

How to Survive (and Thrive) in the Digital Universe

Speaker and Chair Biographies

Phill Jones, Chair

Phill is Head of Publisher Outreach, Digital Science, and has spent much of his current career working on projects to accelerate science through improved communication. He was the first Editorial Director of JoVE. In a former life, Phill was a multidisciplinary research scientist working in Physics and Neuroscience.

Stephen Curry

Stephen is a Professor of Structural Biology in the Department of Life Sciences at Imperial College. His research interests are focused on the structural analysis of the molecular basis of replication RNA viruses such as noroviruses. Stephen also writes regularly about the scientific life on his [Reciprocal Space blog](#) and at the [Guardian](#), covering topics such as open access, research evaluation and science policy. An active campaigner, Stephen is a founder member and vice-chair of *Science is Vital* and is on the board of directors of the *Campaign for Science and Engineering*.

Mark Thorley

Mark has a background in research data management, open access and open data, gained from 27 years working for NERC. He was a member of the group that produced the UK Concordat on Open Research Data, and was prominent in the development and implementation of the RCUK Open Access policy. He is Data Planning Champion for the Belmont Forum e-Infrastructure and Data Management project, and also a member of the ICSU Committee on Freedom and Responsibility in the conduct of Science. Between 2010 and 2016 he was a member of the Executive Committee of CODATA – the ICSU Committee on Data for Science and Technology

Andrew Preston

Andrew is the co-founder and CEO of Publons. He was an active researcher in physics, first as a PhD student at Victoria University of Wellington, then as postdoctoral researcher at Boston University. He founded Publons with a mission to speed up research by improving peer review. Publons recognises reviewers for their work and -- with more than 150,000 researchers and over 1,500 partner journals -- is the world's largest peer review platform.

Dr John Hammersley

John is Co-founder and CEO, Overleaf, and has always been fascinated by science, space, exploration and technology. After completing a PhD in Mathematical Physics at Durham University in 2008, he went on to help launch the world's first driverless taxi system now operating at London's Heathrow Airport.

James Harwood

James is the Director of pmlp.ai and has a longstanding interest in how technology can improve the quality and transparency of scientific research. He is a fellow of the EQUATOR Network, and previously studied Neuroscience at Oxford University and Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin.

Nathan Jenkins

Nathan is a co-founder and CTO of Authorea. Prior to this he did his PhD in condensed matter physics at the University of Geneva, studying atomic-scale properties of novel superconductors with a scanning tunneling microscope, and then a post-doc at NYU looking at the dynamics of protein unfolding via atomic force microscopy.

Joris van Rossum

Joris is the co-founder of Peerwith and has worked for 20 years in academic publishing. Before he co-founded Peerwith in October of 2015, he was Director of Publishing Innovation at Elsevier, where he focused on peer review innovation and article cascading. His earlier roles and responsibilities include launching and leading the Elsevier WebShop, a platform for author services, and serving as senior product manager for Scopus.

Neil Jefferies

Neil is the Head of Innovation for Bodleian Digital Library Systems and Services at the University of Oxford. As well as installing the original EPrints repository at Oxford, he was also involved in the subsequent transition to the Fedora platform and currently sits on the Steering Group for the community that supports it. Additionally, he assisted with Oxford's implementation of DataCite (one of the first UK institutions to do so) and project managed Oxford's ORCID integration with its central identity systems. He is also a member of wider community bodies such as Jisc Journal Data Policy Working Group and the UK ORCID Consortium Forum.