

*COPIM @ SCURL Annual Conference 2022*



## **An international partnership**

Libraries,  
Universities,  
OA book publishers,  
Researchers,  
Infrastructure providers.

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# Making Open Access Book Funding Work Fairly

Opportunities for supporting  
Open Access books

Professor Martin Paul Eve

COPIM & Birkbeck, University of London

*SCURL Annual Conference 2022*



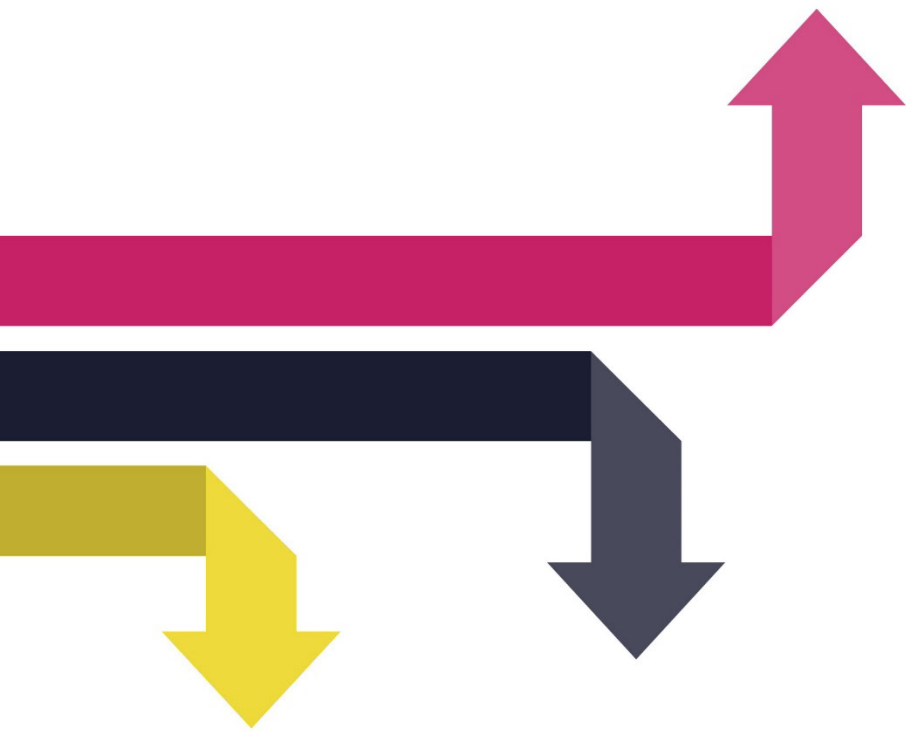
# Why OA and why does it matter?

- COVID 19 has exposed how vital OA is to the future of scholarly communications while also ripping out the heart of library budgets
- The traditional publishing model is broken
- Traditional sales of academic books have dropped but we're still working the way we always have
- OA offers increased readership, usage and citation
- Funder mandates



# OA Policies

- "The truth is that we must all go further" - Amanda Solloway, Minister for Science, Research and Innovation, August 2021
- UKRI review published August 2021 (only for project funding):
  - Zero-embargo green requirement
  - OA extended to monographs from 2024
- REF review will be next
  - Ministerial steer is clear on direction of travel
  - But not yet set in stone
  - Unclear what funding would be provided for OA monographs
    - See Eve, Martin Paul, Kitty Inglis, David Prosser, Lara Speicher, and Graham Stone. 2017. 'Cost Estimates of an Open Access Mandate for Monographs in the UK's Third Research Excellence Framework'. Insights: The UKSG Journal 30 (3). <https://doi.org/10.1629/uksg.392>.



## Three strata

Opening the Future,  
MIT's D20, and other  
library subscription  
models

### **Large, well-funded academic presses**

MIT's D20 has a subscription threshold  
before OA titles can be released

### **Small to medium-sized academic presses**

Low risk, no threshold models  
like Opening the Future

### **Scholar-led born-OA presses**

Open collectives working together to  
provide combined offers

# Opening the Future in a nutshell

Library subscribes  
to backlist package  
of *non*-OA books  
offered by publisher



Package access is  
available to subscribing  
library only.

Publisher makes  
backlist package of  
*non*-OA books available  
to members only



Books in the  
subscription package  
remain non-OA.

Publisher uses  
subscription money  
to publish  
new OA books



OA books are  
made available to  
everyone.





