to be reckoned with in scholarly publishing, and to see our editorial team go from strength to strength; read more in **'Editorial Freedom in Academic Publishing: On the First Decade of the Open Library of Humanities'**.

The team's achievements this year are too numerous to mention, so I will highlight just a few items here. Policy lead Dr Simon Everett's foundational work on **our new generative AI publisher policy** was rightly featured in the Library Publishing Coalition's *AI Editorial Policy Guide* as an example of best practice in the field, whilst our excellent new members of the team, Naomi Morris and Dr Maddie Sinclair, have been working hard to grow our editorial outreach and increase support across our growing portfolio.

It has also been a bumper year at our flagship title *Open Library of Humanities Journal* (*OLHJ*), where the increase in staffing has enabled us to make significant improvements in publication times and steadily grow our output. We have also just awarded a record six OLH Open Access Awards across five continents after receiving our largest ever pool of applications, and I look forward to following the progress on the awardees' open access projects over the year to come.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you to our stellar editorial team members, Simon, Naomi and Maddie, to our Doctoral Training Partnership outgoing intern Emily, and to our incoming interns Serafina and Changxin, for all their amazing efforts. Thank you also to Caroline, Andy and the entire OLH team for being such an awesome crew to work with!

Dr Rose Harris-Birtill
Director of Publishing Strategy

OLH releases its generative AI publisher policy.

This year, vital work has continued on developing and extending our publisher and journal policies to underpin our editorial best practices. January 2026 saw the release of OLH's new **Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy** as the culmination of more than a year of diligent research from our policy lead Dr Simon Everett, including an extensive consultation and drafting process with our editors to ensure a flexible and appropriate response to the rise of generative AI use in scholarly publishing.

The key areas that OLH's generative AI policy focusses on are:

- Outlining acceptable uses of generative AI in scholarly publishing and unacceptable uses that could be considered malpractice.
- The declaration of substantial and known uses of generative AI for a research purpose or as a part of research methods.
- Requiring transparency in the form of a declaration statement when the use of generative AI is substantial and specific rather than minor and assistive.
- The flexibility to adapt to changes in the generative AI landscape, along with extensibility that allows for our journals to iterate on our base AI policy for specific journal requirements.

To give valuable insight into how this area of policy was put together, Simon wrote a blogpost on **the making of OLH's AI Policy**.

The impact of OLH's AI policy.

The reach and impact of our generative AI policy has been extensive, and it has been well-received by many. This has cemented OLH as a model publisher of generative AI policy best practice internationally.

The Library Publishing Coalition (LPC) featured OLH's AI policy in their ***AI Editorial Policy Guide*** (pp.6–7) as 'an example of a thorough and thoughtfully developed policy'.

Simon was invited to speak at the Open Institutional Publishing Association's (OIPA) Symposium 2026 on the making and implementation of OLH's AI policy as part of a lightning talks panel, placing the OLH as a leading humanities publisher in the development of AI policy.

As a result of the policy's implementation, authors submitting to OLH journals are required to read OLH's AI Policy and declare uses of generative AI in their work in accordance with the policy's guidance. Our publishing platform, Janeway, has been able to accommodate this with the flexibility to add a custom submissions field for an AI declaration statement. Authors have been using this field, and it has been extremely informative and helpful for editors to be able to make decisions with the extra transparency of an author's declared generative AI use.

Increased editorial capacity.

A much needed increase in staffing capacity has allowed us to grow our editorial outreach and increase support across our growing portfolio of journals following the addition of our excellent new Editorial Officers, Dr Maddie Sinclair and Naomi Morris, and our brilliant doctoral training partnership interns: Emily Gresham Beamer, Serafina Lee and Changxin Ke. With this expanded super-team, we've been able to schedule more frequent check-ins across the portfolio, allowing us to provide greater support for our editorial teams and their journals, and complete vital migrations work for our newest titles.

We also released our new OLH Editors' Handbook, a major undertaking to make it easier for new journals to begin publishing with us and to help reduce common issues for new editors.

In May 2026 we began an accessibility audit across all journal websites using open-source accessibility checker **Sa11y** to identify and fix web content issues, in line with the ongoing improvements led by OLH's specialist accessibility developer Dr Steph Driver.

Other highlights include a cross-team skillshare session led by Dr Simon Everett on procedures for dealing with malpractice in the era of generative AI, helping to ensure all editorial staff are familiar with recommended COPE procedures for safeguarding best practice in scholarly publishing.

Behind the scenes at our flagship journal.

The *Open Library of Humanities Journal* (*OLHJ*) has had a bumper year. With new editorial staff on hand, in 2025 we saw a 20% increase in the number of articles published in the *OLHJ*



compared to the previous year, and a significant improvement in publication times, with articles published two months faster on average compared to 2024.

Using our innovative rolling publication format, whereby articles are published as soon as they are ready without having to wait for a completed issue, the team smashed our previous submission to publication times, bringing this down to 6 ½ months from initial article submission to final publication in 2025, compared to 8 ½ months in 2024, and 1 year in 2023.

These improvements mean that our authors can disseminate their research faster than ever before, while still maintaining robust editorial scrutiny and double anonymous peer review, professional copyediting and typesetting. This year, we also undertook a major audit and update of all editor documentation for *OLHJ*, including revising and improving our onboarding materials, to help make the process of publishing with us as seamless and transparent as possible.

New Special Collections scheduled with us from 2026 include topics as varied as radical praxis, storytelling, mountaineering, international poetry performance, AI, Victorian infrastructures, and game studies, and we're looking forward to welcoming these new Special Collections editors and their teams to the *OLHJ*. **See the full list of Special Collections for more.**

New OLH poster: reimagining Robin Hood.

This year saw the launch of the next poster in our iconic series: the Robin Hood Poster. Featuring original artwork commissioned from designer Nicky Borowiec and illustrator Joaquin Pereyra, with this poster we wanted to return to the core idea behind the legendary figure of Robin Hood and his band: taking from the rich to give to the poor. In the context of scholarly publishing, this translates into divesting from commercialisation and supporting non-profit diamond open access. The poster frames scholarly publishing as a site of struggle, using its visual language to position diamond open access as collective action and to present academic publishing as a site of power and resistance.

Read Dr Paula Clemente Vega's full article on the poster and its creation.





Previous OLH Open Access Award winners.

2020 National Library of Kosovo; Open Access Digital Theological Library (US / international).

2023 University College Cork: Data Papers (Ireland); *Grassroots: Journal of Political Ecology* (UK, Switzerland, Ecuador, US, the Netherlands); *Post45 Journal* (US).

2024 Open Access India (India); Lancaster University Library: Open Access Launch Events (UK); International Sustainable Development Research Society (Norway / international).

2025 Free to Publish, Free to Read (Malaysia, Pakistan and Singapore); Open Philosophy (Germany); Data as a Story (UK).

OLH Open Access Award 2026: winners announced.

This year, we made the unprecedented decision to support six applications to the annual OLH Open Access Awards for small projects that promote the benefits and impact of open access to humanities scholarship worldwide.

Director of Publishing Strategy and founder of the OLH Open Access Awards, Dr Rose Harris-Birtill, said:

"I am absolutely delighted that we've been able to help a record number of global open access projects this year. My heartfelt congratulations to the six awardees, and a huge thank you to everyone who submitted. It has been inspiring and humbling to be part of this process. With this bumper crop of awards across the world, OLH is sending a powerful message: it is not enough to merely support open access within our own established channels."

"We must continue to grow and strive to help those beyond our own borders and likenesses, to give where there is greatest need, and to ensure that we do not rest until open access truly means global access to knowledge for all, regardless of means, circumstance, and geography."

"To our supporters: thank you. Your valuable contributions are being felt by authors, editors, and readers internationally. Your funds are also helping to safeguard access to presidential archives in Chile, preserve Tibetan culture, help African humanities journals, educate early career researchers in Australia, and improve publishing infrastructures in North India.

It has been my pleasure to oversee these awards over the last seven years, and with your continued support, we look forward to seeing these efforts to improve global access to knowledge grow and strengthen in the years to come."

This year's award recipients are:

Opening African Humanities, Université de Lomé, Togo.
This project will run an online workshop and freely accessible bilingual English and French diamond OA toolkit aimed at improving metadata quality for African humanities journals in Togo and Francophone Africa.

Life of the Buddha Project, Institute for Advanced Technology in the Humanities, University of Virginia, US.
This project will translate twenty-eight chapters of previously untranslated and unstudied Buddhist literature in its original Tibetan language alongside new English translations. This literature originated in a remote 17th-century monastery on the Tibetan plateau and represents the largest multimedia archive of materials depicting the life of the Buddha from the Tibetan cultural world.

Open Presidential Archives, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile.
This project will produce a trilingual guide in Spanish, English and Portuguese to further the use of the open Ibero-American Network of Presidential Archives for humanities research and teaching.

Open Humanities Publishing, Excelsia University College, Australia. This project will run a three-session workshop series for early-career academic staff focussing on providing knowledge and practical tools to help researchers navigate OA publishing in the humanities.

Empowering Indian Scholarship, Central University of Punjab, India.
This project will run two in-person practical workshops aimed at encouraging universities in North India to adopt sustainable publishing infrastructure and publish diamond OA as an equitable alternative to APC-funded publishing. The workshops will bring together humanities scholars, journal editors, researchers, librarians, and institutional publishers.

Chilean Network of Digital Humanities, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile. This project will host a one-day symposium to raise awareness of diamond OA formats beyond journal articles. The event will explore research data management, open infrastructure, and digital humanities issues, including Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Resuable (FAIR) data principles, depositing humanities data, and licensing guidelines for research data and software.

