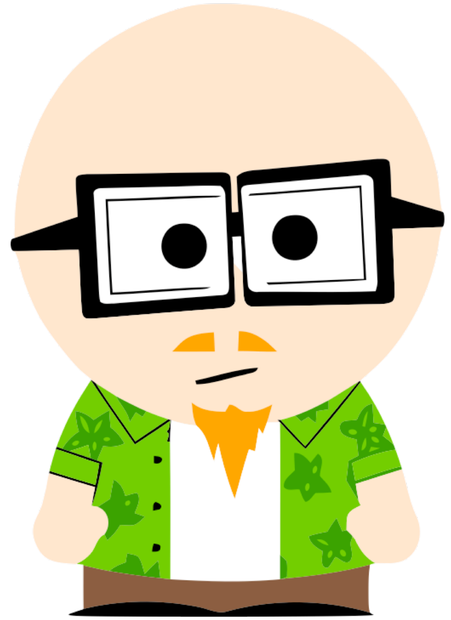
The Principles of Fauxpen Scholarly Infrastructure



Geoffrey Bilder, Louche Cannon, August 2024

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Principles for Open Scholarly Infrastructures

23 FEBRUARY 2015 14 COMMENTS

Cite as "*Bilder G, Lin J, Neylon C (2015) Principles for Open Scholarly Infrastructure-v1, retrievedÂ [date],Â http://dx.doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.1314859*"

UPDATE: This is the original blogpost from 2015 that introduced the Principles. You also have the option to cite or reference the Principles themselves as: Bilder G, Lin J, Neylon C (2020), The Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure, retrieved [date], https://doi.org/10.24343/C34W2H

> *infrastructure* |ËˆÉªnfrÉ™strÊŒktÊƒÉ™| (*noun*) – the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads, power supplies) needed for the operation of a society or enterprise. *Â* – *New Oxford American Dictionary*

Everything we have gained by opening content and data will be under threat if we allow the enclosure of scholarly infrastructures. We propose a set of principles by which Open Infrastructures to support the research community could be run and sustained. – Geoffrey Bilder, Jennifer Lin, Cameron Neylon

Over the past decade, we have made real progress to further ensure the availability of data that supports research claims. This work is far from complete. We believe that data about the research process itself

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The Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure

POSI Version 1.1 Released November 2023

The POSI Adopters—15 organisations at the time—worked on clarifications to the original principles to create version 1.1 on 3rd November 2023. The new/always-current version is below. See the marked-up changes with explanations and the archive of the original version 1.0, for reference.

Governance

- **Coverage across the scholarly enterprise** – research transcends disciplines, geography, institutions, and stakeholders. Organisations and the infrastructure they run need to reflect this.
- **Stakeholder Governed** – a board-governed organisation drawn from the stakeholder community builds confidence that the organisation will take decisions driven by community consensus and a balance of interests.
- **Non-discriminatory participation or membership** – we see the best option as an "opt-in" approach with principles of non-discrimination and inclusivity where any stakeholder group may express an interest and should be welcome. Representation in governance must reflect the character of the community or membership.
- **Transparent governance** – to achieve trust, the processes and policies for selecting representatives to governance groups should be transparent (within

Once upon a time…

2004

STM Innovations Seminar:
'The future of primary publishing: Will navigational services win the day? '

Organised in cooperation with Publishers Association
London, Friday 3rd December 2004

Ed Pentz, Executive Director, CrossRef - Google and science: a common future?
Download Powerpoint presentation, 644 kB

Geoffrey Bilder, Chief Technology Officer (CTO), Ingenta - The role of aggregators: what will remain to be aggregated?
Download Powerpoint presentation, 2.2 MB

What happened?

November 10th: Scopus announced

November 20th: Google Scholar announced

three years to 2007

Geoffrey Bilder To Join Crossref

05 December 2006

Lynnfield, MA. December 05, 2006 – Crossref, the publisher linking association, is extremely pleased to announce the addition of Geoffrey Bilder to its management team. Bilder will assume the newly created role of Director of Strategic Initiatives at Crossref in January of 2007.