# Piloting Opening the Future

## **Liverpool University Press & Central European University Press**



# Benefits of OA: CEU Press

**279**

titles were  
made open  
on Project  
MUSE during

**March to  
June 2020**

they were  
downloaded

**350,000**

times, from

**129**

countries

**7**

of the top 10  
downloads  
were over


**10**

years old



# Liverpool University Press

## Piloting at the series level – the Goldilocks zone



The diagram consists of three circles of different sizes and colors arranged horizontally. The leftmost circle is the largest and is dark grey. The middle circle is medium-sized and is maroon; it has a small wedge-shaped section removed from its top-right edge. The rightmost circle is the smallest and is dark grey. The text is placed inside each circle. Above the middle circle is the Liverpool University Press logo, which includes a red stylized 'L' and the text 'LIVERPOOL UNIVERSITY PRESS' and 'FOUNDED 1899'.

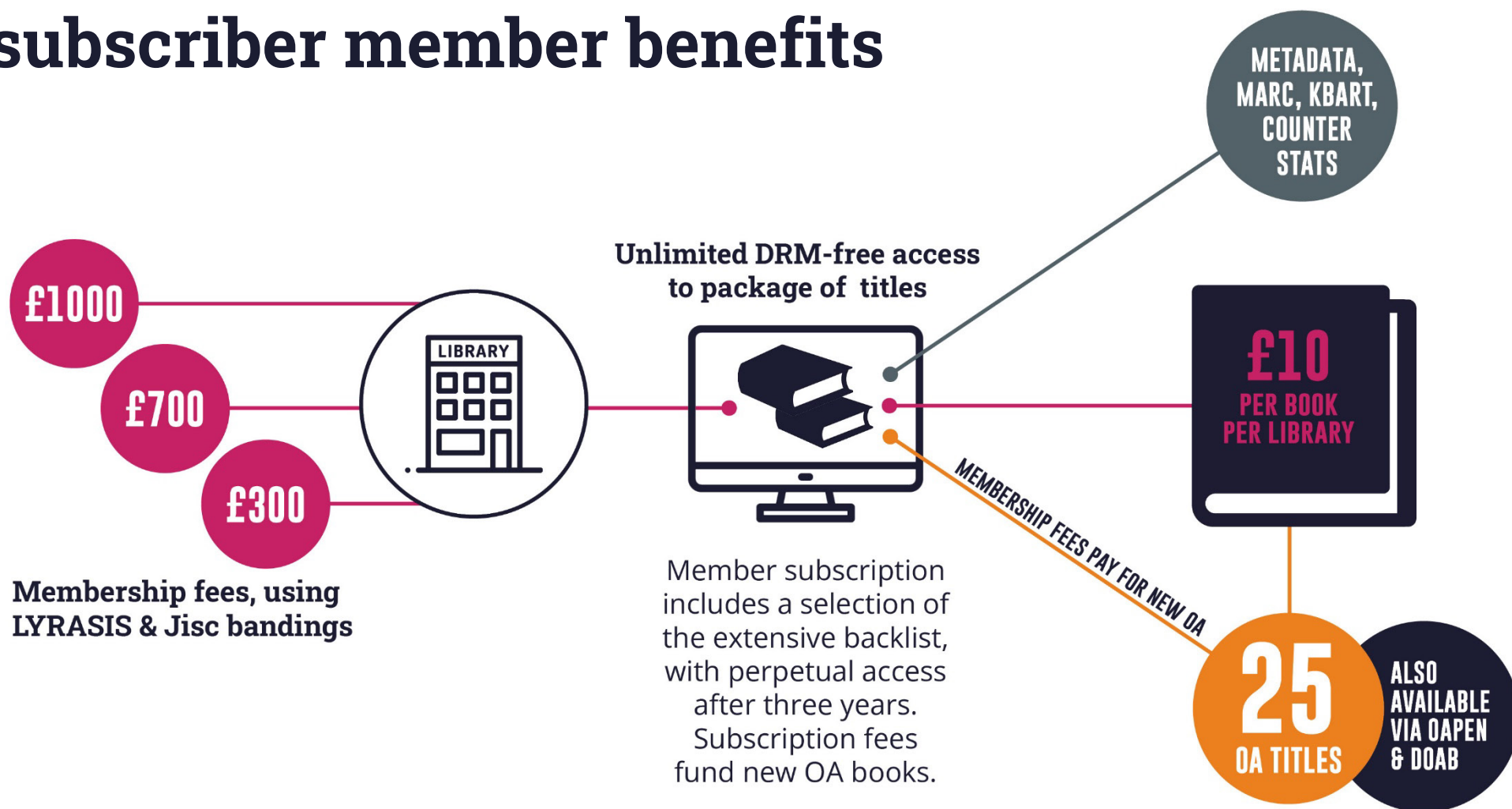
Large publishers with  
diverse and  
profitable portfolios,  
or significant  
endowments