Award winner spotlight: Open Access India.

In 2024, the OLH funded two diamond open access capacity building and advocacy workshops in India with an award of £500. Both workshops marked a significant step toward fostering a culture of open and ethical scholarly communication in India. The workshops:

- Raised awareness of models of OA publishing, focusing on diamond OA.
- Introduced Janeway as an open source publishing platform.
- Explored ethical considerations in publishing, predatory practices and Creative Commons (CC) licenses.

"These workshops would not have been possible without the generous support of the Open Library of Humanities (OLH). OLH's commitment to promoting inclusive, non-commercial, and community-driven scholarly diamond open access publishing models continues to inspire institutions worldwide."

Priya Rangra, Library Assistant, Pasar Bharti, and Research Scholar, Central University of Himachal Pradesh

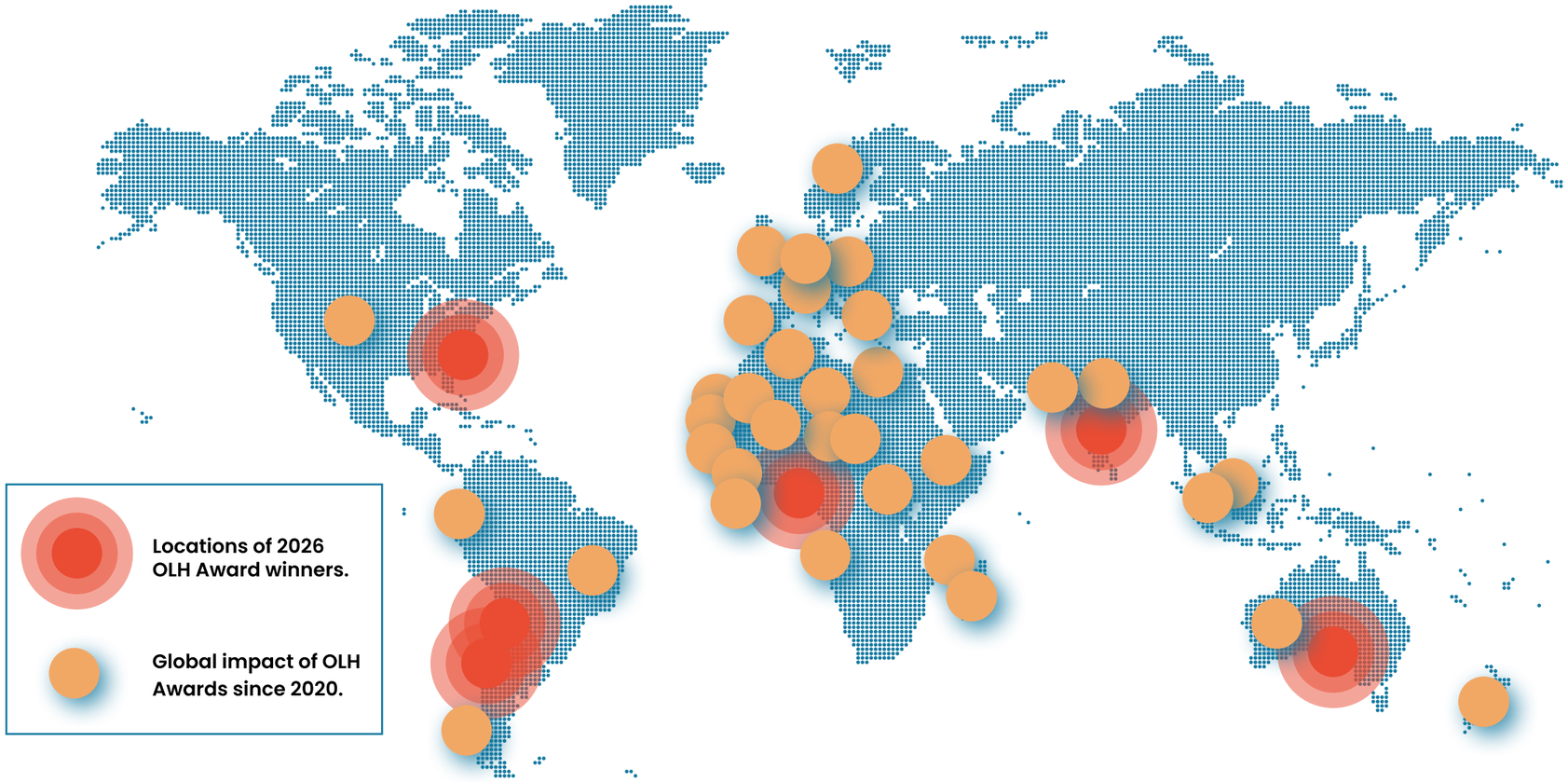
For more information on Open Access India's OLH Open Access Award, **read the full report on the workshops and their impact.**

Locations of 2026 award-holders.

- Loé, Togo
- Charlottesville, VA, US
- Santiago, Chile (two awards)
- Sydney, Australia
- Punjab, India

Impact of projects since 2020.

- Spain
- Brazil
- Chile
- Algeria
- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cameroon
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Comoros
- Congo (Republic)
- Democratic Republic of Congo (D. R. C)
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Djibouti
- Gabon
- Guinea
- Madagascar
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Morocco
- Niger
- Senegal
- Togo
- Tunisia
- Australia
- New Zealand
- India
- Kosovo
- US
- UK
- Switzerland
- Ecuador
- The Netherlands
- Norway
- Malaysia
- Pakistan
- Singapore
- Germany



“The editorial team at OLH was the kindest by far! Learning new formatting policies when publishing can be a challenge, but OLH guides you through the process, is easy to contact when questions arise, and are friendly in all of their communications.”

Emily Tuttle
Open Library of Humanities Journal Author



05.
Janeway highlights.



05. Janeway highlights.



2025-26 was an important year for Janeway's governance. We formed a working group of Janeway stakeholders to agree how to formalise the platform's community governance structure. The new Publishing Technology Board gives Janeway an independent governance structure for the first time.

Decisions about the platform's direction now sit with a community-governed body that represents the institutions using Janeway. This will improve the transparency and sustainability of Janeway's decision-making processes and offer greater support to me and my OLH tech team.

It's critical that shared open infrastructures are supported by communities and I'm pleased to be working with the Board on improving Janeway's external communications. I'm very grateful to those who agreed to join the board, and especially to Chad Nelson at the California Digital Library (CDL) for agreeing to be the Board's inaugural Chair.

The Janeway team has continued working hard in 2025-26 to deliver bug fixes, new features and improvements. Given our team's small size, we've sought to prioritise staff capacity.

External contributions from publishing partners SISSA, PLOS and CDL therefore make a real difference to developing Janeway. Receiving code from beyond our core tech team at OLH is the clearest sign that Janeway is genuinely a community software.

Looking ahead to 2026-27, we will release version 1.10 of Janeway. This version will become our long-term support (LTS) version as we shift our focus to Janeway 2.0, and will provide installations with a stable base while the larger piece of work progresses. Janeway 2.0 will feature re-writes of the platform's underlying architecture, covering files, tasks and communications. It'll also offer full re-writes of the back office interface using a new design system, bringing many improvements to Janeway's accessibility as we have already seen on the front of house with our accessible new theme, Clarity.

Finally, my thanks to the team (Mauro Sanchez, Joe Muller, Siobhan Haimé, and Steph Driver) who have worked so hard over the past year. Thanks also to Caroline and Rose for their support, and to the wider OLH team. And thanks to our publishing partners for placing their trust in us to run the infrastructure on which their journals depend.

Andy Byers
Director of Publishing Technology

Accessibility audit.

Summer 2026 saw the close of development work on Janeway version 1.9 and the end of Phase 1 of our accessibility improvements. Over 100 accessibility specific improvements have been completed since we expanded the team to include our accessibility specialist developer Dr Steph Driver.

Phase 1 focused on Janeway's 'front of house': the pages anyone can visit without having a user account. We improved both our compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2 AA and our transparency by embedding our audit data in Janeway's code-base and cross referencing it with planned improvements. Our accessibility work is performed in the open, where all interested parties may track it and comment on it.

Version 1.9 introduces Clarity, a new accessible theme. While we have improved the accessibility of existing themes, it is not possible to bring them into full WCAG compliance due to their underlying frameworks. We are encouraging all clients to move to Clarity, and we have introduced an accessibility mode as an interim override for individual users.

We will now move to Phase 2, where we will continue with rolling accessibility audits and improvements while focusing on the accessible design and implementation of a new back office for Janeway 2.0.

ROR integration.

Joe Muller wrote a case study of how and why the Janeway platform integrated the Research Organization Registry (ROR). Janeway now ensures unambiguous author affiliations by retrieving ROR IDs from ORCID profiles as well as allowing authors to find their institution with a ROR-powered search.

Read Joe's article 'From User Stories to High-Quality Data: Implementing ROR on the Janeway Platform' on the *ROR Blog*.

New website.

Janeway's redesigned website and brand identity launched this year at **janeway.systems**. This follows user experience research and feedback from the Janeway community. The redesign was an opportunity to better convey Janeway's identity as an open source and community-driven platform, one that combines publishing expertise with innovation in a distinct retro sci-fi aesthetic.

The new branding introduces a more cohesive visual identity across the website and platform, including a new logo, an updated colour palette with stronger contrast and warmth, and refined typography that balances personality with readability.

Thanks go to our designer Carly Murphy-Merrydew, who created the new visual identity, and to Joe Muller, Senior Publishing Technologies Developer at the OLH, who built the site.