Ed Pentz, Executive Director, CrossRef - Google and science: a common future?

Download Powerpoint presentation, 644 kB

Crossref Search

CROSSREF SEARCH
CROSSREF'S FIRST "STRATGIC INITIATIVE"
2003-2004

Scopus®
crossref
Google
Scholar

- Similarity check (née CrossCheck)
- ORCID (née Crossref Contributor ID)
- Open Funder Registry
- CrossMark

“The Principles of Open Infrastructure “

vs

“POSI”

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Principles for Open Scholarly Infrastructures

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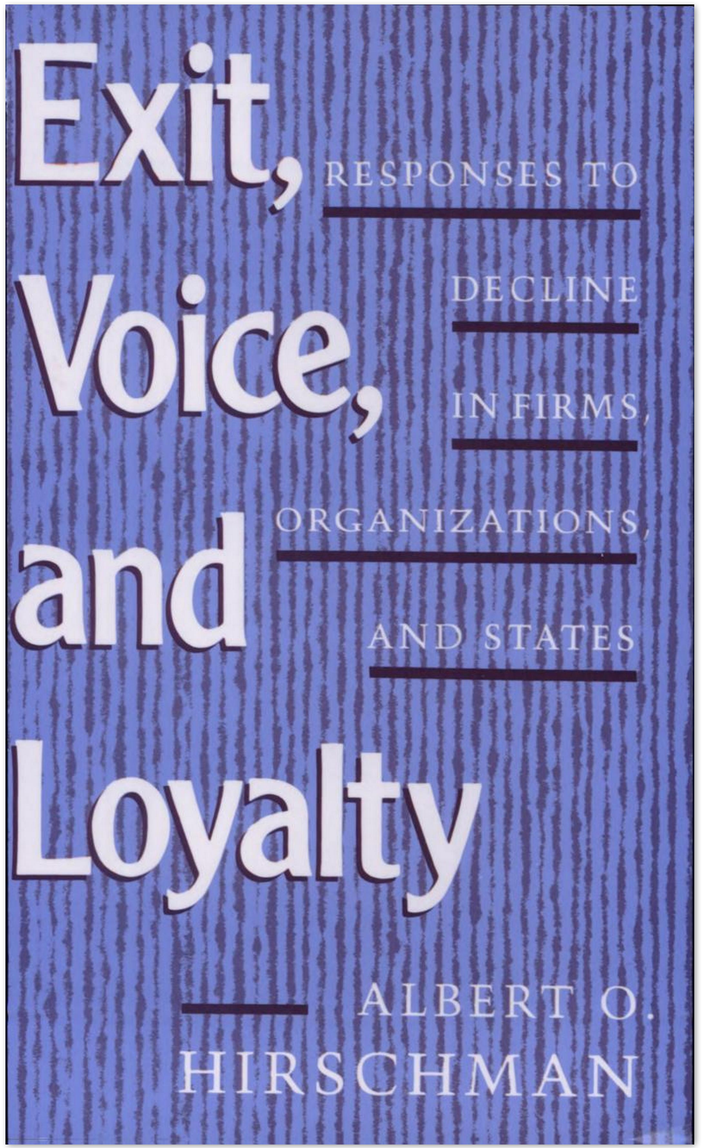
“Everything we have gained by opening content and data will be under threat if we allow the enclosure of scholarly infrastructures”

Geoffrey Bilder, Jennifer Lin, Cameron Neylon

“Voice” and “Exit”



2015-2020

2020-11: Crossref board adopts POSI

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Posse

Who has committed to the POSI principles?

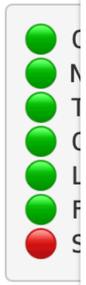
These organizations or initiatives (listed alphabetically) have formally adopted the POSI principles by publishing an initial self-audit, and committed to routinely demonstrating evidence of following POSI in practice.

