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*Dear colleagues,*

*in this issue's "Publications and New Products" column, I would like to share with you a selection of publications, projects, and online initiatives that have recently caught my attention and that I hope you will find useful. The topics reflect many of the issues we are currently navigating in our daily work, including artificial intelligence, research integrity, open data, and changes in scholarly communication. Alongside the news from the web, I have included a few reading suggestions and some forthcoming events, with the aim of encouraging reflection, exchange, and continued dialogue within our professional community. Enjoy!*

### FROM THE WEB

- **COAR releases a strategic analysis of the scholarly communications landscape**  
The Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR) has published a strategic analysis examining the evolving socio-political landscape of scholarly communication and the forces likely to shape the repository ecosystem over the next three years. The analysis provides an overview of current conditions influencing scholarly communication, open science, and repository infrastructures. It identifies a set of evolving forces that may significantly impact repositories in the near term and outlines the implications of these developments for repository operations and strategy. It is possible to read the report, COAR Strategic Analysis of the Scholarly Communications Environment, at this [link](#).
- **The Responsible AI use in evidence synthesis (RAISE) project**  
Based on the principles of research integrity, the Responsible AI use in evidence Synthesis (RAISE) project provides recommendations and guidance to ensure the responsible, transparent and ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in evidence synthesis. The project has published three papers: the first paper, 'RAISE 1', provides tailored recommendations for practice for the main roles in the evidence synthesis ecosystem to enhance collaboration and communication for the transparent and reliable use of AI in evidence synthesis. The paper 'RAISE 2' contains guidance on building and evaluating AI evidence synthesis tools focusing on determining if an AI tool does what it claims to do to an acceptable standard. The third paper, 'RAISE 3', aims to offer guidance around selecting and using AI evidence synthesis tools. These recommendations and guidance can be downloaded [here](#)
- **A new preprint server welcomes papers written and reviewed by AI**  
A new preprint platform, called [aiXiv](#), accepts papers written both by artificial intelligence (AI) and by humans. It uses AI-based reviewers for a preliminary assessment of the quality of submitted works and guides authors through revisions based on chatbot feedback. The platform is currently still in an early stage and hosts only a few dozen articles and preliminary proposals. How does aiXiv work? After a manuscript is received, five "agents" (large language models (LLMs) trained to autonomously perform specific tasks) evaluate its novelty, technical soundness, and potential impact. The system includes countermeasures against misconduct and, for example, can detect whether authors attempt to insert hidden instructions into

## PUBLICATIONS AND NEW PRODUCTS

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manuscripts to obtain favourable peer reviews. If three out of the five “agents” recommend acceptance, the work is uploaded to the platform. In a [preprint](#) posted on arXiv, the team behind this preprint server reported that aiXiv’s infrastructure can handle thousands of submissions and typically produces reviews within 1–2 minutes, in contrast to the months or years required for traditional peer review.

- **Perspectives on AI in scholarly communications**

In a world increasingly driven by Artificial Intelligence (AI), collaboration between libraries and publishers is essential, as it brings together librarians’ deep expertise in information management with innovative publishing and discovery practices in the publishing industry. Building on this premise, the publisher Springer Nature has released a new report, [Perspectives on AI in Scholarly Communications: A Discussion with Librarians and Publishing Professionals](#), which explores how librarians and publishers are using AI to support researchers, streamline workflows, and preserve research integrity. The report presents insights from leading librarians and experts, offers concrete examples, ethical reflections, and practical perspectives for the future.

- **The state of Open Data 2025**

[The State of Open Data 2025: A Decade of Progress and Challenges](#) is the 10th anniversary edition of the State of Open Data report series, an annual collaboration between Digital Science, Springer Nature, and Figshare. Based on the 2025 State of Open Data survey and ten years of longitudinal analysis, the report explores global changes in open data awareness and practice, highlights uneven progress, and identifies what is required to translate policy into sustainable, reusable data sharing. Key topics covered include:

- longitudinal trends in open science awareness and practice, including rising familiarity with FAIR principles;
- shifts in attitudes toward open data mandates and continued support for open practices;
- the persistent “credit gap” between effort and recognition for sharing data;
- growing adoption of AI tools in data workflows, including data processing and metadata creation;
- expert perspectives on implementation challenges, interoperability, and what the next decade may require;
- actionable recommendations to accelerate progress.

The full report can be downloaded on Figshare at this [link](#).

### READING SUGGESTIONS

- Clements JC, Cooke SJ, Tomlinson S, O’Boyle B, Fuller A, Tips and tricks for writing constructive peer reviews. *Conservation Physiology* 2025, 13 (1), coaf085, <https://doi.org/10.1093/conphys/coaf085>
- Harper C, & Groth P. The Librarian Skillset and the Needs of Artificial Intelligence. *Cataloging & Classification Quarterly* 2025, 63(6–7), 546–565. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01639374.2025.2539787>
- Mwantimwa K, & Msoffe G. Application of generative artificial intelligence in library operations and service delivery: A scoping review. *Technical Services Quarterly* 2025, 42(2), 139–168. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07317131.2025.2467574>
- Richardson RAK, Hong SS, Byrne JA, Stoeger T, Amaral LAN. The entities enabling scientific fraud at scale are large, resilient, and growing rapidly. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)* 2025, 122 (32), e2420092122, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2420092122>

### **SOME FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

#### **IQWiG's Third Information Retrieval Meeting**

**April 24, Cologne, Germany**

The theme of the meeting is 'Let's start with AI! How and where can large language models be implemented for day-to-day information'. For registration and more information click [here](#)

#### **9th World Conference on Research Integrity**

**May 3 – 6, Vancouver, Canada**

Theme of the conference: "Indigenous ways of being, Artificial Intelligence, and research security: shaping the future of research integrity". Info at <https://wcri2026.org/>

#### **OPERAS 2026 and SCIROs conference**

**May 20 – 21, Warsaw, Poland**

The theme of the conference, "One network, many possibilities: strengthening the OPERAS community," underscores the role of a cohesive and diverse network in advancing collaboration, innovation, and sustainable growth within Open Science. More info at: <https://operasandsciros.sciencesconf.org/>

#### **EAHIL 2026 conference**

**June 8 – 12, Antalya, Türkiye**

The theme of the conference, "Bridges to new horizons: innovations in health information and medical libraries," highlights the evolving role of health information professionals and calls for building connections across people, disciplines, and technologies in a rapidly changing environment. Click [here](#) for more info.

#### **LIBER 2026**

**July 1 – 3, Trondheim, Norway**

The theme of this year's conference is "The Power of Libraries in an Uncertain World". More info at: <https://liberconference.eu/>

#### **14th International Congress on Medical Librarianship 2026**

**July 14-16, Glasgow, Scotland**

As the pandemic has permanently transformed the professional landscape, introducing hybrid work models, amplifying attention to societal and health inequalities, and underscoring the importance of collaboration, ICML 2026 will convene global professionals to reflect on these challenges and identify opportunities for change. Conference theme is "Flourish: growing our Communities". More info at: <https://ciliphlg.com/icml-2026/>

*Please feel free to contact me ([annarita.barbaro@iss.it](mailto:annarita.barbaro@iss.it)) if you have any further suggestion about initiatives or events you would like to promote*