Triple-anonymous review.

Janeway now supports triple-anonymous peer review, keeping the author, reviewer and editor anonymous to one another throughout the review stage. Author information is filtered out of every part of the journal's interface and email templates that editors are usually able to see, going a step beyond the double-anonymous model offered by most publishing platforms.

Anubis.

Like many open infrastructure providers, we saw a sharp rise in automated crawler traffic this year, with bulk scraping placing enough load on our servers to affect performance for legitimate readers and editors. In response to this we deployed Anubis, an open-source proof-of-work filter that sits in front of Janeway and requires clients to complete a small computational challenge before reaching the application. The cost is negligible for an ordinary browser but expensive at the scale scrapers operate, and the deployment has meaningfully reduced the volume of unwanted traffic hitting our infrastructure while leaving normal access unaffected.

1.8 release.

Janeway 1.8 'Paris' was released in July, adding Research Organization Registry (ROR) affiliations and CRediT contributor roles, and bringing the typesetting plugin into Janeway core. The release also notified the community of our intention to consolidate on PostgreSQL as Janeway's only supported database backend, a change that will take effect in 1.10 with migration tooling provided. **Full details are in the release notes.**

Janeway developing a new institutional repository solution.

The Janeway team has been working with Birkbeck, University of London on a project to migrate Birkbeck's institutional repository. It is currently running on a legacy EPrints installation but will now move onto Janeway's new repository platform. Work continues through 2026, with the migration planned for 2027.

Janeway's repository is part of the same open-source platform we use to publish journals and books. Traditionally, repositories have operated as separate systems, meaning that preprints, accepted manuscripts, and published articles often end up in different places, with little to connect them.

Janeway takes a different approach. Preprints can move directly into journal peer review, published articles can link back to earlier versions, and books and chapters can be connected to their repository records. This makes it easier to follow a piece of research from its earliest version through to publication.

Like the rest of Janeway, the repository is developed in-house by a small team that works closely with the people using it. This gives us the flexibility to respond to new requirements without the cost and complexity often associated with larger commercial or legacy systems.

The repository can be used as a preprint server, a full institutional repository, or a combination of the two. It supports versioning, moderation workflows, configurable submission types and the usual scholarly infrastructure including ORCID, DOIs, ROR data, and OAI-PMH harvesting. Because the repository shares its codebase with Janeway's journal and book publishing tools, improvements in one area can also benefit the others.

Our aim is to make Janeway a practical alternative to existing repository systems, particularly for institutions that also publish journals or books. Rather than treating each type of research output as something that needs its own system, Janeway brings them together on one platform.

If you're interested in learning more about Janeway's repository work, please **contact Andy**.

> **"Janeway provides all the tools that our small, diamond open access press needs for journal publishing. Combined with out-of-this-world technical and customer support, it's the perfect solution for our journals program."**
>
> **Aimee Diehl**
> Journals Editorial and Production Director, University of Vermont Press

Janeway Board governance update.

The Publishing Technology Board formalised this year, following last year's introduction of a Publishing Technology Working Group. This was set up to establish the community governance structure for the OLH's Janeway platform.

Enshrining community governance of open research and publishing infrastructures is a critical task facing the international scholarly community. Without such governance, growing platforms and technologies are at high risk of commercial acquisition and capture. This locks research infrastructures into exorbitantly expensive commercial systems that are deliberately monetising the entire research process.

The Janeway Board met twice in 2025-26 and elected a Chair, Chad Nelson, Technical Team Manager for Publishing, Archives, and Digitization at the California Digital Library (CDL), based at the University of California. The Board approved a plan to convene three times a year and work on developing strategic priorities for Janeway on behalf of its international user community. OLH's Director of Publishing Technologies, Andy Byers, and his tech team have agreed to report to the Board and deliver development priorities set by the Board.

Board discussion at this year's meetings included reviewing the recent introduction of the scrum master role at the OLH tech team (currently being carried out by Mauro Sanchez, Senior Publishing Technologies Developer), reviewing Janeway's pricing structure, and supporting the professional development of the OLH tech team.

On the agenda for next year's Board discussions are the implementation of a new communications strategy so that the Janeway team at OLH can keep users informed of latest developments and releases, developing an agentic coding policy for Janeway developers (including independent software engineers contributing to the open-source code stack), the roadmap for Janeway 2.0, formalising regular security reviews to test Janeway's cyber resilience strategy, and drafting contributor guidelines documentation to support Janeway's growing developer community.



Janeway Symposium 2026: The Lower Decks 2.0.

In May 2026 the OLH co-hosted The Lower Decks 2.0, Janeway's second symposium, at Dublin City University's (DCU) Glasnevin campus and online. The event was organised jointly with Michigan Publishing Services and DCU Library, and was free to attend.

While the inaugural 2023 symposium marked the OLH's 10th anniversary, this second gathering's theme focussed on users and community as its theme, examining how the scholarly communities using Janeway have shaped the platform and continue to direct its development.

Kathleen Fitzpatrick, Professor of English at Michigan State University, gave the keynote speech. The sympopsium ran for two days and included four tracks: migration and workflow, scaling projects, modern problems and modern solutions, and Janeway innovations. We were delighted to have speakers from PLOS, SISSA, UNC Press, the Programming Historian, Michigan Publishing Services and SeDOA; the OLH team also provided a State of Janeway update.

The symposium would not have been possible without our sponsors: Iowa State University Digital Press and Siliconchips Services, or without the assistance of our co-organisers — particualrly Joan Kwaske, Senior Digital Publishing Coordinator at Michigan Publishing Services. Thank you to all the sponsors and organisers for helping to make this event happen.

Open Access Journals Toolkit (OAJT) resources.

Andy continued to serve on the OAJT editorial board this year. Developed by the Open Access Scholarly Publishing Association (OASPA) and the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), this international project provides guidance for new and established open access journals to navigate the rapidly changing scholarly publishing landscape.

The toolkit covers topics across the journal development lifecycle and everyday operation, such as journal creation, costs, staffing, policy development, through to indexing and key technical aspects.

Andy's contributions this year included reviewing and maintaining the toolkit's resources relating to software and technical infrastructure. This involved writing documentation for users to understand how article and journal metadata need to be deposited as structured content using standardised formats, and how to assign persistent identifiers so that articles have a unique digital footprint.

The list of resources Andy has contributed to is as follows:

- **Software and technical infrastructure.**
- **Article and journal metadata.**
- **Structured content.**
- **Persistent identifiers.**
- **Building and maintaining a profile.**

OLH joins TSOSI.

We were delighted to join the TSOSI platform this year. TSOSI, or the **Transparency to Sustain Open Science Infrastructure**, is a centralised data platform led by the Université Grenoble Alpes and funded by the French National Fund for Open Science. It is designed to make financial support for non-profit open-access research tools visible, traceable, and sustainable.

Dr Paula Clemente Vega worked with the TSOSI team to provide publicly available library membership data so that information on which university libraries and consortia that support OLH can be integrated into TSOSI's platform. TSOSI now includes data from 1,210 organisations from 48 countries.

This data-gathering project enables the scholarly communications community to search for organisations financially supporting open research infrastructures. In so doing, it provides an evidence base for university budget-holders to evaluate the impact of their funding for the growing non-profit research publishing and infrastructure movement.

06.
Our team.



06. Our team.

Staff in August 2026, in alphabetical order by surname.

As of August 2026, the OLH has 13 members of staff: 11 full time staff members — five Janeway technical team members and six editorial and marketing members of staff — and two interns working across editorial, technical, and marketing.

This year, two team members were successfully promoted: Dr Rose Harris-Birtill became Director of Publishing Strategy and Siobhan Haimé became Systems and Discovery Manager. Both of these well-deserved promotions more accurately reflect the expertise and increasing responsibilities of both Rose and Siobhan, and exemplify the maturation and professionalisation of the OLH following our 10th anniversary. Congratulations to Rose and Siobhan!



Andy Byers

Director of Publishing Technology



Dr Paula Clemente Vega

Community Outreach Manager



Dr Steph Driver

Publishing Technologies Developer



Professor Caroline Edwards

Executive Director



Dr Simon Everett

Managing Editor



Siobhan Haimé

Systems and Discovery Manager



Dr Rose Harris-Birtill

Director of Publishing Strategy



Changxin Ke

North West Consortium DTP Intern (University of Manchester)



Serafina Lee

Technē DTP Intern (Royal Holloway, University of London)



Naomi Morris

Editorial Officer



Joseph Muller

Senior Publishing Technologies Developer



Mauro Sanchez

Senior Publishing Technologies Developer



Dr Madeleine Sinclair

Editorial Officer

"The OLH team are a big-hearted, whip-smart and genuinely lovely band of revolutionaries. I wouldn't want to fight the power with anyone else."

Dr Rose Harris-Birtill
Director of Publishing Strategy

Internship focus.

For over five years, the OLH has offered professional, flexible internship placements for Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP) students at UK institutions.

All OLH interns gain hands-on experience with the editorial, marketing and technical parts of OLH operations, and are truly equal and valued members of the OLH team. Their impact is always positive, meaningful, and appreciated — and we are delighted that all our interns have enjoyed their time with us and found the skills they have gained indispensable.

This year, we're excited to welcome two interns to our team: Changxin Ke (University of Manchester, North West Consortium DTP), and Serafina Lee (Royal Holloway, University of London, Technē DTP).

Changxin Ke



"Working with the OLH has been a valuable opportunity to learn about open access publishing from the perspective of the technologies that sustain it.

