



ALPSP Awards 2017 winners announced

The winners of the 2017 ALPSP Awards were announced at the ALPSP Conference Dinner on Thursday 14 September.

ALPSP Award for Contribution to Scholarly Publishing

ALPSP Council was delighted to present this year's award to **Sara Miller McCune**, Founder and Executive Chairman, SAGE Publishing.

Guided by an entrepreneurial spirit and an unwavering dedication to academia, the then-24-year-old Sara founded SAGE in 1965 in New York City. As well as growing a hugely successful publishing business, Sara is also a major philanthropist. She founded the charitable McCune Foundation in 1990 and has also funded schools in the developing world and made significant financial contributions to many other health and cultural causes. She's won several major business awards and was recently honoured by the Women's Campaign International at an event entitled: "Shattering the Glass Ceiling, Honouring Inspirational Women Around the Globe". All of this has been achieved while keeping the company independent.

Sara is worthy of recognition for her work relating to scholarly publishing – under her leadership SAGE has not only undertaken many progressive initiatives, it has promoted an open approach to partnering and supporting young companies.

ALPSP Awards for Innovation in Publishing

For 2017, the judges are delighted to announce two winners - [Publons](#) and [SourceData](#) from **EMBO**.

WINNER - Publons

Publons is harnessing the power of peer review to reshape scholarly communication. Its cross-publisher platform collects peer review activity and helps researchers to keep a verified record of their review and editorial work. Publons is also providing free, online training for reviewers and developing the tools that editors need to find, screen, contact and motivate reviewers. The judges welcomed this initiative from Publons which benefits the whole publishing community and recognise the scale of the undertaking involved to make their vision a reality. <http://www.publons.com/>

WINNER - SourceData from EMBO

SourceData is an open scientific discovery platform to browse, connect and search papers based on the data shown in their figures. It provides a suite of intuitive tools to find research data that are locked away in figures and scientific illustrations. By enabling scientists to find the data they need in publications easily and precisely, SourceData provides intelligent, data-oriented navigation of the research literature. The judges recognised the high level of curation and complex development behind this platform and its significance to the dissemination of research. <http://sourcedata.embo.org/>

David Sommer, Chair of the Judges noted:

“This year, we have showcased all of the award applications we received – to show just how diverse the industry is and how much innovation is out there. This diversity has also made our judging all the more difficult, but after a rigorous process we emerged with two clear winners. What is particularly pleasing is that both of our winners are the result of successful collaboration and partnership working within the industry to make a positive difference to the academic community for the good of all.”

Also shortlisted for the 2017 awards

[Delta Think Open Access Data Analysis Tool](#)

[Escalex®](#) from IFIS Publishing and Molecular Connections

[INASP AuthorAID](#)

[Springer Nature SharedIt](#)

Editors Notes

About the ALPSP Awards for Innovation in Publishing

The ALPSP Awards, **sponsored by MPS**, celebrate the best innovators in our industry at a time when scholarly publishing is changing rapidly. They are open to any new development, product, service, launch or project within scholarly communication. The judges look for excellence in terms of originality and innovation, significance and value to the community, utility and long-term viability. This year, the panel received forty submissions ranging from the peer review process to funding analysis to accessibility issues for authors, and from these they selected a shortlist of six. These six made a presentation to the judges, following which the panel selected the eventual winners. Posts from each of the finalists may be found on the ALPSP blog <http://blog.alpssp.org>. A summary of all the submissions may be found on the [Conference website](#)

Panel of Judges for the Awards for Innovation in Publishing:

David Sommer, *Product Director & Co-founder, Kudos (Chair)*; Andrew Barker, *Associate Director, Library Services, Liverpool John Moores University*; Lars Bjørnshauge, *Managing Director, DOAJ*; Astrid Engelen, *Business Strategist, IOS Press*; Lorraine Estelle, *Project Director, COUNTER*; Richard Gedye, *Director of Outreach Programmes, STM*; Pam Harley, *Senior Consultant, Clarke & Company*; Jane Harvell, *Head of Library Academic Services & Special Collections, University of Sussex*; Robert Iannello, *Sales and Marketing Manager for ARM Education Media*; John Shaw, *Vice President, Publishing Technologies, SAGE Publishing*; David Smith, *Head of Product Solutions, The IET*

About ALPSP

The Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers (ALPSP) is the international membership trade body which works to support and represent not-for-profit organizations and institutions that publish scholarly and professional content around the world.

Its membership also encompasses those that partner with and provide services to not-for-profit publishers. ALPSP has over 300 members in 40 countries, who collectively publish over half the world's total active journals as well as books, databases and other products. www.alpssp.org



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About MPS

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Further photos of the winners and finalists are available upon request.