1. CORE (original posted 2022-May-23)
2. COUNTER (original posted 2024-05-30)
3. Crossref: POSI fan tutte (2022-March-08) and original (2020-December-02)
4. DataCite (original posted 2021-August-30)
5. DOAJ (original posted 2022-October-06)
6. Dryad (original posted 2020-December-08)
7. Europe PMC: Moving to open source (2024-February-26) and original (original posted 2022-February-21)
8. JOSS (original posted 2021-February-14)
9. Liberate Science: Reevaluating POSI: 2023 evolution (2023-November-14) and original (2022-August-02)
10. OAPEN & DOAB (original posted 2023-May-04)
11. OA Switchboard (original posted 2021-October-07)
12. OpenAIRE (original posted 2022-March-29)
13. OpenCitations (original posted 2021-August-09)
14. OurResearch (original posted 2021-June-10)
15. Peer Community In (original posted 2024-April-11)
16. ROR (original posted 2020-December-16)
17. Sciety (original posted 2021-November-22)
18. SciPost (original posted 2024-March-11)

> *If you are considering adopting POSI and would like to chat about it, please reach out to any colleagues at any of the organizations above.*

So how does Crossref

Gov



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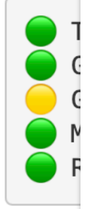

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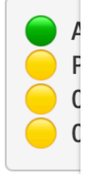


Summary of POSI a

Category	Principl
Governance	Coverag
	Stakeho
	Non-dis
	Transpa
	Cannot
	Living w
	Formal i
Sustainability	Time-lin
	Goal to
	Goal to
	Mission
	Revenue
Insurance	Open sc
	Open da
	Availabl
	Patent r

Table summarising COUNTER

Governance

💚 Coverage across the research enterprise

💛 Stakeholder Governed

💚 Non-discriminatory membership

💚 Transparent operations

💚 Cannot lobby

💛 Living will

Sustainability

💚 Time-limited funds are used only for time-limited activities

💚 Goal to generate surplus

💛 Goal to create a contingency fund to support operations for 12 months

💚 Mission-consistent revenue generation

💚 Revenue based on services, not data

Insurance

💛 Open source

💚 Open data

💚 Available data

💚 Patent non-assertion

Where we are
Green
Green
Green
Amber
Green
Amber
Amber
Green
Green
Green
Green
Amber
Amber
Not applicable
Not applicable
Green

877

Lessons & Observations

Lesson: Principles are not rules

Lesson: Creating a contingency fund is a long and difficult process

Question: Can we create an insurance pool to cover smaller organizations that adopt POSI?

Lesson: Even “services” can be problematic as a sustainability strategy.

Question: Does diamond open access need diamond open scholarly infrastrucure?

Lesson: Organization type matters, but not in the way we tend to think.