As a PhD researcher in Linguistics, I am particularly drawn to OLH's commitment to making scholarly knowledge freely available and to supporting a more equitable publishing landscape. So far, I have especially enjoyed the chance to develop new technical skills, including programming and web development.

Although this learning process can be challenging, it is also highly rewarding: it gives me a clearer understanding of how digital publishing platforms are built and maintained. I also believe that all the skills I've gained in this position will benefit me a lot in my future career, and I really appreciate it!"

"Working with the OLH has been a valuable opportunity to learn about open access publishing from the perspective of the technologies that sustain it."

Serafina Lee



"I became interested in the OLH through my PhD research and my prior experience working in publishing. As a researcher, journals like *C21* and the *Journal of British and Irish Innovative Poetry* were formative to my work. I could see that the quality of their articles were so enhanced by OLH's open access mission. Research can have a far bigger impact without paywalls! I'm incredibly excited about combining my publishing experience and academic interests through this placement, particularly working closely on the *OLHJ* and other editorial tasks.

OLH's mission statement really resonates with me. It's a radical new economic model for academic publishing, and one that is far more sustainable in the long term than high subscription costs, paywalls, and exorbitant APCs. The OLH provides an equitable model for research, and one that supports scholars and readers alike.

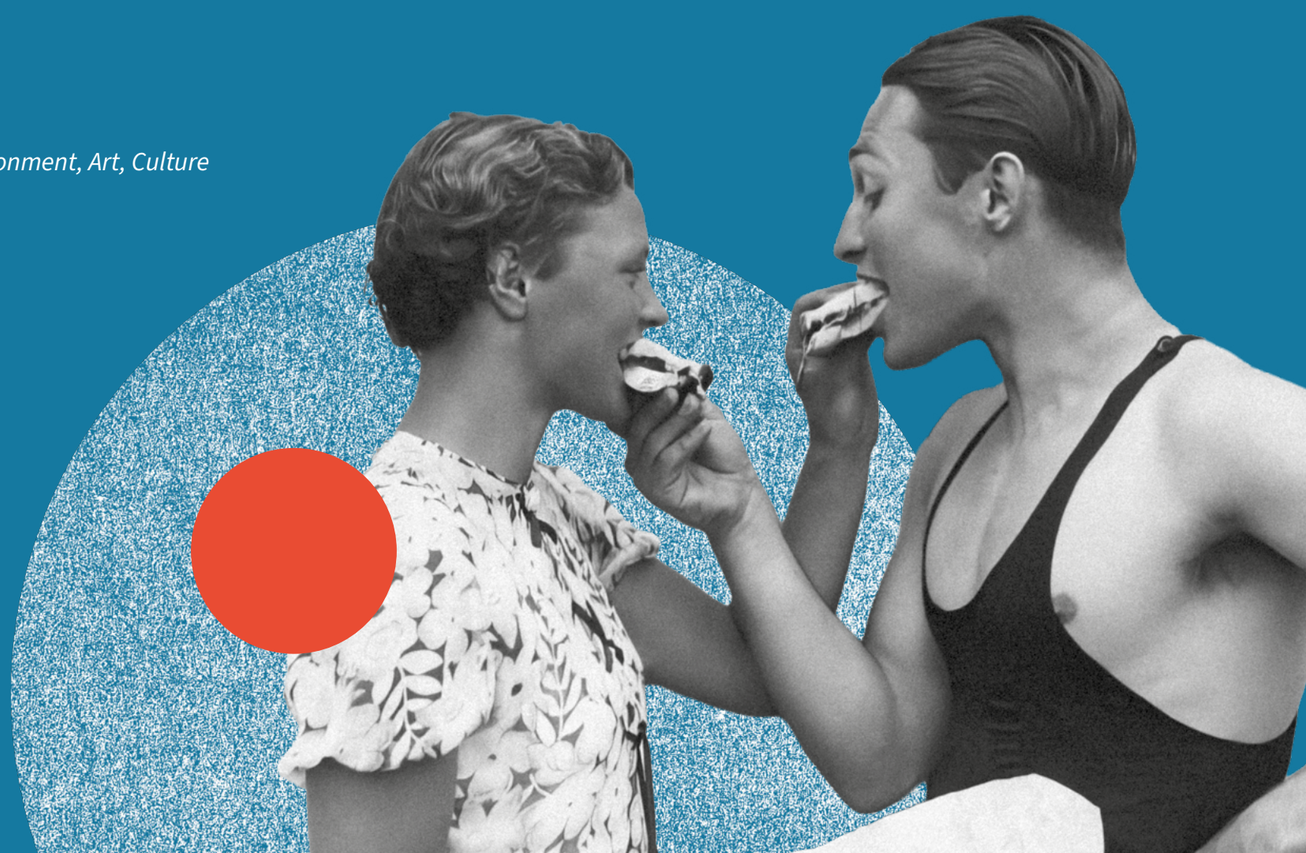
So far at OLH, I've been working on editorial tasks. I copyedited my first article and have kept *OLHJ* articles on track by liaising with editorial teams and authors. I've also had the chance to review a proposal for an *OLHJ* special collection! This internship is a wonderful professional opportunity to gain editorial experience, insight into open access publishing, and be part of a friendly and inclusive working environment."

"This internship is a wonderful professional opportunity to gain editorial experience, insight into open access publishing, and be part of a friendly and inclusive working environment."

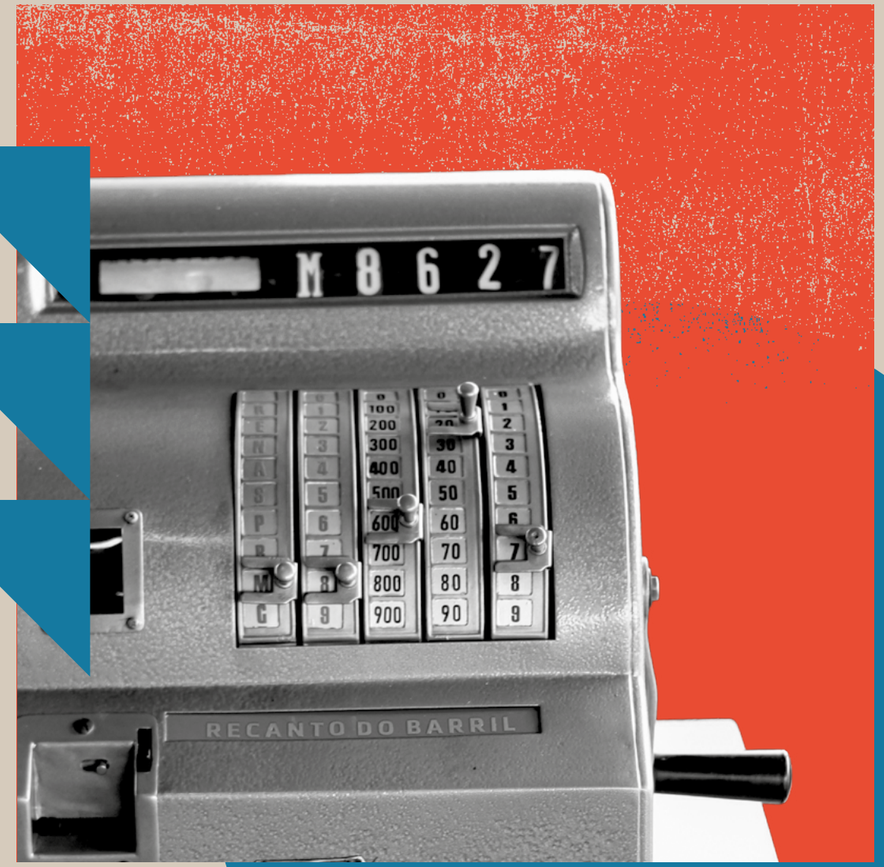


“The Open Library of Humanities is a radical, inventive, smart, and talented group of scholars who are reimagining academic publishing. They’re the best.”

Professor Stephanie Foote
Professor of English, University of Vermont and member of the Editorial Collective for *Regeneration: Environment, Art, Culture*



07.
Financial overview.



07.
Financial overview.

The OLH is incorporated into Birkbeck, University of London. Under the terms of the UK Charities Act 2011, Birkbeck is regulated by the Office for Students (OfS) and is accountable to the OfS for fulfilling its obligations under UK charity law. OLH income and expenditure is audited as part of Birkbeck's annual financial statements released in the autumn of each year.

As a not-for-profit organisation, surplus income is reinvested back into the OLH as part of our operating reserve policy. This contingency is designed to support rising staff costs, investing in software development, and contributing to organisational support at Birkbeck, where the OLH team is based.

Financial breakdown, 2025–26.

