

New systems for Open Access books: an innovative platform from COPIM.

JUDITH FATHALLAH, LANCASTER UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY | DEPARTMENT OF
ORGANISATION, WORK AND TECHNOLOGY

J.FATHALLAH@LANCASTER.AC.UK



What is **copim** ?

Community-led Open Publication Infrastructures for Monographs

www.copim.ac.uk
[@COPIMproject](https://twitter.com/COPIMproject)
copim.pubpub.org

- An international collaboration bringing together a range of researchers, universities, librarians, OA book publishers and infrastructure providers
- 3-year project initially (November 2019 – October 2022)
- Funded by Research England (£2.2M [\$2.7M]), Arcadia (£800K [\$990K]), and from consortium partners (£576K [\$712K])
- To investigate, build and maintain the infrastructures required to promote, sustain and distribute open access academic book publishing.

UC SANTA BARBARA
LIBRARY

doab directory of
open access
books

ScholarLed

LIBRARY
BRITISH



MATTERING PRESS



Loughborough
University



Digital Preservation Coalition



Birkbeck
UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

Coventry
University



punctumbooks

OpenBook
Publishers



meson press



TRINITY
COLLEGE
CAMBRIDGE

Lancaster
University



OPEN HUMANITIES PRESS



Jisc

Work Packages

- WP1: Project Management & Outreach

WP2: Revenue Infrastructures and Management Platform

WP3: Knowledge Exchange and Piloting Alternative Business Models

WP4: Community Governance

WP5: Building an Open Dissemination System

WP6: Experimental Publishing, Re-use, and Impact

WP7: Archiving and Digital Preservation

Stakeholders

Authors

Librarians

OA publishers

copim **Open Book
Collective**

Consortia

**OA infrastructure
providers**

Researchers

Universities

The Platform (Open Book Collective)

- Open Access publishing becoming more popular in journals (esp. sciences), but OA for books lags severely behind
- COPIM has held workshops and interviews with university librarians regarding the problems of access and making OA books available
- OA books often lack specific systems for discovery and dissemination
- Metadata can be poorly integrated and hard to find
- Major publishers have established workflows for getting books into university libraries. It can be hard for small OA publishers to access library funding schemes
- OA books are not effectively accessed by institutions, and libraries find it hard to assess which initiatives to support Currently designing and building a platform (OBC) to support OA infrastructures: process of consultative outreach

Our aim: to maximize the distribution of OA academic books and streamline the workflows that make them available in libraries, whilst building sustainable publishing models that keep education open for the future.

How?

- Make it easier for organisations, including scholarly libraries, to support open access.

Make it easier to:

- understand and compare different initiatives, to discover and explore the range of OA content available
- understand how different initiatives align with the values and needs of different institutions
- subscribe to any membership programmes they offer.
- Revenue management will provisionally be through JISC and metadata integration through [Thoth](#)

Open Book Collective will provide support to publishers and other initiatives looking to work collectively (e.g. ScholarLed)

What is needed?

A collective that values collaboration and co-operation over competition and genuinely open publishing models

A scalable model and platform

A mutually supportive network for the OA community

We offer:

A user-friendly, integrated platform to explore, discover, access and support OA monographs from a range of leading OA publishers and infrastructure providers via high-quality integrated metadata and fully searchable catalogues.

It offers a choice of flexible subscription packages, through which patrons can participate in the governance and maintenance of the platform.

