

Public Knowledge Project: a partnership in scholarly publishing



Gwen Bird

Simon Fraser University

8 May 2019 | ARL Fall Meeting

PKP history

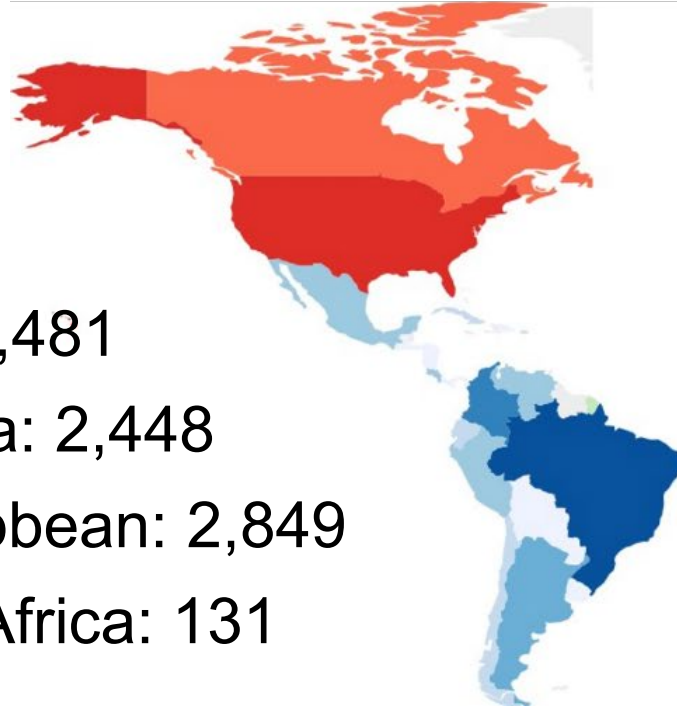
- 1998: Began as a research project of Dr. John Willinsky at University of British Columbia
- First development project was the creation of [Open Journal Systems](#)
- Wanted to demonstrate the ability to create an affordable, decentralized, open access scholarly publishing ecosystem
- 2005: Software development management moved to Simon Fraser University Library

Research & Funding

- Research continues to be integral to PKP; J. Willinsky directs the project from Stanford and SFU
- Grand funding in Canada and internationally, including:
 - Canada Foundation for Innovation
 - Laura & John Arnold Foundation
 - MacArthur Foundation
 - Sloan Foundation
 - SPARC
 - Mellon Foundation
 - Open Society Institute (Soros Foundation)... & more

Location of journals using Open Journal Systems

2017



East Asia & Pacific: 2,481

Europe & Central Asia: 2,448

Latin America & Caribbean: 2,849

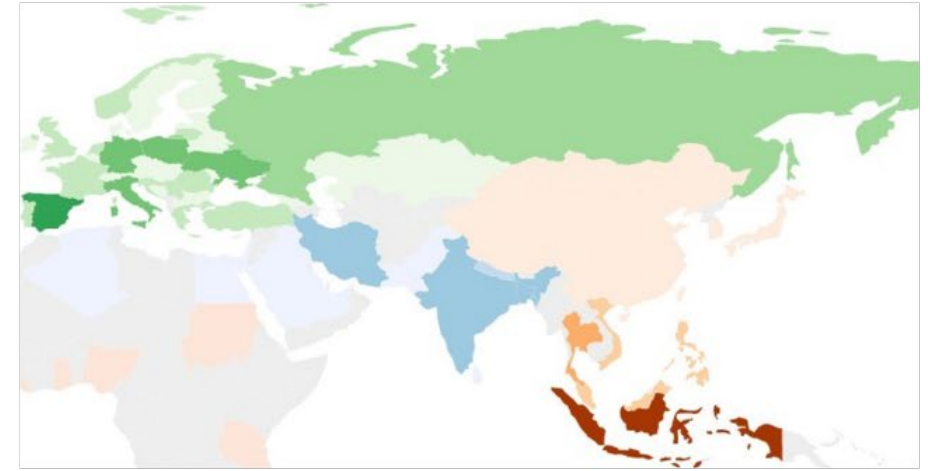
Middle East & North Africa: 131

North America: 836

South Asia: 285

Sub-Saharan Africa: 334

Total: 9,364



Research agenda

- Current projects
 - copyright reform; publishing cooperatives; alternative metrics; social media impact; XML publishing innovations; Latin American publishing initiatives
- Current CFI funding recognizes PKP and its research partner Erudit, as a national “Major Scientific Initiative” in Canada, funded alongside projects such as SNOLAB, the CCGS Amundsen Arctic Research icebreaker, and the Canadian Light Source synchrotron

Partnerships

- With other scholarly communication organizations
 - Crossref, ORCID, Hypothesis, Erudit, etc.
- With library organizations
 - Library Publishing Coalition, SPARC, OCUL, COPPUL
- With individual libraries
 - Free University of Berlin, University of Pittsburgh, University of British Columbia, University of Alberta

Open source

- Open source and decentralized by nature
- Allows for local control of publishing infrastructure
- Permits greater diversity and equity in publishing practices
- Invites active participation in the development and direction of the software by users and community members

Current initiatives

- Continuous maintenance & upgrading
- Technical support
- Documentation
- Training
- User group meetings
- Community development

Governance

- Community-based, non-profit, academy-led
 - Advisory Committee
 - Technical Committee
 - Members Committee
- Provides transparency, accountability, broad participation

PKP & ARL: what's the connection?

- Working to create a sustainable open access publishing ecosystem, based on collaboration between libraries, funders, researchers, and publishing service providers
- Builds innovative, open source tools that allow libraries to develop their own publishing infrastructure and publishing programs
- Widespread adoption of OJS

How to get involved

PKP invites ARL members to get involved in our open source software development and our research projects

www.pkp.sfu.ca

kstranac@sfu.ca Kevin Stranack

gbird@sfu.ca Gwen Bird