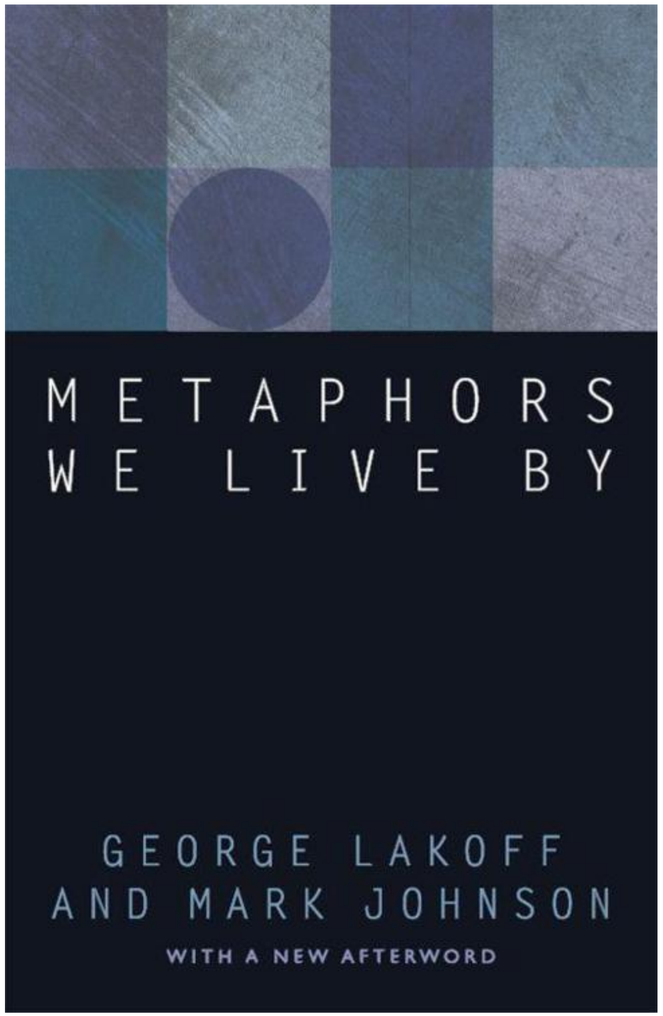
Membership models

“Nonprofit” is “tax status” - not a merit badge in “virtue”

Douglas Muth from Ardmore, PA, USA, CC BY-SA 2.0 <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/2.0>, via Wikimedia Commons

Observation: We are seeing the increased attempts to reframe conversations about scholarly infrastructure.

Framing

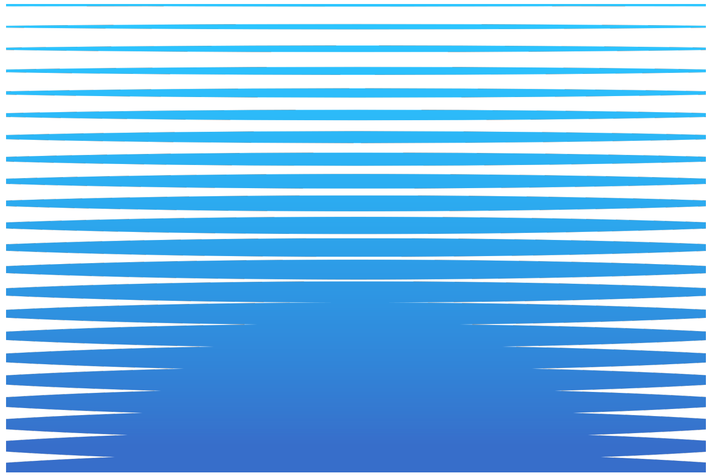

METAPHORS
WE LIVE BY
GEORGE LAKOFF
AND MARK JOHNSON
WITH A NEW AFTERWORD

- nonprofit
- mission-driven, research-driven
- shared infrastructure, common infrastructure
- reseracher-led, researcher focused