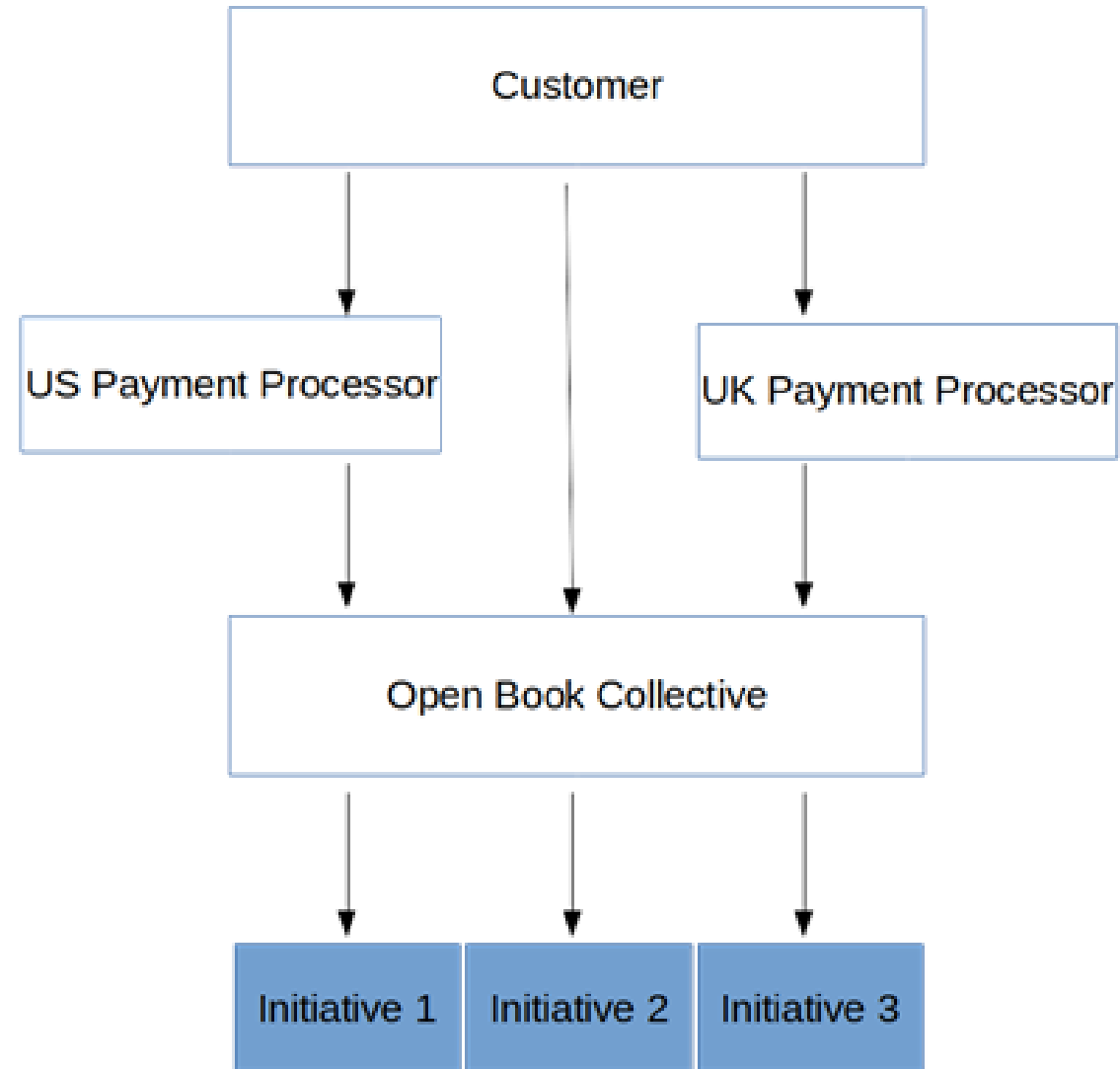
For publishers and infrastructure providers, space to display, promote, catalogue, organize and access library funding. Networking opportunities with librarians, institutions, and other end users, and customizable members' spaces.

