



The Association of
Learned & Professional
Society Publishers

The Power of Partnership and Collaboration in the Publishing Industry

Speaker Biographies:

Charles Thiede, *CEO and Co-Founder, Zapnito*

Charles is an experienced digital technology business leader with over 20 years professional experience spanning large corporate organisations and founding businesses. Charles cofounded Zapnito in 2014 to help quiet the web and return collective intelligence back to trusted brands through expert networks and knowledge hubs. Prior to joining Zapnito, Charles was the Interim Chief Product Officer at Nature Publishing Group where he built and developed their Product Office. Before Nature, Charles was the Chief Technology Officer at Informa Business Information where he led the acquisition and integration of businesses with a total value of \$1bn. Whilst at Informa Charles also led e-business and technology programmes of \$100m and product delivery across complex business informatics and financial service organisations, including Blue Shield of California. Charles is a native Bay Area, Californian, Investor, Advisor, reformed corporate guy and very bad guitarist/song-writer and now captive Londoner.

Chris Leonard, *Head of Product, Emerald Group Publishing*

Chris has worked for 20 years at the interface of publishing and technology in a variety of roles at Current Science, Elsevier, BioMed Central, Qatar Foundation, and Emerald. His passion is making technology useful, usable, and accessible for academic researchers and information professionals. He has experience of setting up new open access publishing operations with BioMed Central and Qatar Foundation, and is currently looking at all things 'open' within the research environment and how these can be linked together to create a unique experience for authors and readers, as well as 'Emerald as a Service'.

Joris van Rossum, *Director, Special Projects, Digital Science*

Joris has been working for over 20 years in the academic publishing industry. As Director of Special Projects at Digital Science, he authored the report '[Blockchain for Research](#)'. He's currently leading the [Blockchain for Peer Review](#) initiative. In 2015 he co-founded Peerwith, a marketplace for researcher services. Before that, Joris was Director of Publishing Innovation at Elsevier, where he focused on peer review innovation, article cascading, and author services.

Harry Cunningham, *Partnerships and Innovation Manager, OUP*

Harry is a Partnerships and Innovation Manager in the English Language Teaching division at Oxford University Press. He is responsible for forming strategic partnerships with external companies and leading small scale innovation projects to test use cases of new educational technologies.

Rachael Lammey, *Head of Community Development, Crossref*

Rachael's role involves running LIVE events for the community and helping publishers get the most out of their membership by doing more with their metadata. Rachel also enjoys working with Crossref's funder, library, researcher and developer communities. Before that, she was a Product Manager at Crossref and previously worked in journals publishing for Taylor & Francis. She has a degree in English Literature from St. Andrews University and a MA in Publishing Studies from the University of Stirling.

Richard Bennett, *Commercial Director, Hindawi*

Richard has over 18 years experience in commercial positions across the publishing industry. In his current position as Commercial Director for Hindawi, he has overseen the development of their Publishing Partnership program which provides services to publishers to flip or launch Open Access journals. Prior to Hindawi, he built the institutional sales team at Digital Science managing the sales for Symplectic, Altmetric, figshare and UberResearch. Across his career, he has held various senior sales management positions at Mendeley, Ovid, Springer Nature and Elsevier Science based out of locations in London, New York and the Netherlands.

David Leeming, *Head of Client Services, 67 Bricks Ltd*

David has over 20 years' experience in designing and developing innovative and successful enriched content publishing platforms. He worked previously at the Royal Society of Chemistry where he gained a deep understanding of all aspects of the publishing domain and built his passion for improving the way publishers utilise their content assets in the digital age. David is now at 67 Bricks, a company that specialises in working with publishers who want to enrich their content to make it more structured, granular, flexible and reusable. At 67 Bricks he is a Publishing Consultant where he combines his experience and expertise in publishing together with AI and machine learning techniques to help publishers develop systems and capabilities to increase the value of their content.

David Sommer, *Co-Founder and Product Director, Kudos*

David has over twenty years' experience in the global publishing industry, having held senior product, technology and sales roles at Blackwell Publishing and a board level position at Macmillan. I ran a successful publishing consultancy for six years and have worked with many leading publishers, societies, vendors and libraries in Europe, the US and the Middle East. I am actively involved in standards development and chair the COUNTER Executive Committee. I regularly chair and speak at industry events and serve on committees with ALPSP and UKSG. I hold an MA in Physics from The University of Oxford and an MBA from University College Dublin.

Andrew Preston, *Managing Director, Publons*

An economist and physicist by training, Andrew worked as a researcher and consulted as a software engineer before co-founding Publons. As the CEO he took Publons from founding through to a successful exit to Clarivate Analytics, where they continue to build the business.

Ivo Verbeek, *Co-founder & Director, Peerwith*

After studying computer science, Ivo Verbeek co-founded and managed his own mid-sized software development company for 15 years with Elsevier as the most prominent customer. Ivo and his team delivered many solutions to clients until he left the company in 2015, co-founding Peerwith as his new venture. Ivo is currently the managing director of Peerwith, responsible for strategy, partnerships and product. Although his background is in IT, Ivo has a good understanding of the scientific publishing industry as well as author and researcher services, and how those fit into the author journey.

James Hardcastle, *Head of Business Development, wizdom.ai*

James brings extensive experience of working and championing partnerships from his data and analytics centric role at Taylor & Francis, working directly with multiple services in the industry in his capacity at the leading academic publisher. More recently, he has been involved in building partnerships with research institutions at wizdom.ai and further developing a critical understanding of the data challenges within the industry.

Simon Boisseau, *Commercial Director, ACCUCOMS*

Simon has over 20 years sales and marketing experience in STM publishing. During his time at Pharmaceutical Press, Hodder Arnold, Future Science Group and most recently ACCUCOMS, Simon has achieved a track record of global sales growth and overseen the start-up of companies, brands and products. He has travelled extensively and has a solid network of international contacts across all publishing sectors including libraries, suppliers and publishers.

Catherine Cotton, *Chief Executive, FEMS*

Former academic Cath is committed to the challenge of translating research excellence into effective impact on the ground. Since leaving academia she has spent almost two decades in scientific publishing, environmental campaigning, and science advocacy, working for Greenpeace International, Springer-Nature and BioMedCentral. Since 2014 she has been the chief executive of the Federation of European Microbiological Societies, a body of over 50 scholarly societies focused on applying scientific excellence in solving the major problems facing global society today.

Tracy Gardner, *Renew Publishing Consultants (Chair)*

Tracy has worked in journals since 1997. She has a very broad view of publishing having worked for publishing technology companies CatchWord and Ingenta, a not-for-profit publisher (CABI Publishing), and thereafter in consultancy, on various projects for publishers, intermediaries and libraries. Throughout her career she has been focused on improving the communication channels between publishers, intermediaries and librarians and understands the business of scholarly publishing from many different perspectives. Tracy has worked on a wide range of projects, including sales, marketing and pricing; journal delivery and platform selection; management; product development; market research; content discovery; library technology; strategic business reviews; and open access publishing.