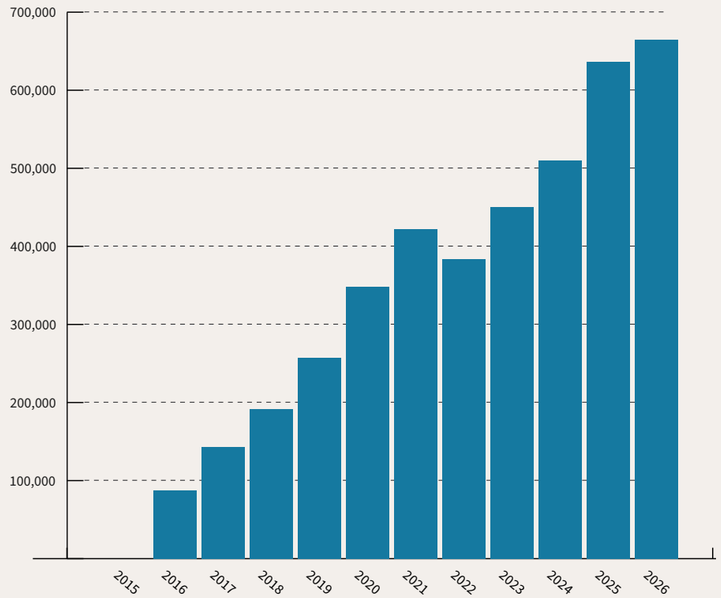
Income	Amount (£).
Library Memberships	664,740
Janeway Hosted Services	233,075
Total Income	**897,815**
Expenditure	**Amount (£).**
Staff costs	
Staff Costs	677,035
Total	**677,035**
Publishing Costs	
Typesetting	122,127
Archiving, DOIs & Preservation	4,477
Website Hosting & Domain Registration	3,940
Total	**130,544**
Digital Office Costs	
Computer Hardware & Software, Equipment	2,076
Digital Security & IT infrastructure	19,785
Professional Memberships	648
Office Support*	25,134
Total	**47,643**
Marketing & Travel Costs	
Graphic Design	4,107
Conference Travel & Accommodation	4,462
Printed Publicity Materials	2,114
OLH Award	2,463
Marketing Software & Tools	527
Total	**13,673**
Total Non-staff Costs	**191,860**
Total Expenditure	**868,895**
OLH Operating Reserve†	**28,920**

*Office support includes international payroll costs, global mobility consultancy costs, and exchange rate gains and losses.

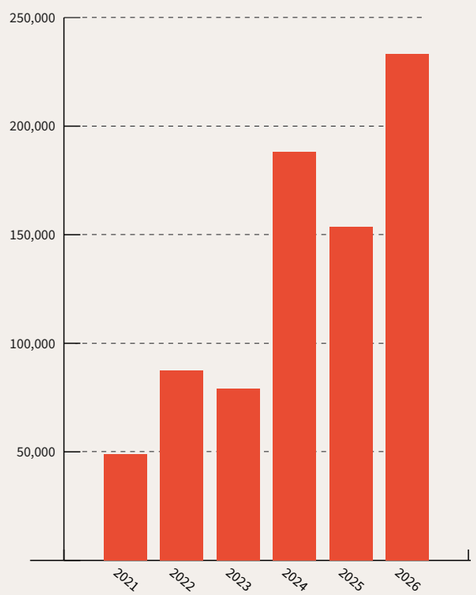
†The OLH runs an operating reserve policy to ensure the stability of the organisation. **For more information, please visit our 'Governance and Finances' page.**



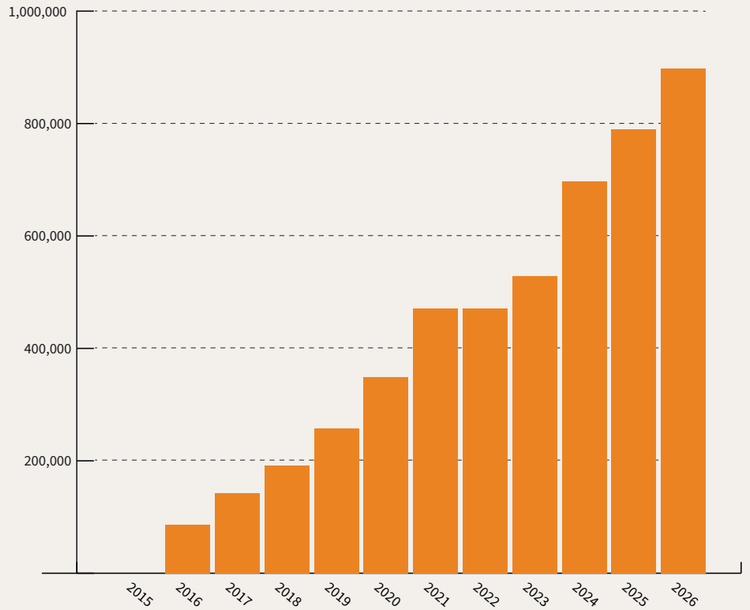
OLH library income (£).



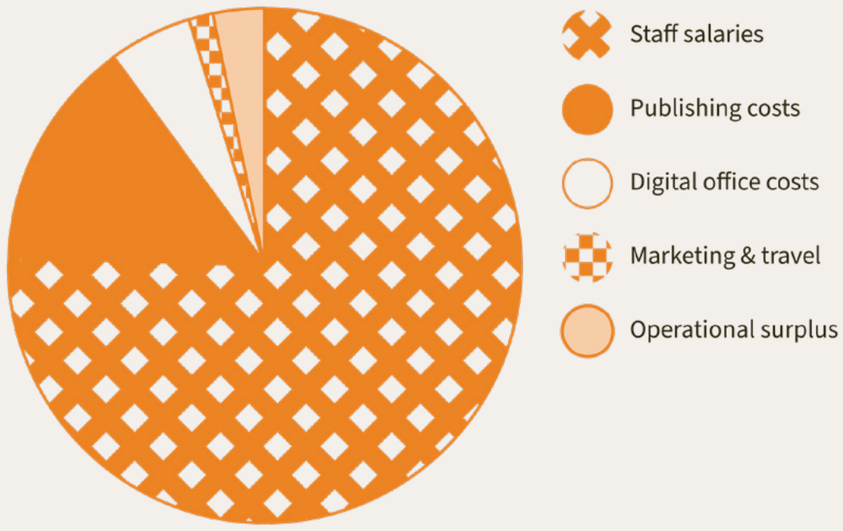
Janeway income (£).



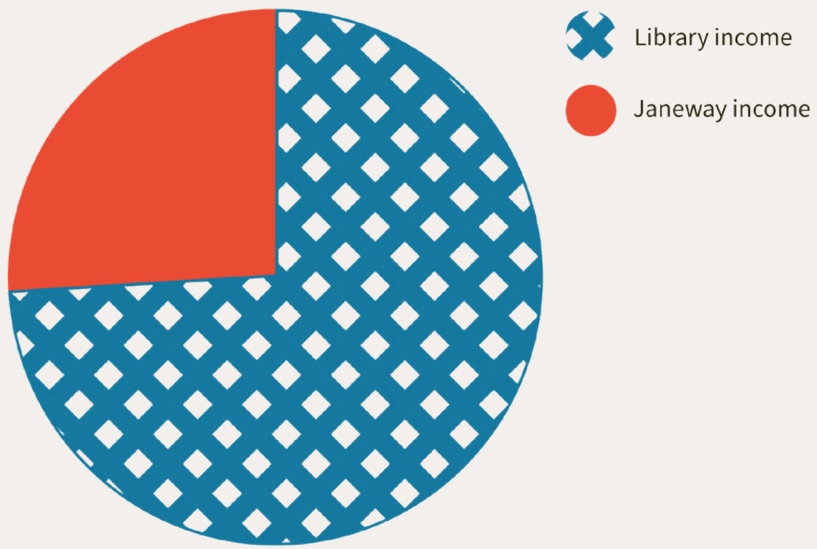
OLH total income (£).



OLH expenses 2025-26.



OLH income streams.



08.
Progress on key priorities.



08. Progress on key priorities.

This year we've found innovative ways to increase the impact of our library-funded work. This has involved increased outreach and auditing of our OLH journals to implement publisher policy updates, new accessibility features, and improve the onboarding experience for editors and journals joining OLH.

We rolled out our new AI publisher policy and embedded author AI declaration statements into our Janeway platform's article submission process. We've reviewed the cross-team migration process for journals joining the OLH and have undertaken major documentation improvements to support new editorial teams onboarding at OLH.

Finally, the we have worked hard on library engagement and ongoing diamond open access advocacy with international partners, including a library divestment campaign and launching our iconic Robin Hood poster.

Priority	Strategy	Status
Plan OLH's future sustainability	Explore new funding streams as universities face financial challenges.	Ongoing. We have generated two new funding streams this year, which will raise additional funds for OLH from 2026-27: (1) journal funding from the Open Journals Collective; and (2) a new Janeway repository service (see p. 19).
Library outreach to support OLH	Engage OLH editors and authors to contact their librarians to recommend joining our library membership programme.	Following the introduction of our Recommend Us tool last year, we've tracked the first 12 months of the tool's usage. This has risen from 1-2 (av.) page visits a day to 5-10 (av.) page visits a day and has resulted in 9 new library supporters in 2025-26.
Improving onboarding for new OLH journal editors	Improving onboarding processes and documentation to help new journal editors navigate the move to OLH; reduce editorial staff time spent on problem-solving issues that could be avoided by improved documentation.	Completed. Onboarding documentation for new journal editors substantially revised and circulated among incoming editors.
Furthering publishing best practice for our journals	Ensure all OLH journal editors are aware of updated publisher policies (such as OLH's new AI policy) and journal websites have correct information.	Ongoing. Editorial staff have used monthly journal 'spot check' meetings with editors to build strong relationships and address out of date website information.
Rollout of new AI publisher policy	18-month consultation on new AI publisher policy, launch the policy and undertake outreach to explain it to journal editors.	Completed. The OLH team rolled out the policy across all OLH journals and integrated author AI declarations in Janeway at the article submission stage. Dr Simon Everett published the 'AI Policy Editorial Consultation Report' in January 2026 to document the consultation process and published a blog post 'The Making of OLH's AI policy' which we shared on news and social media channels.
Library divestment campaign	Work with library members to promote a divestment campaign where libraries walk away from commercial deals and invest in diamond open access initiatives instead.	Ongoing. Professor Caroline Edwards worked closely with OLH and Open Journals Collective library members to deliver numerous public talks, published an article for *Research Professional News* (p. 10), and attended publisher meetings at UKRI and the European Commission. OLH launched its Robin Hood poster campaign in March 2026 to raise awareness of library divestment (p. 13).
Review journal migration process	Review cross-team workflows for migrating new journals to OLH, including complex back-content migration of flipped titles.	Ongoing. We've implemented cross-team monthly migration meetings and GitHub project management to improve migration timelines. This work will continue in 2026-27.
Improve OLH's flagship journal, the *Open Library of Humanities Journal* (*OLHJ*)	Improve publication times for *OLHJ*, our flagship title. Attract more Special Collection applications.	2025 saw a 20% increase in the number of articles published in the *OLHJ* and an improvement in publication times. Articles were published two months faster on average compared to 2024. *OLHJ* published 20% more articles than the previous year.