Current design specs* include:

- Membership builder (for libraries to choose flexible subscription package)
- Functionality to sign up at different levels (and view/get price without buying)
- Library viewport (management dashboard at login)
- Initiative viewport
- [Thoth](#) integration

* This is a working document

Payment Flow



What Else We've Learned

The platform should be guaranteed as non-profit and to remain so

Should not be focused on individual titles but offer a range of flexible packages

Should be simple for librarians (& publishers?) to use

Would benefit from support from local and trusted partners

Should be collaboratively governed by a range of stakeholders scholars, librarians & publishers

See: <https://copim.pubpub.org/pub/sketching-a-direction-of-travel-an-update-from-wp-2/release/3>

Governance

All stakeholder groups to be represented at Administrative Committee Level

Concentric & Cooperative Model
(with a soft hierarchical component)

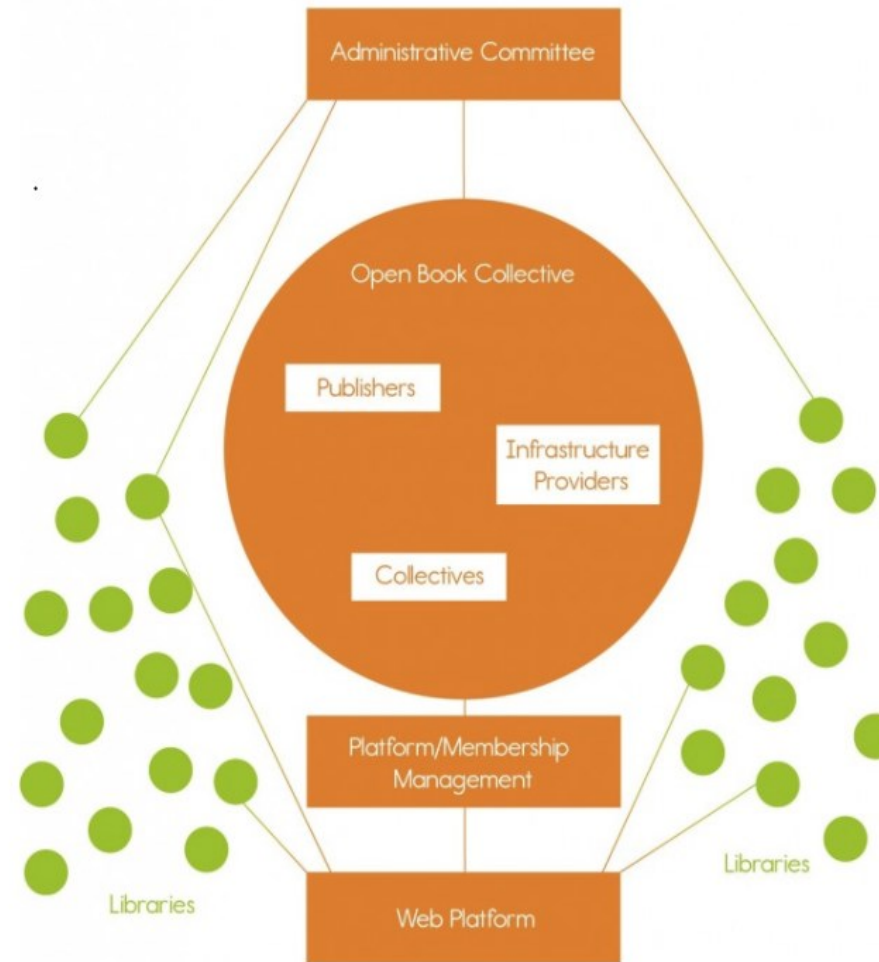


Diagram by Eileen Joy at Punctum Books

Connect with us and get involved

Research and Outreach Officer (WP2):

Dr. Judith Fathallah, Lancaster University, j.fathallah@lancaster.ac.uk,
@JudithFathallah

WP2 Leads:

Dr. Joe Deville, Lancaster University, j.deville@lancaster.ac.uk, @joe_dev

Eileen Joy, Founding Director of Punctum Books, eileen@punctumbooks.com,
@EileenAJoy

www.copim.ac.uk

@COPIMproject

www.pubpub.copim.org