Medium (ish)-sized  
mission-driven  
publisher with no  
institutional  
support

Smaller  
publishers with  
library/academic  
subsidies

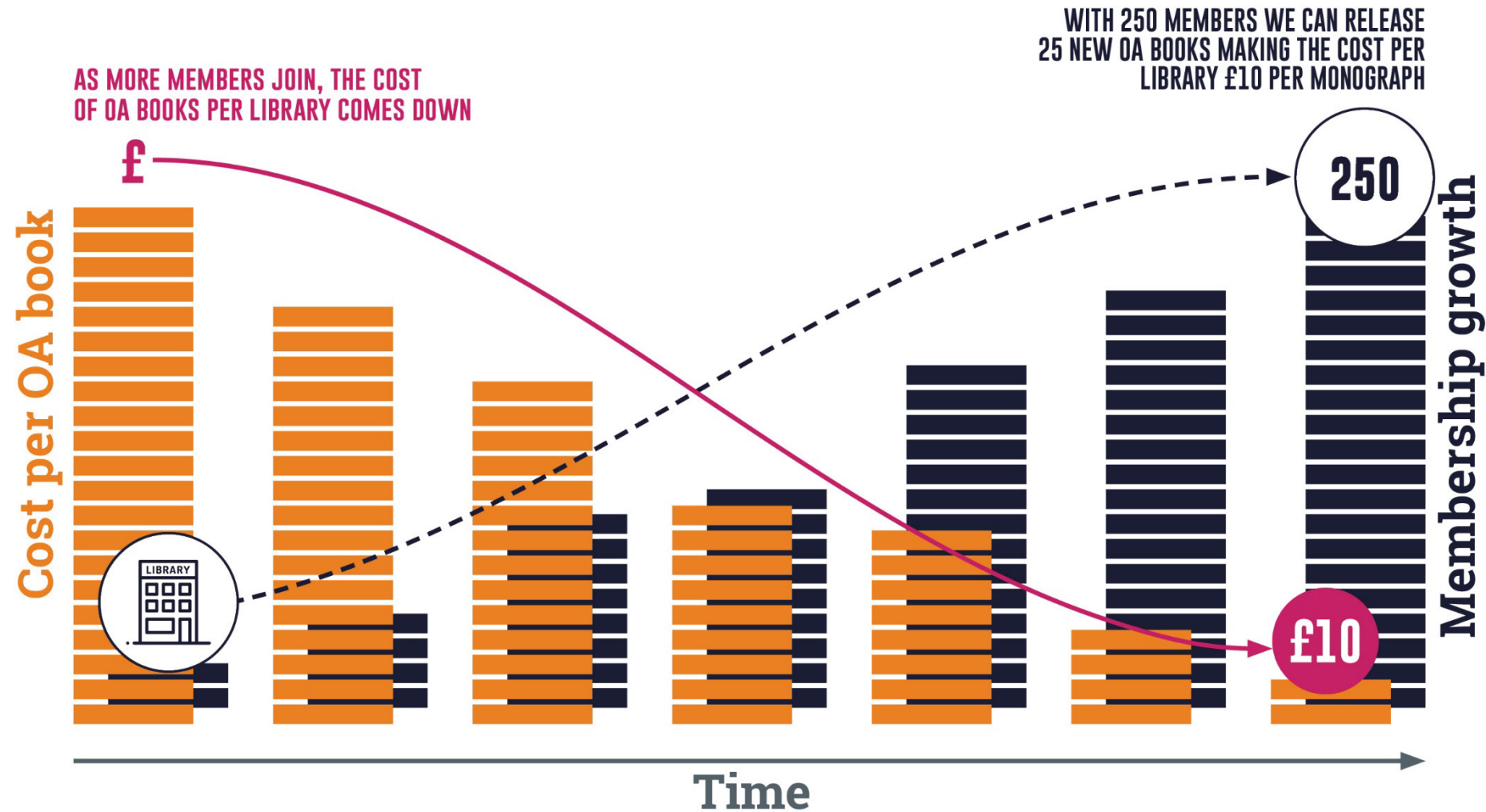
- Squarely in the middle, with no safety net - a good test of sustainability
- If it works here it should work pretty much anywhere in AHSS