Payment workflows for Open Journals Collective (OJC) funding	Work with OLH journals accepted into the Open Journals Collective (OJC) Launch Collection to establish how journals will receive funding top-up payments.	Ongoing. OJC staff are working with OLH journal editors to formalise fiscal agent status so journals can receive payments.
Implement a11y accessibility features on Janeway	Implement a11y accessibility features on our Janeway platform following the launch of OLH's Accessibility Project in March 2024 and a platform-wide accessibility audit.	Almost completed. Janeway version 1.9 will deliver the first phase of accessibility improvements to all public-facing pages; including alt text support, an accessibility mode as a full theme across all pages, and a living VPAT audited against WCAG 2.2 AA. Work on the second phase, covering back office pages, is now underway.
Invest in OLH staff professional development	Improve staff management and retention through professional development training for senior staff.	Ongoing. OLH's Directors have undertaken management training and a tailored course of leadership coaching to improve cross-team communication.
OLH and diamond open access advocacy	Raise awareness of OLH and recent developments in diamond open access through talks and networks.	Completed. OLH staff spoke at 21 conferences and library-related events this year (p. 33).
Collaborate with mission-aligned organisations	Build alliances in the diamond OA movement.	Completed. The OLH team has worked closely with the Open Institutional Publishing Association (OIPA), the University-Based Publishing Futures (UBPF) coalition, the Open Book Collective (OBC), the COPIM community, and the Open Journals Collective (OJC).
Develop the Publishing Technology Board	Development of the new Publishing Technology Board launched last year to secure the community governance of Janeway as an open-source technology.	Ongoing. The Board met three times in 2025-26 and appointed Chad Nelson, Technical Team Manager at the California Digital Library, as its first Chair (p. 20).

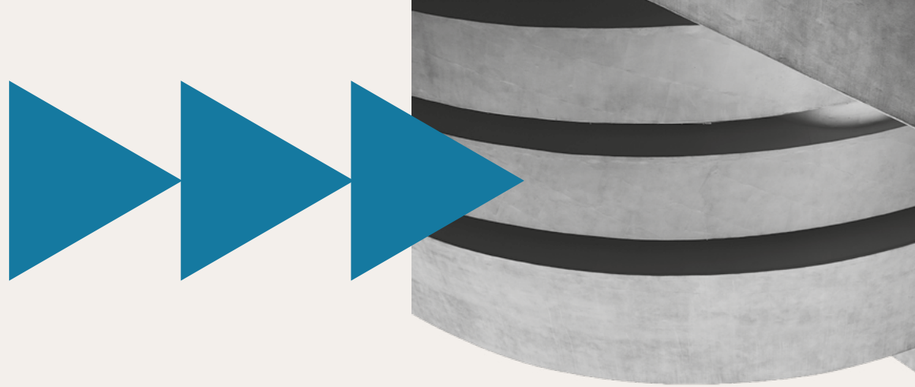




09.
Outreach.



09. Outreach.



Here is a list of talks and presentations delivered and events attended by the OLH team in the past year.

- **Open Access Publishing Association (OASPA) Conference**
  Leuven, Belgium, 22–25 September 2025
  (Caroline Edwards)

- **Open Access Australasia**
  Online, 7 October 2025
  (Caroline Edwards)

- **Open Institutional Publishers' Association (OIPA) Symposium 2025**
  Online, 21 October 2025
  (Paula Clemente Vega & Caroline Edwards)

- **Open Access Week Panel Webinar: Mainstreaming Diamond — Regional Perspectives, Shared Futures**
  Online, 24 October 2025
  (Paula Clemente Vega & Caroline Edwards)

- **Open Access Publishing & Editing for Academic Writing Month**
  University of Salford, UK, online, 12 November 2025
  (Rose Harris-Birtill)

- **Diamond ERA: Fostering Openness in the European Research Area**
  National Centre for Research and Development in Poland, NCBR Office, Brussels, Belgium, 4 December 2025
  (Caroline Edwards)

- **Open Access and the Commons: The Many Faces of Scholar-Led Publishing**
  London School of Economics, UK, 27 January 2026
  (Caroline Edwards)

- **American Society of Civil Engineers: Pathways to Inclusive Publishing Summit**
  Online, 29 January 2026
  (Steph Driver)

- **State of the Browser Conference**
  The Barbican, London, UK, 26 February
  (Steph Driver)

- **COPIM Conference**
  Loughborough University, London campus, UK, 26 February 2026
  (Paula Clemente Vega, Siobhan Haimé, Joe Muller & Caroline Edwards)

- **OpenCost Conference**
  Online, 17 March 2026
  (Paula Clemente Vega)

- **British Academy International Writing Workshop**
  The British Institute At Ankara (BIAA)
  Online, 24 March 2026
  (Rose Harris-Birtill)

- **Research Libraries UK (RLUK) Conference**
  Online, 26 March 2026
  (Caroline Edwards)

- **UKSG Conference**
  Glasgow, UK, 29 March-1 April 2026
  (Siobhan Haimé & Caroline Edwards)

- ***The Comics Grid* Webinar**
  Online, 1 April 2026
  (Paula Clemente Vega)

- **Critical Approaches to Librarianship Conference (CALC) Conference**
  Online, 12-14 May 2026
  (Siobhan Haimé)

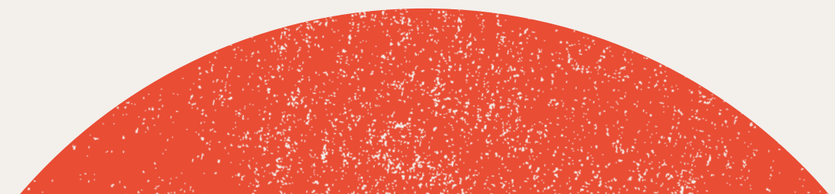
- **Research Libraries UK (RLUK) Repositories Symposium**
  The British Library, London, UK, 8 May 2026
  (Siobhan Haimé)

- **Research Culture Development Workshop, Faculty of Creative & Cultural Industries**
  University of Portsmouth UK, 3 June 2026
  (Caroline Edwards)

- **Future Innovators: Universities UK Reception, UK Global R&D and Science Investment Summit**
  The Royal Society, London, UK, 9 June 2026
  (Caroline Edwards)

- **Open Institutional Publishers' Association (OIPA) Symposium 2026**
  University of Sussex, UK, 18 June 2026
  (Caroline Edwards, Simon Everett & Paula Clemente Vega)

- **Knowledge Futures Symposium**
  University of Leeds, UK, 26 June 2026
  (Siobhan Haimé)



Collaborations with other organisations.

2025-26 has been another busy year for the OLH team! We've attended 21 events including open access publishing conferences, library meetings, research symposia, open access training workshops, and open software conferences (see p.33). Staff also continued important collaborations with other publishing partners and open access initiatives.

Professor Caroline Edwards joined the Advisory Board for **Materialising Open Research Practices in the Humanities and Social Sciences** (MORPHSS). Funded by the Research England Development Fund, the Wellcome Trust and the Arts and Humanities Research Council, MORPHSS showcases what 'openness' could mean for HSS research and how it can benefit its researchers and institutions. This interdisciplinary project is led by Dr Samuel Moore (Scholarly Communication Specialist, Cambridge University Library) and is a collaboration between University of Cambridge Library, Cambridge Digital Humanities, Coventry University, the University of Sheffield and the University of Southampton.

Dr Paula Clemente Vega continues her work with OASPA's Fully Open Access Working Group and the Communications Group for the UK's Open Institutional Publishing Association (OIPA). Paula also became an **ALMASI Ambassador** in 2026.



Siobhan Haimé is continuing to serve on *Insights: the UKSG journal* Editorial Board and JISC Open Policy Finder Board; she also continues to be a member of the UKSG EDI working group, and the Global Equity Network Leadership Team. Siobhan is also part of the Open Journals Collective Metadata Group and Outreach Group.

Dr Steph Driver has been appointed to the ELAF (Essex Local Access Forum) and uses Birkbeck, University of London volunteering leave to attend meetings. This is an advisory body about improving local access to public spaces: **see more info from the UK Government**.

