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Dear colleagues,

welcome back to my column! I hope you all had a wonderful summer and had the chance to relax, recharge, and enjoy some well-deserved time off before the busy fall season begins. The landscape of scholarly communication continues to evolve rapidly, bringing new tools, practices, and challenges for libraries and information professionals. My selection highlights a few recent developments, including Clarivate's new EndNote Fusion platform, Library Carpentry's training resources, and webinars exploring the role of libraries in supporting open access publishing without author charges and the growing use of Artificial Intelligence in library workflows. These initiatives offer interesting insights into how libraries are adapting to – and helping shape – changing Open Science environment. Enjoy!

FROM THE WEB

- **EndNote Fusion to unify Clarivate's reference management tools**

Clarivate has announced EndNote Fusion, a new cloud-based reference management platform that will gradually replace RefWorks by combining its collaborative features with the advanced capabilities of EndNote. Existing RefWorks users will be migrated to the new platform without losing their references, folders or established workflows. EndNote Fusion incorporates AI-powered features introduced with EndNote 2025, including the automatic extraction of key takeaways from articles, journal recommendations, and enhanced tools for working with PDFs and citations. The transition is intended to simplify reference management for researchers, students and librarians by bringing Clarivate's citation management services together on a single modern platform and reducing the need to maintain separate products.

- **Library Carpentry**

Library Carpentry is a global community that teaches software and data skills to people working in libraries and other information-related roles. It offers core and extended courses designed to help librarians develop the skills needed to support Open Science, including lessons on Tidy Data, OpenRefine, and Data Management Plans. Course materials are freely available online under a CC BY license, allowing users to study them independently or adapt and reuse them for teaching and training purposes.

- **Outcomes of the Annual Conference of the Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR)**

The 2026 Annual Conference of the Confederation of Open Access Repositories (COAR), held from 1 to 3 June at the University of Minho in Braga, brought together participants from several countries to discuss the future of repositories within the Open Science ecosystem. The conference highlighted the increasingly central role of OA repositories, driven by stronger research funder policies, their growing integration into research assessment, and renewed interest in digital sovereignty. At the same time, participants acknowledged a number of ongoing challenges, including bot-generated traffic that can disrupt repository services, limited technical support, and difficulties in securing stable, long-term funding.

COAR also announced several priority initiatives, including:

- publishing seven evidence-based narratives by the end of 2026 to demonstrate the value of repositories and strengthen advocacy efforts;
 - developing requirements for the use of Artificial Intelligence and next-generation discovery technologies, with particular attention to supporting machine-learning applications;
 - improving the discoverability of multilingual content through the establishment of a new working group and the development of a dedicated roadmap.
- **OASPA webinar on libraries and open access publishing without author charges**

On June 10th, the Open Access Scholarly Publishing Association (OASPA) hosted a webinar exploring the role of libraries as collective actors in supporting open access publishing without author charges. The recording, resources shared by the speakers, and responses to questions that could not be addressed during the live session are available [online](#). The webinar attracted considerable interest, with numerous questions submitted both before and during the event. In response, OASPA organized a follow-up webinar focusing on open access advocacy, knowledge sharing, and communication. Held on 15 July, the follow-up webinar is also available [online](#).
- **Two webinars on AI and libraries by the IFLA AI SIG**

I would like to draw your attention to two recent webinars hosted by the IFLA Special Interest Group (SIG) on Artificial Intelligence. The first, *Transforming library workflows through AI agents*, explored how agentic AI can support the analysis of historical documents. The recording is available on YouTube: https://youtu.be/OjSEE81-mAY?si=sMi_tGF7NX5Aq3sm. The second webinar, *Two approaches to using AI in cataloguing*, presented two different applications of AI in bibliographic work. Hui Ling, from the National Library Board of Singapore, presented SGCAT, a custom GPT prototype developed to streamline the creation of bibliographic metadata and improve the efficiency of delivering library materials to patrons. Mona Lehtinen, from the National Library of Finland, introduced Annif, an automatic subject indexing tool. The recording is available on YouTube: https://youtu.be/LNDQ8NTChcE?si=iMB_tJZzgLSan5dt

READING SUGGESTIONS

- O'Connor M. [We all have a story to tell: why librarians should write about and share what they do](#). Health Sciences Libraries Journal. 2025;1(2):3-6.
- Madsen DØ, Silva ES. [Teaching citation in the age of generative AI: rethinking research literacy, academic integrity, and epistemic responsibility](#). The Journal of Academic Librarianship. 2026;52(4):103267.
- Spennemann DH, Oddone K. [What do librarians look like? Stereotyping of a profession by generative AI](#). Journal of Librarianship and Information Science. 2026;58(2):1183-99.
- Michalak R, Ellixson D. [Reimagining library FAQs with generative AI: a case study in metadata optimization and user-centered design](#). Information Services and Use 2026;46(1-2):17-27.

SOME FORTHCOMING EVENTS

14th Eurasian Academic Libraries Conference (EALC 2026) October 22-23, Astana, Kazakhstan

The conference theme is "Library as a Dialogue Hub: Bridging Communities Through Conversations". The program will focus on current trends in the development of academic libraries, the integration of innovative technologies, and the strengthening of international collaboration within the global library community. Further details and registration information are available at <https://library.nu.edu.kz/ealc>

PUBLICATIONS AND NEW PRODUCTS

Open Access Week 2026

October 19-25, everywhere

The theme of this year's OA week is "The Cost of Knowledge" and challenges us to consider the financial, human, and environmental costs of creating, sharing, and sustaining knowledge – particularly when these costs are driven by private rather than public interests. More information about the week is available at openaccessweek.org. The official hashtag for the week is #OAWeek.

Cochrane Colloquium Krakow 2026

December 8-10, Krakow, Poland

The 2026 Colloquium will provide space to reflect, connect, and collectively explore how evidence can best respond to emerging challenges and opportunities while remaining rigorous, transparent, inclusive, and trusted. More info at <https://colloquium-2026.cochrane.org/>

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