# OtF subscriber member benefits



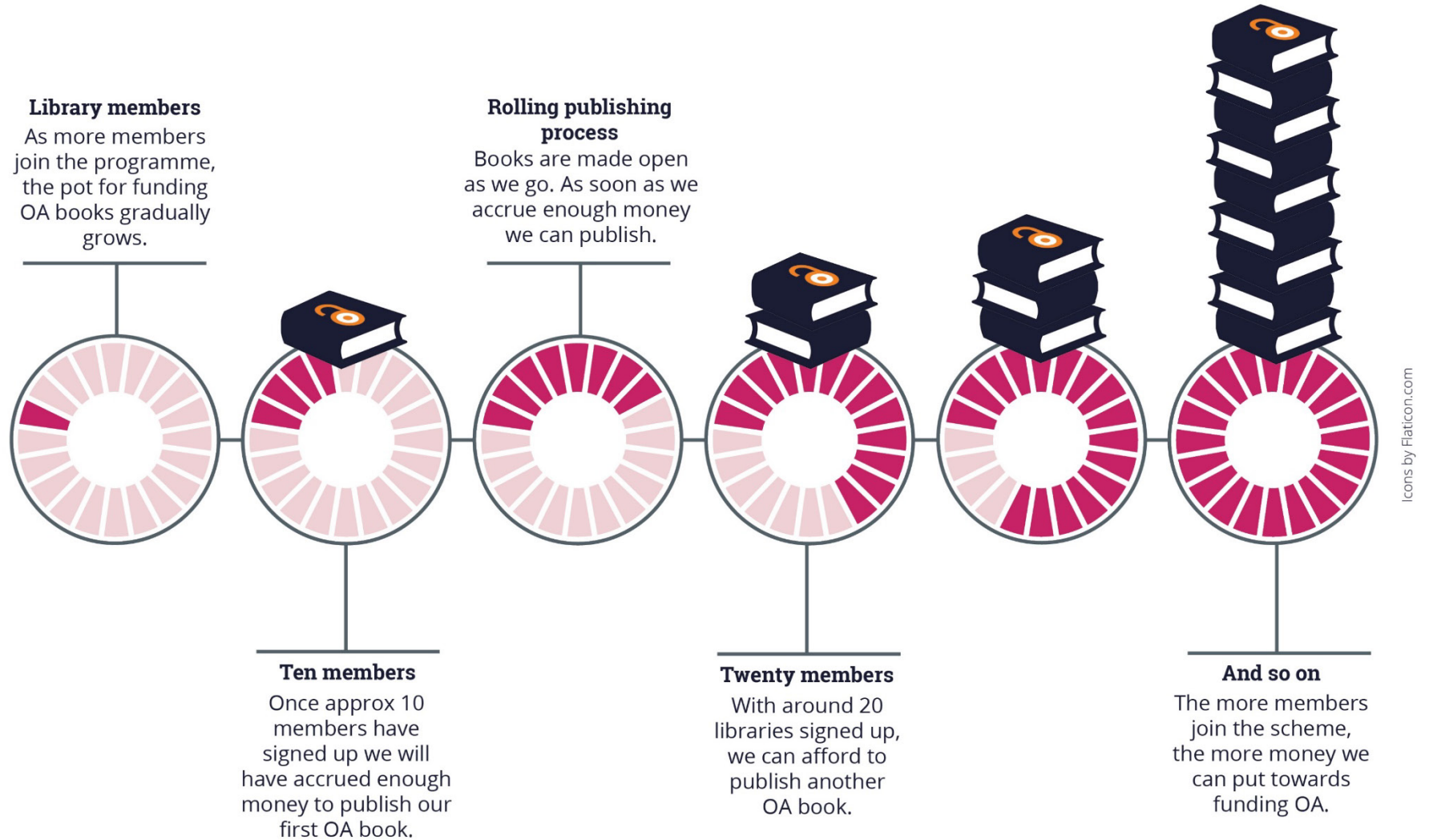
**Note:** Figures are in USD. £10 per book is for indication only and is calculated on the basis of every library receiving 50 books as a subscription and gaining access to 25 new open access books per year. Cost modelling is based on an average membership of £700 per year (our medium-size band pricing) and assumes 250 library members. Appraising the cost per book/per library is only possible once we've had time to accrue members. This is a pilot project.

# As members grow, costs can go down



**Note:** the OA modelling here is based on an average membership of £700 per year (our medium-size band pricing). Appraising the cost per book/per library is only possible once we've had time to accrue members. This is a pilot project.

# As we accrue enough membership funds we can publish the next OA book, a rolling process



**Note:** the OA modelling here is based on an average membership of £700 per year (our medium-size band pricing). Appraising the cost per book/per library is only possible once we've had time to accrue members. This is a pilot project.

# What this model is not

Opening the Future is not  
a 'read and publish' deal



# Value for money

Our highest membership fee  
for one year's access to 50  
titles is equal to half a single  
journal APC!



# For more information



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[openingthefuture.net](http://openingthefuture.net)

*for FAQs, downloadable brochure, lists of  
available titles & ISBNs*