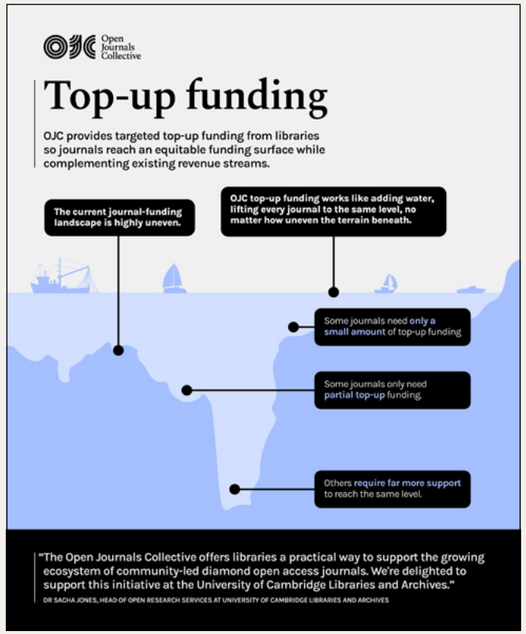
Dr Rose Harris-Birtill was awarded Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA), and became a full member of the Council of Editors of Learned Journals (CELJ), an international organisation for scholarly journal editors allied with the Modern Language Association (MLA). She also became an invited member of its Advisory Board for the Mellon Foundation funded project 'Re-Imagining Peer Review', which aims to advance equitable and inclusive practices in peer review and scholarly journal publishing within the humanities.

Rose continues her work as an invited member of Crossref's Membership and Fees Committee, as the UK National Expert for the European Reference Index for the Humanities and Social Sciences (ERIH PLUS), and as an Honorary Senior Lecturer for the University of St Andrews.

Dr Rose Harris-Birtill delivered invited talks for the British Academy International Writing Workshop at the British Institute At Ankara (BIAA) on responsible writing and publishing in the age of open access and AI, and for the University of Salford on open access publishing and editing.

Open Journals Collective (OJC) updates.

This year, OLH's Executive Director, Professor Caroline Edwards, continued her work with international open access colleagues launching the Open Journals Collective (OJC). OJC is building the necessary financial, technical, and social infrastructures to support diamond open access journals across the humanities, social sciences, and STEM disciplines.



Launching in January 2026, OJC offered a collection of 278 journals to university libraries and consortia looking to invest in non-profit diamond open access publishing. Included in this collection were 29 of our own OLH journals. As we go to press (in October 2026), OJC has raised £2.06 million / $2.7 million / €3.2 million, which is 77% of the collective's income target for this year.

"OJC has raised £2.06 million / $2.7 million / €3.2 million, which is 77% of the collective's income target for this year."

In September 2026, OJC was awarded $711,900 grant by the Gates Foundation to scale its operations in 2027 and 2028. The grant will help the OJC team build a community engagement hub for journals and publishers. It will also support the legal and financial groundwork needed to share raised library funds equitably and transparently across OJC's journals collections.

As Caroline said in an interview with *Research Professional News* (**'Gates cash "vote of confidence" for diamond open access initiative'**, 14 September 2026), the symbolism of Gates Foundation funding was an added benefit, on top of the money being helpful for the collective's operations. "I think the vote of confidence is super important, and we've already seen—because we're still fundraising for this year—that libraries are very reassured the foundation has put its name behind us."

OJC has begun the Gates-funded technical work, building an openly available web platform that allows users to explore data and metrics about OJC's journals. Drawing on a variety of open data sources, the Impact Dashboard will provide insight into the impact of OJC's journals in a single place. Phase 1 of the Impact Dashboard project will be ready in November 2026, and the project is being jointly supported by OJC and the Open Book Collective (OBC).

10.
Thank you.



10. Thank you.

We are grateful for the generous support of our international library members. Your ongoing investment in the OLH makes diamond open access publishing sustainable. By diverting funds away from commercial subscriptions, you are helping to build a not-for-profit publishing future.

Supporters by country.

Australia
University of Melbourne

University of Sydney

University of the Sunshine Coast

Austria
Academy of Fine Arts

FWF (The Austrian Science Fund)

Universitätsbibliothek Klagenfurt

University of Graz

University of Salzburg

Vienna University Library and Archive Services

Belgium
Ghent University

KU Leuven

Université catholique de Louvain

Université de Liège

University of Antwerp

Canada
Brock University

Carleton University

Concordia University

Dalhousie University

Laurentian University

MacEwan University

McGill University

McMaster University

Memorial University of Newfoundland

Mount Royal University

Nipissing University

Ontario Tech University

Queen's University

Ryerson University

Simon Fraser University

Trent University

Université de Montréal

University of Alberta

University of British Columbia

University of Guelph

University of Ottawa

University of Saskatchewan

University of Toronto

University of Waterloo

University of Winnipeg

Western University

Wilfrid Laurier University

York University

Finland
Abo Akademi University

University of Eastern Finland

University of Helsinki

University of Jyväskylä

France
Ecole Normale Supérieure

Université de Lorraine

Université de Paris

Université de Strasbourg — Service des Bibliothèques

Université Paris 8 Vincennes Saint-Denis

Université Paris Nanterre

Germany
Bibliotheks- und Informationssystem der Universität Oldenburg

Freie Universität Berlin

Giessen University Library

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt

Leibniz-Centre General Linguistics (ZAS), Library

Leibniz-Zentrum für Literatur- und Kulturforschung

Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München, University Library

Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Sachsen-Anhalt Halle

Max Planck Digital Library

Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen

Rostock University Library

Ruhr-Universitaet Bochum

Saarland University and State Library

Sächsische Landesbibliothek Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Dresden

Technische Informationsbibliothek (TIB)

TU Braunschweig / Universitätsbibliothek

Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Duesseldorf

Universität Potsdam

Universitätsbibliothek der TU Berlin

Universitätsbibliothek Duisburg-Essen

Universitätsbibliothek Kassel

Universitätsbibliothek Leipzig

Universitätsbibliothek Tübingen

Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Darmstadt

Universität Trier

University Library Johann Christian Senckenberg of Goethe University, Frankfurt am Main

University Library of Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

University Library of Münster University

University of Bremen

University of Cologne, represented by Universitäts- und Stadtbibliothek Köln

University of Konstanz

University of Regensburg

Greece
Academy of Athens

Aegean University

Agricultural University of Athens

Aquaculture Centre of Acheloos S.A. (ICHTHICA)

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

Athena - Research and Innovation Center in Information Communication and Knowledge Technologies

Athens School of Fine Arts (ASFA)

Athens University of Economics & Business

Biomedical Sciences Research Center 'Alexander Fleming'

Centre for Renewable Energy Sources (CRES)

Centre for Research and Technology (C.E.R.T.H.)

Foundation for Research and Technology (FORTH)

General Secretariat of Research and Technology - Ministry of Education

Harokopio University

Hellenic Agricultural Organization Demeter (former NAGREF)

Hellenic Centre for Marine Research (HCMR)

Hellenic Mediterranean University

Hellenic Open University

Hellenic Parliament Library

Hellenic PASTEUR Institute

Institute of Educational Policy

International Hellenic University

Ionion University

National Centre for Social Research (EKKE)

National Centre of Scientific Research

National Hellenic Research Foundation & National Documentation Centre

National Library of Greece

National Observatory of Athens

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)

Panteion University

School of Pedagogical & Technological Education (A.S.PE.T.E.)

Technical University of Crete

University of Athens

University of Crete

University of Ioannina

University of Macedonia

University of Patras

University of Peloponnese

University of Piraeus

University of Thessaly

University of Thrace

University of West Attica

University of Western Macedonia

Hungary
Hungarian Research Centre for Linguistics

Ireland
Dublin City University

Maynooth University

University College Dublin

University of Galway

University of Limerick

Israel

Hebrew University of Jerusalem

The Netherlands

Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam

Leiden University

National Library of the Netherlands

Radboud University

The Dutch Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO)

Tilburg University

University of Amsterdam

University of Groningen

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Utrecht University

Norway

Molde University College

Norwegian University of Science and Technology

UiT The Arctic University of Norway

University of Bergen

University of Oslo

University of South-Eastern Norway

Portugal

Universidade do Minho

University of Lisbon

Universidade do Porto

Singapore

National University of Singapore

Spain

Spanish National Research Council (CSIC)

Sweden

Linnaeus University

National Library of Sweden

Riksbankens Jubileumsfond

Stockholm University

Uppsala University

Switzerland

ETH Zurich

Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies

Hochschule Luzern

Università della Svizzera italiana

Université de Neuchâtel, Bibliothèque des Lettres et Sciences Humaines

University Library of Bern

University of Basel

University of Geneva

University of St. Gallen Library

University of Zurich

Zentral- und Hochschulbibliothek Luzern

Zürcher Hochschule der Künste

United Kingdom

Bath Spa University

Birkbeck, University of London

Cardiff University

Durham University

Edge Hill University

Goldsmiths, University of London

Imperial College London

King's College London

Lancaster University

Liverpool John Moores University

London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE)

London South Bank University

Loughborough University

Manchester Metropolitan University

Newcastle University

Northumbria University

Nottingham Trent University

Queen Mary University of London

Queen's University, Belfast

Roehampton University

School of Advanced Study

Sheffield Hallam University

SOAS, University of London

The British Library

The Open University

University College London (UCL)

