Scaling Small Conference
Introduction:
Past and Futures of Community-Owned Book Publishing

Janneke Adema

“Scaling Small: Community-Owned Futures for Open Access Books”,
April 20, 3.30-8.15pm (BST) & April 21, 3-7pm (BST)
Programme overview

All times are British Summer Time (BST). Time zone converter available [here](https://scalingsmall.pubpub.org/)

**Day 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:00pm</td>
<td>Opening and Introduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:30-4:30pm</td>
<td>Keynote Panel with short presentations</td>
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<td>4:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:45-7:15pm</td>
<td>Futures of Collective Funding</td>
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<td>break at 5:45-6:15pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:15-8:15pm</td>
<td>Community Governance in Practice: Governance in OA Spaces</td>
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**Day 2**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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<tr>
<td>3-3.05pm</td>
<td>Welcome back</td>
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<tr>
<td>3.05-4.05pm</td>
<td>Open Infrastructure</td>
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<td>4.05-5.05pm</td>
<td>Experimental Publishing Compendium Launch</td>
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<td>5.05-5:30pm</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30-6:30pm</td>
<td>Archiving &amp; Preservation of Open Access Monographs:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Challenges &amp; the Way Forward</td>
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<td>6:30-7:00pm</td>
<td>Closing</td>
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General Information

Conference platform
The conference will be held on the open source, browser-based meeting platform BigBlueButton.

The recommended browsers are:
Desktop/Laptop: Chrome, Firefox or Edge (latest versions)
Mobile iOS (12.2+): Safari Mobile
Mobile Android (6.0+): Chrome Mobile

More information on BigBlueButton on: https://bigbluebutton.org/

Recording
Please note that the panels and keynote presentations will be recorded for documentation and research purposes. You will be informed when the recording starts. If you object to being recorded, you can leave the conference or take steps such as turning your microphone and/or camera off.

Code of Conduct
This conference abides by COPIM's Code of Conduct, which is available at: https://copim.pubpub.org/pub/code-of-conduct/

By participating in this conference, participants accept to abide by COPIM’s Code of Conduct and accept the procedures by which any Code of Conduct incidents are resolved.
Collaborations with...

The British Library; UKSG; SCURL; Jisc; UKRI; RLUK; NAG; …

KOALA, CODRIA, and Scholar-led Plus, projects; the German-speaking scholar-led.network initiative; NFDI4Culture.

European Science Cloud’s Provider Marketplace & EOSC Pillar

OPERAS; LIBER; OpenAIRE, COAR; EIFL; SPARC Europe

PALOMERA

SciELO Books

Open Access Books Network

Continental Platform

Open Access Australasia & COKI
Guiding Questions

What might a developed non-commercial ecosystem for open access book publishing look like and what is needed to create it?

How can we safeguard the landscape against corporate acquisition?

Who will be the players in such an environment, and how will we work together?

What role can scaling small play in fostering uptake of a non-commercial alternative to commercial publishing?
Scaling Small is...

an alternative organisational principle for governing community-led publishing projects based on mutual reliance, care, and other forms of commoning [...] this principle eschews standard approaches to organisational growth that tend to flatten community diversity through economies of scale. Instead, it puts forward the idea that scale can be nurtured through intentional collaborations between community-driven projects that promote a bibliodiverse ecosystem while providing resilience through resource sharing and other kinds of collaboration.

(Adema and Moore, 2021)
COPIM has been a response to...

- The growth of open access business models based on Book Processing Charges
- The enclosure of publishing infrastructures
COPIM has worked towards...

• Addressing the hurdles around OA books with existing infrastructures;
• Changing these infrastructures, or creating new, community-owned infrastructures;
• Establishing networks and collaborations with similar community-owned, scholar-led initiatives;
• Supporting the creation of other situated value-driven book publishing projects.
Our Values and Principles

All of our principles are based on our values. However, as all values are always contextual and situated, we will always remain critical of friction-free utopias. Hence, we see our values and principles as a process of working towards, of working with and across difference. They should be read as a reflection of intention. We don’t see friction or conflict in defining our values and principles as a hindrance but as part of our working mode. Therefore, we will continue to update them as we progress forward and as our surrounding environment changes, following our living/versioned document or processual publishing approach.

Bibliophilia (love and care for books)

We care for books and profess a dedication to quality content, good design, good open principles, user-friendliness, and a dedication to (different forms of) quality peer review. We care for the preservation and archiving of open access books and argue for care-full and broad open dissemination. We work to enable open books of many kinds being shared as widely as possible.

Community-led (driven by the community of communities dedicated to public knowledge and the love of the book)

- We pledge to create inalienable systems that cannot be co-opted or overtaken by the interests of a few players or commercial entities;
- We will remain community-driven and non-competitive, and encourage horizontal structures empowering the community to make strategic, operational, and financial decisions;
- We want to support a broader network or ecosystem of community-led scholarly communications organisations dedicated to the production and long-term maintenance of an open commons.

Open and public knowledge (inclusive, open source, open access, open ways of working)

- We support open infrastructures and interoperability between open infrastructures, and pledge to work towards openness in all of the ways in which we run our projects and organisations;
- We will be dedicated to public knowledge that is open and shareable across multiple borders;
- We support open-source, portability, open standards and metadata, reuse, and reproducibility (copyright).

DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion)

- We will be governed by representatives from a broad cross-section of stakeholders;
- We work towards supporting a plurality of research subjects, technologies, approaches, languages, nations, agents (scholars, the academic and research community, the general public) with the aim to traverse multiple discipline, geographic, national, and institutional boundaries;
- We strive for inclusivity in all our community structures, spaces, and interactions;
- We will empower community members to take collective action, provide spaces for the community to grow, and encourage different voices, perspectives, and approaches;
- We will strive to recognize potential barriers to participation and work to avoid and overcome them in the structures we create.

Scaling Small (collaboratively networked with like-minded entities)

- We aim to bring people together who are interested in developing a shared vision for open access;
- By working together, we will scale small in order to enable equitable participation in the development of open access books;
- To enable open access book publishing we will design and build infrastructures of different types and scales that can be engaged with and adopted in a range of different levels by actors of different sizes and backgrounds, who share our vision.

Anti-competitive (opposed to the competitive practices that pit presses as well as other stakeholders in open publishing against one another in the pursuit of financial profit)

- By bringing like-minded entities together, we will nurture an anti-competitive ecosystem for open access book publishing.

Non-hierarchical (pro-horizontal relationships)

- Within COPIIM, we strive towards non-hierarchical or horizontal ways of working. We also want to promote these ways of working through our partnerships with stakeholders who are working within the same terrain to create open ecosystems.
COPIM has worked towards...

• Addressing the hurdles around OA books with existing infrastructures;
• Changing these infrastructures, or creating new, community-owned infrastructures;
• Establishing networks and collaborations with similar community-owned, scholar-led initiatives;
• Supporting the creation of other situated value-driven book publishing projects.
Major outputs

**OpenBook Collective**
est. 2022 as

**THOTH**
est. 2022 as a CIC in the UK

**Opening The Future**
est. 2020

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The Experimental Publishing Compendium is a guide and reference for scholars, publishers, developers, librarians, and designers who want to challenge, push and redefine the shape, form and rationale of scholarly books. The compendium brings together tools, practices, and books to promote the publication of experimental scholarly works. Read more

To be est. 2023