RESEARCH REPORT April 24, 2023

Common Scholarly Communication Infrastructure Landscape Review

Oya Y. Rieger
Roger C. Schonfeld



ITHAKA S+R

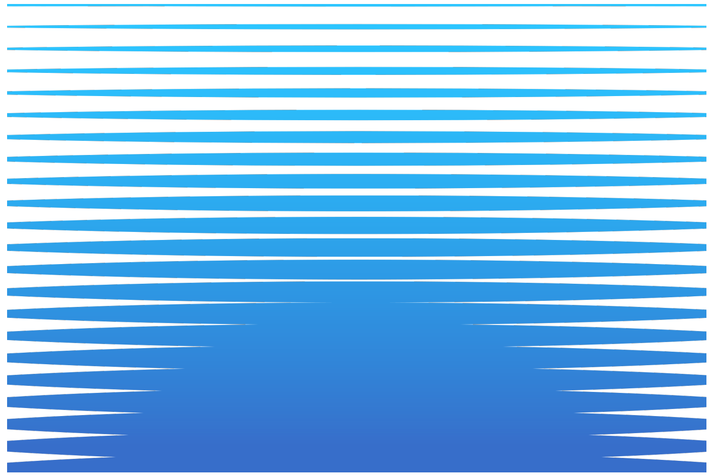
https://doi.org/10.18665/sr.318775

RESEARCH REPORT January 29, 2024

The Second Digital Transformation of Scholarly Publishing

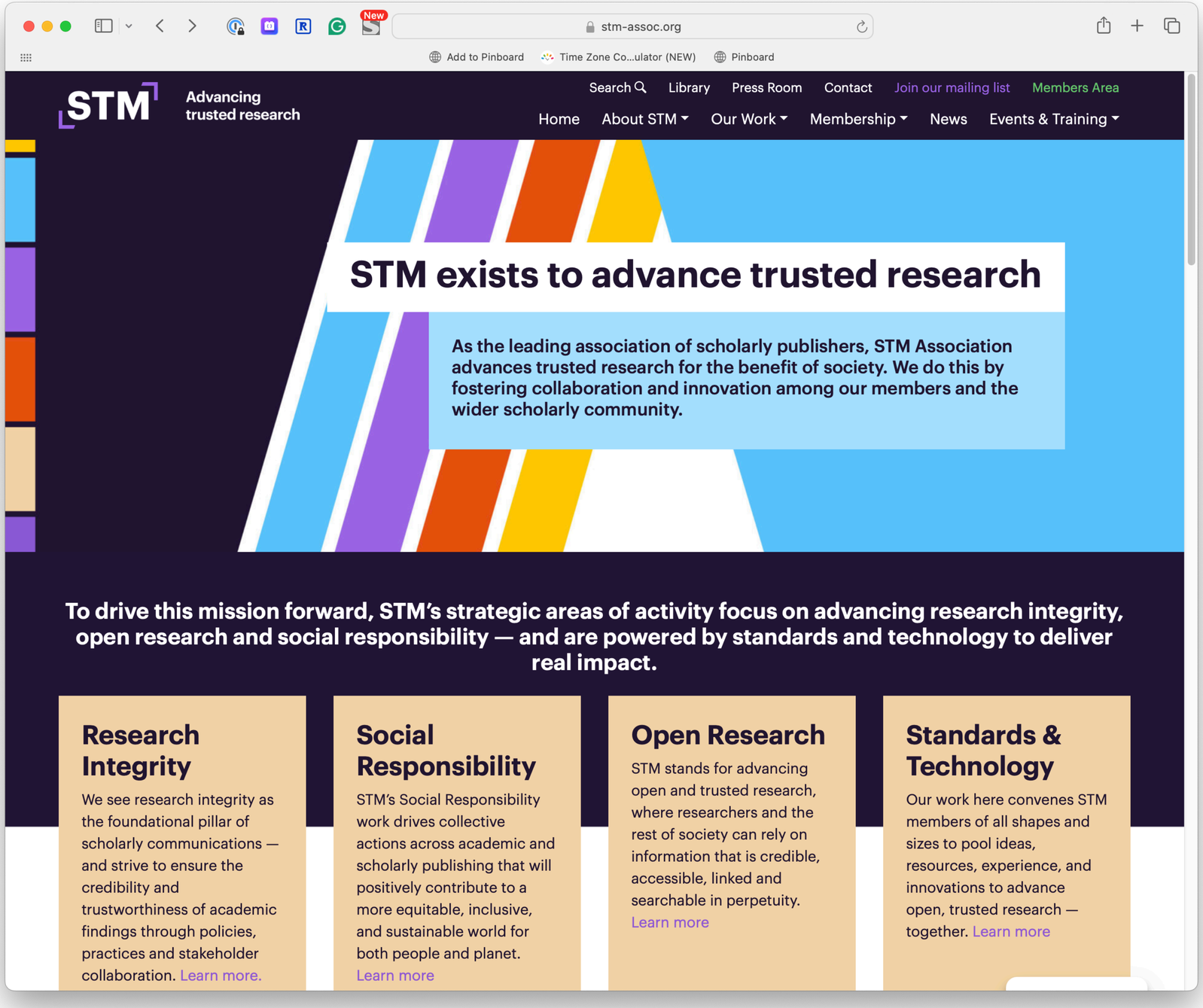
Strategic Context and Shared Infrastructure