University of Aberdeen

University of Bath

University of Birmingham

University of Brighton

University of Bristol

University of Cambridge

University of Dundee

University of East Anglia

University of Edinburgh

University of Essex

University of Exeter

University of Glasgow

University of Leeds

University of Leicester

University of Liverpool

University of Manchester

University of Oxford

University of Plymouth

University of Reading

University of Salford

University of Sheffield

University of Southampton

University of St. Andrews

University of Stirling

University of Strathclyde

University of Sussex

University of the Arts, London

University of Warwick

University of York

United States of America

Allegheny College

Arkansas State University

Bates College

Baylor University

Bethel University

Boston College

Boston University

Brown University Library

California State University, East Bay

Carleton College

Carnegie Mellon University

Claremont Colleges

Coates Library, Trinity University

Colby College

Columbia University Libraries

Concordia University Texas

Cornell University

Dartmouth College

Davidson College

DePauw University

Dickinson College

Digital Theological Library/ Claremont School of Theology

Duke University

Florida Southern College

Florida State University Libraries

Franklin & Marshall College Library

George Mason University

Gettysburg College

Grinnell College

Hamilton College

Harvard Library

Indiana University

Iowa State University Library

James Madison University Libraries

Johns Hopkins University

Kenyon College Library

Loyola Marymount University

Macalester College

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Miami University Libraries

Michigan State University

Montana State University

Mount St. Mary's University

New York University

Northwestern University

Oberlin College

Occidental College

Ohio State University

Ohio University

Oklahoma State University

Penn State University

Portland State University

Princeton University

Purdue University Libraries

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Santa Clara University

Skidmore College

Stanford University

Swarthmore College

Syracuse University

Temple University

Texas Christian University

The George Washington University

The University of Iowa

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Tufts University

University of Arizona Libraries

University of Arkansas

University of California, Berkeley

University of California, Davis

University of California, Irvine

University of California, Los Angeles

University of California, Merced

University of California, Riverside

University of California, San Diego

University of California, San Francisco

University of California, Santa Barbara

University of California, Santa Cruz

University of Chicago

University of Delaware

University of Florida

University of Georgia

University of Illinois

University of Kansas

University of Maryland Libraries – College Park

University of Massachusetts Amherst

University of Michigan

University of Minnesota

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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University of North Dakota

University of Oklahoma

University of Pennsylvania

University of Pittsburgh

University of Rhode Island

University of Rochester

University of San Diego

University of San Francisco

University of South Florida

University of Texas at Austin

University of the Pacific

University of Utah

University of Virginia Library

University of Washington

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia Tech

Washington and Lee University

Washington University in St. Louis

Wayne State University

West Virginia University

Whittier College

Yale University

11.
Looking ahead.



11. Looking ahead.

Looking ahead to 2026-27, we're keen to continue our operational improvements to maximise our efficiency and balance staff workloads. Next year will see the introduction of two new funding streams at OLH so we have work to do setting up new workflows and supporting additional OLH and Janeway users.

Janeway repository hosting.

We'll be welcoming our first university to Janeway's new institutional repository hosting service — our parent organisation, Birkbeck, University of London. Working closely with our Birkbeck library colleagues, the Janeway team will develop additional institutional repository features, with the aim of moving the Birkbeck Research Data (BiRD) and Birkbeck Institutional Research Online (BIROn) repositories onto Janeway.

This work will help us build out support for institutional workflows and metadata requirements, whilst giving us the opportunity to develop these features alongside an institution that will use them. As with the rest of Janeway, everything developed through this work will be open source and available to other institutions.

Securing additional funds for OLH journals.

As a Publishing Member of the new Open Journals Collective (OJC), OLH has secured 'top-up' funding for 29 of its journals in 2026. These top-up funds complement the existing publishing support that OLH journals receive via our own library membership programme.

The funds will enable participating OLH journals to invest directly in what they need to improve journal sustainability and support editorial team workloads. Permitted spending will include, for example, hiring editorial assistants and freelance staff, copy-editing, journal rebranding, and the digitisation or purchase of paywalled back content.

We have already secured top-up funding for an additional 5 new OLH journals joining in 2027 that successfully applied to join the OJC next year. We will continue working closely with the OJC team to ensure that the payment workflows for journals receiving these funds is as smooth as possible. This work involves OJC building a new platform with a publishing and journals members' area, drawing on a two-year grant of $711,900 provided by the Gates Foundation.



Our journals.

Coming soon.





Current OLH journals.

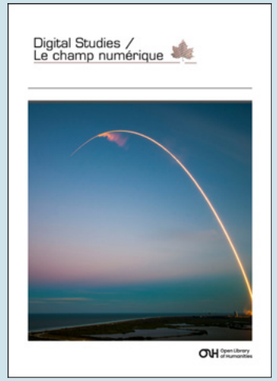


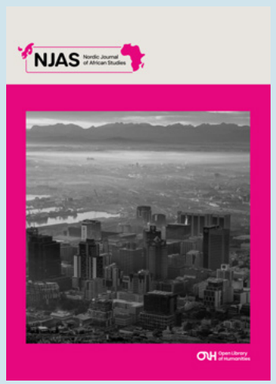






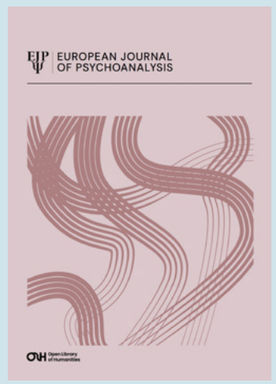


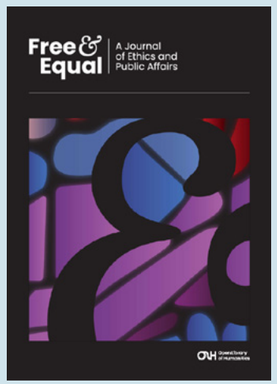


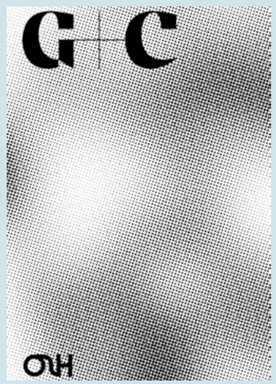










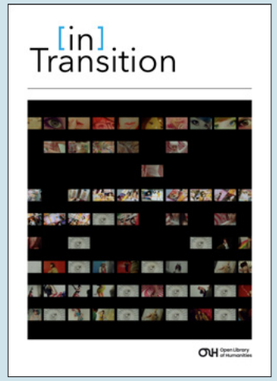


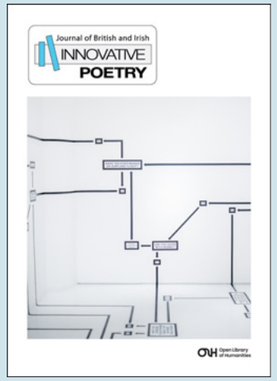




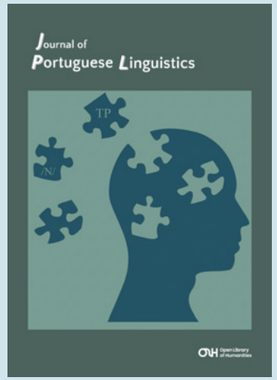


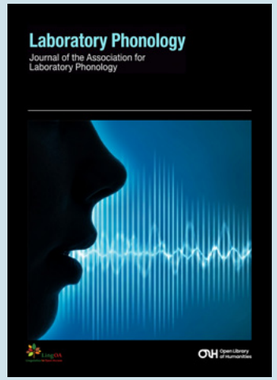




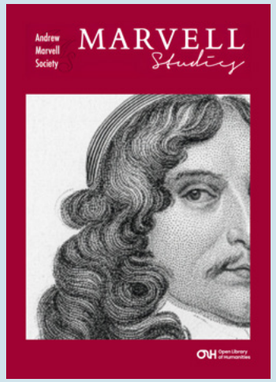






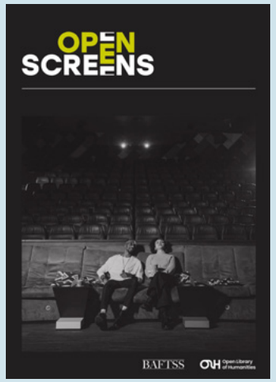


Current OLH journals (cont.).







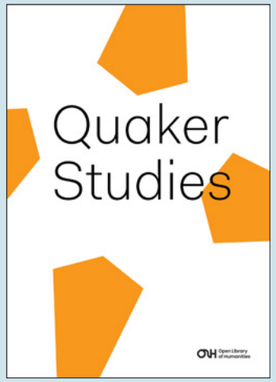


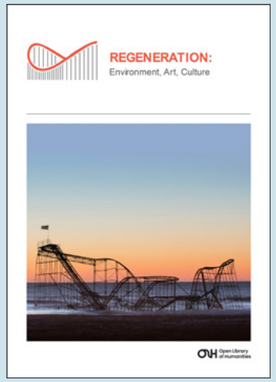




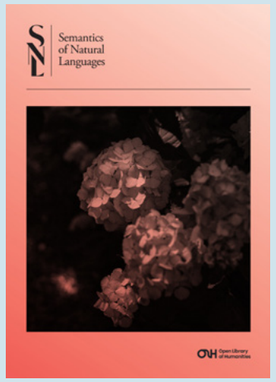


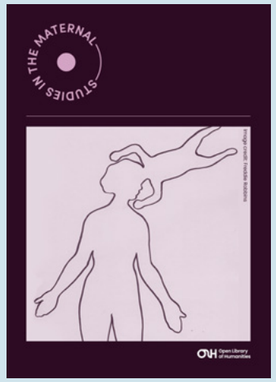


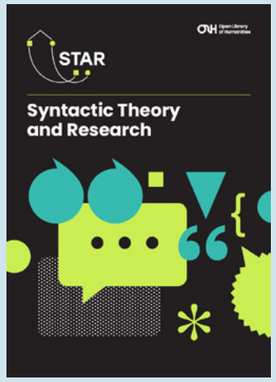




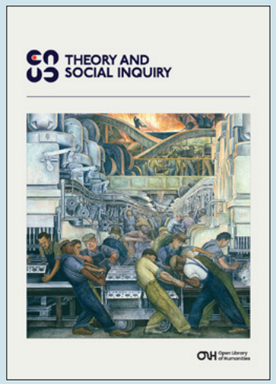


















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