

The 2nd STM APAC Conference Convenes in Beijing

Building a More Open, Trusted and Inclusive Scholarly Communication Ecosystem in Asia-Pacific

The 2nd STM APAC Conference was held in Beijing on June 16, 2026, bringing together more than 300 delegates from 13 countries and regions to discuss the evolving landscape of scholarly communication in Asia-Pacific.

Under the theme “*Openness, Integrity, Inclusion: The evolution of scholarly communication in Asia-Pacific*”, the conference was jointly hosted by China National Publications Import & Export (Group) Co., Ltd. (CNPIEC) and the International Association of Scientific, Technical and Medical Publishers (STM), and co-organized by the China Periodicals Association (CPA), the China Editology Society of Science Periodicals (CESSP), the Society of China University Journals (CUJS), and the STM Journal Society, Chinese Academy of Sciences (STMJS).

As one of the world's most dynamic regions for scientific innovation and publishing, the Asia-Pacific is playing an increasingly important role in shaping the future of global scholarly communication. Against this background, the conference focused on three closely connected areas: Research and Publishing, Subscription and Open Access, and Trusted Research and Social Responsibility.

Through keynote presentations and panel discussions, participants explored how publishers, researchers, libraries, academic institutions and industry organizations can work together to support a more open, sustainable and trustworthy research ecosystem.

The opening and keynote sessions were chaired by Lin Liying, President of the CNPIEC. Opening remarks were delivered by Wu Shangzhi, President of the CPA; Caroline Sutton, CEO of STM; and Mao Yuansheng, President of China Publishing Group Co., Ltd.

The speakers highlighted the growing influence of Asia-Pacific in global research and publishing, as well as the importance of international cooperation, locally responsive approaches and shared responsibility in addressing the challenges facing scholarly communication.

Yang Wei, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Professor at Zhejiang University, and Founding Chair of the CAST UN Consultative Committee on Open Science and Global Partnership (CCOS), delivered the keynote address, “*Confidence in Research for the OS/AI Era*”. His presentation examined the relationship between open science, artificial intelligence and confidence in research, and offered forward-looking perspectives on global academic collaboration and the development of more effective knowledge-sharing mechanisms.

Research and Publishing

The first session explored the changing relationship between scientific research and scholarly publishing, with particular attention to the impact of artificial intelligence and the growing importance of trust in scholarly communication. This session was moderated by Yan Shuai, China Consultant at STM.

Wang Zhenchang, Academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and President of CESSP, delivered a keynote presentation entitled “*AI-Driven Integration of Scientific Innovation and Journal Publishing*”. He discussed how artificial intelligence is accelerating changes in scientific research, knowledge production and journal publishing.

Caroline Sutton, CEO of STM, presented “*Current State of Academic Publishing*”. Her presentation examined how discussions around scholarly communication are moving beyond access alone toward broader issues of trust, quality and responsibility.

The panel discussion brought together voices from researchers, publishers, universities and open research organizations. It engaged in wide-ranging dialogue on the collaborative development of research and scholarly publishing, the needs of early-career researchers, and the building of a healthy scholarly communication ecosystem across the Asia-Pacific region.

Subscription and Open Access

The second session, moderated by Eric Na (Regional Director, Asia-Pacific, Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET); Chair, STM China Chapter), focused on the

continuing transformation of scholarly publishing models and the challenge of balancing wider access to knowledge with the long-term sustainability of the publishing ecosystem.

Jin Jianbin, Director of Tsinghua University Library, delivered a keynote presentation entitled “*Challenges and Strategic Choices for Academic Resource Support in the Context of Open Science*”. He examined the pressures facing libraries and research institutions as they seek to support access to academic resources within a rapidly changing open science environment.

Niels Peter Thomas, CEO of BMJ Publishing, presented “*Beyond the Binary: Global Market Trends in the Shift from Subscription to Open Access*”. He discussed the diversity of publishing models emerging across global markets and the need to move beyond a simplified choice between subscription and open access.

The panel discussion featured representatives from publishers, libraries and academic institutions. Panelists shared observations and institutional experiences relating to the transformation of publishing services, open science practices, and the development of collaborative frameworks between libraries and publishers.

Trusted Research and Social Responsibility

The final session, moderated by Zhang Tieming (President of the CUJS), addressed research integrity, publication ethics and the wider responsibilities of organizations involved in scholarly communication.

Yang Daiqing, Researcher and Deputy Director of the Center for Scientometrics and Evaluation at the Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China (ISTIC), delivered a keynote presentation entitled “*Towards Trustworthy Scientific Research: Reflections and Explorations on the Standardization of Research Integrity Governance*”. He examined the need for more systematic and standardized approaches to research integrity governance.

Joris van Rossum, Program Director of STM Solutions, presented “*STM Integrity Hub: Research Integrity Through New Collaborations*”. He introduced the role of shared infrastructure, data and cross-sector cooperation in identifying integrity risks and developing more coordinated responses across the scholarly publishing community.

The panel discussion focused on research integrity and academic governance, bringing together perspectives from publishing organizations, research institutions, publication ethics bodies and scholarly communication initiatives across the Asia-Pacific region.

Participants discussed how academic governance frameworks can respond more effectively to emerging integrity risks, strengthen publication ethics and copyright compliance, and promote clearer responsibilities across researchers, institutions and publishers. The discussion emphasized that a trustworthy research environment depends not only on technical tools and shared standards, but also on effective governance, institutional accountability and sustained cross-sector collaboration.