Tracy Bergstrom
Oya Y. Rieger
Roger C. Schonfeld



ITHAKA S+R

https://doi.org/10.18665/sr.320210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Advancing trusted research
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Press Room
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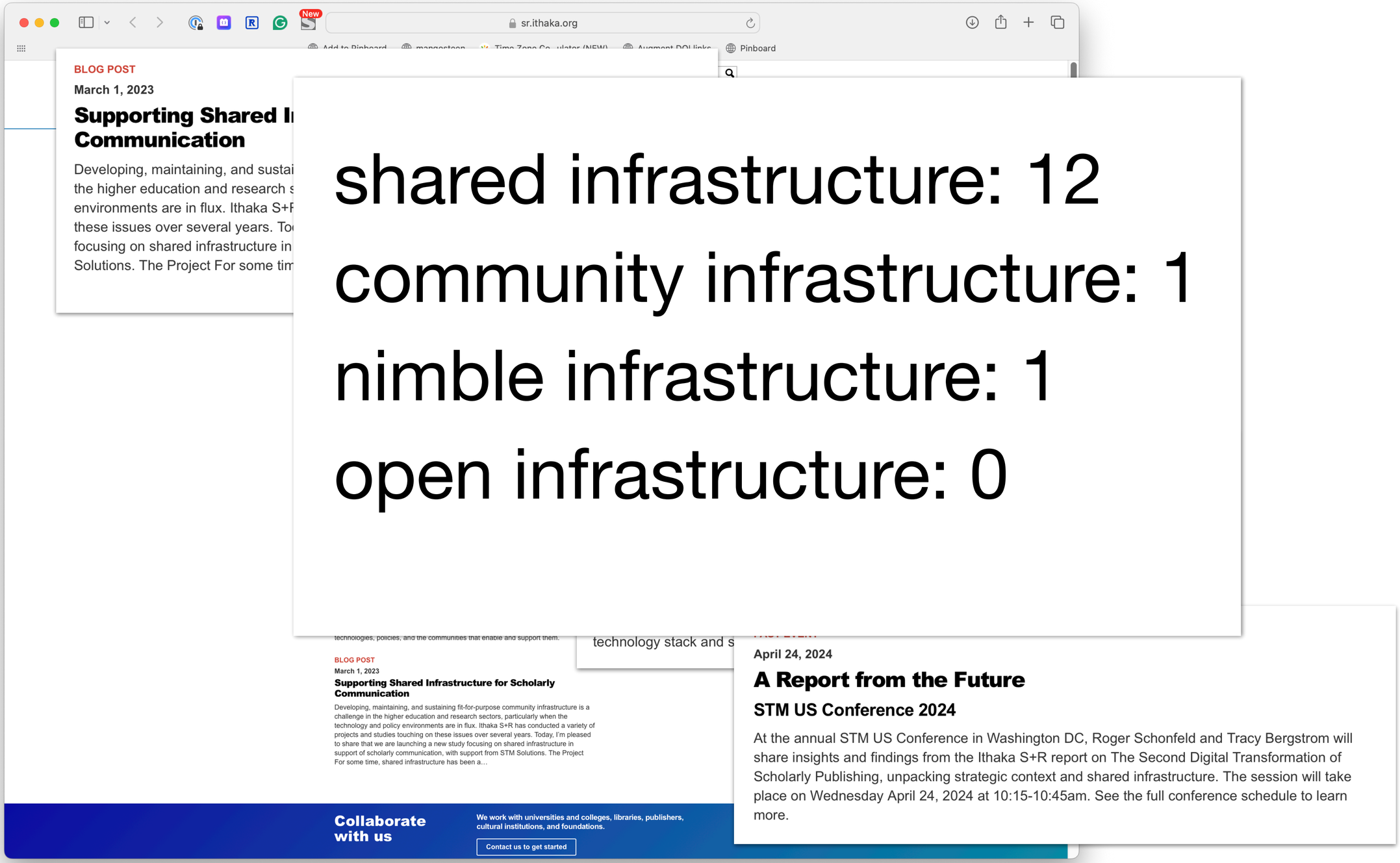
STM exists to advance trusted research
As the leading association of scholarly publishers, STM Association advances trusted research for the benefit of society. We do this by fostering collaboration and innovation among our members and the wider scholarly community.
To drive this mission forward, STM's strategic areas of activity focus on advancing research integrity, open research and social responsibility — and are powered by standards and technology to deliver real impact.
Research Integrity
We see research integrity as the foundational pillar of scholarly communications — and strive to ensure the credibility and trustworthiness of academic findings through policies, practices and stakeholder collaboration. Learn more.
Social Responsibility
STM's Social Responsibility work drives collective actions across academic and scholarly publishing that will positively contribute to a more equitable, inclusive, and sustainable world for both people and planet. Learn more
Open Research
STM stands for advancing open and trusted research, where researchers and the rest of society can rely on information that is credible, accessible, linked and searchable in perpetuity. Learn more
Standards & Technology
Our work here convenes STM members of all shapes and sizes to pool ideas, resources, experience, and innovations to advance open, trusted research — together. Learn more



