Open Book Collective:

A Collective Path Toward an Open and Sustainable Monograph Future

Speakers:

Lidia Uziel:
○ Associate University Librarian for Research Resources & Scholarly Communication, University of California Santa Barbara
○ Chair, Board of Stewards, Open Book Collective

Livy Snyder:
○ Outreach Associate, Open Book Collective
○ Associate Director for Community and Library Outreach, punctum books

CNI Fall 2023 Membership Meeting
December 12, 2023
JW Marriott Hotel, Washington, DC
To successfully create a new path toward an open and sustainable monograph future, especially in the humanities and social sciences—and particularly for the long tail of small, nonprofit, and under-funded scholar-led publishers—the global community of publishers, infrastructure providers, and libraries must develop new OA publishing and funding models supported by fully open and sustainable infrastructures.
Building community-owned infrastructures to support open access books

2019–2023

outputs

+ Thoth Archiving Network

Open Book Futures
A copim community project

OpenBook Collective

+ OBC Community Governance

2023–2026

Awarded £5.8 Million

Open Book Futures
A copim community project
Open Book Collective: Aims and Ethos

**Aims**
- Raise new revenue streams for OA publishers & SPs
- Support a model of OA book publishing not reliant on BPCs
- Make it easier for librarians to subscribe to OA membership schemes
- Build a new community of publishers, service providers, librarians

**Ethos**
- Open infrastructure
- Not for profit (a charity, in the process of being registered)
- Community-led
- Supporting bibliodiversity
The OBC is not just a financial intermediary between open access book initiatives and funders, but instead is an interdependent and mutually reliant community of persons and organisations, all with vested interests in the transformation of academic book publishing.
Open Book Collective: Platform and Shared Catalog

Screenshot of the OBC’s online platform

OBC's shared catalogue supported by Thoth
The OBC’s business model is distributive: small annual contributions sourced from a network of research institutions across the world form a robust revenue pool that enables an extremely cost-effective method for funding open access books in which no single institution bears a disproportionate cost and publisher and publishing service provider members share revenue and resources with each other.
Benefits for Libraries and Research Institutions

**Aggregation**
Acting as a membership package aggregator & discovery portal

**Relevance**
Quick & consistent information about values / priorities / subject focus of initiatives (including full book catalogue)

**Due Diligence**
Expert scrutiny of peer review practices, governance procedures, business models

**Workflow**
One procurement process, integration with third party payment arrangements
Open Book Futures
A cOpiM community project

£5.8 million funding to significantly expand and accelerate COPiM open access infrastructures

- LYRASIS
- DOAB
- RLUK
- SPARC Europe
- OPERAS
- Jisc
- SCURL
- SciELO

Expansion of outreach both within Anglophone contexts & beyond

Grant giving pilot, via Collective Development Fund, to build publishing capacity

Platform enhancements + new OBC Info Hub
Call For Applications: Towards Sustainable Open Access Book Publishing in the African Context

Dates: February 7th, 8th, 9th 2024
Location: University of Cape Town

Partners: Association of African Universities, African Platform for Open Scholarship (formerly Continental Platform), Lancaster University, Open Book Collective, Thoth, OAPEN/DOAB

Application deadline: 15th December 2023

https://openbookcollective.pubpub.org/pub/call-for-applications-towards-sustainable-open-access-book-publishing-in-the-african-context/release/1
Conclusion: Long-term sustainability of the OA publishing ecosystem for monographs

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