https://sr.ithaka.org/tags/stm-solutions/

- “Non-profit” is only a tax status. It isn’t a “virtue merit badge.” And being non-profit is no guarantee that an organization’s mission will remain aligned with those of its stakeholders.
- “Misson-driven” and “Research-driven” organizations will only remain so to the degree that they are controlled by their stakeholders.
- “Shared infrastructure” isn’t truly shared if the stakeholders that depend on it don’t also share a role in its governance.
- “Researcher-led” and “researcher-focused” organizations can easily succumb to the fallacy that what best for researchers and, specifically, their careers is what is best for all reserach stakeholders.
- “Openness” is a non-negotiable precondition that allows stakeholders to create their own alternative infrastructure systems if necessary.

“Open” by any other name is not “open”

Observation: “Research Integrity” is the next battleground of Open Scholarly Infrastructure.

Observation: Stakeholder's still don't understand the stakes.

Faff - Blekinge Museum, Sweden - CC0.

https://www.europeana.eu/item/916119/blm_item_80946

If stakeholders do not review and criticize the POSI self-audits, they risk turning into another meaningless managerial communication routine, similar to creating ambiguous, unactionable, and immeasurable mission statements.

877

So is POSI working?

Springer Nature continues open research drive with acquisition of protocols.io

“Since we started work on building protocols.io in 2012, it has been a non-stop challenge to secure sufficient funding.”

The next chapter for protocols.io, Lenny Teytelman

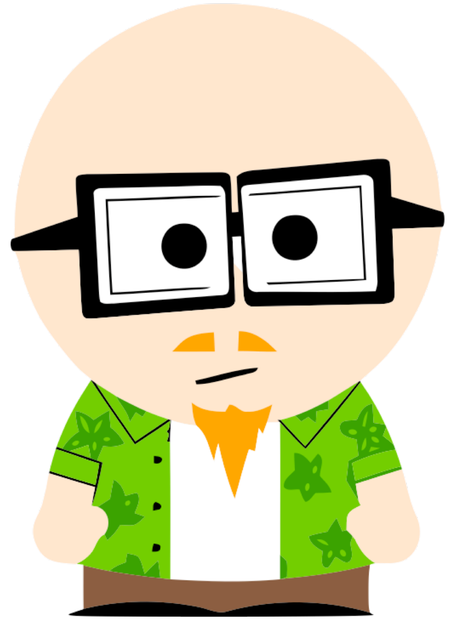
Knowledge Futures invests in PubPub Platform, a new vision for full-stack knowledge infrastructure

> “In early 2022, we announced a plan to pursue sustainability via a combination of Membership support and revenue from publishing services. In the two years since, we have not been able to realize this model.”

Knowledge Futures blog post on July 17, 2024

Who is missing?

The Principles of Fauxpen Scholarly Infrastructure



Geoffrey Bilder, Louche Cannon, August 2024
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