

Opportunities for Libraries to collaborate for more impact in publishing

Brian Hole, Dromologics



Tübingen 2026

- **Recent changes**
- **Ubiquity case study**
- **Principles for collaboration**
- **Opportunities for collaboration**

Ongoing changes

Ongoing changes

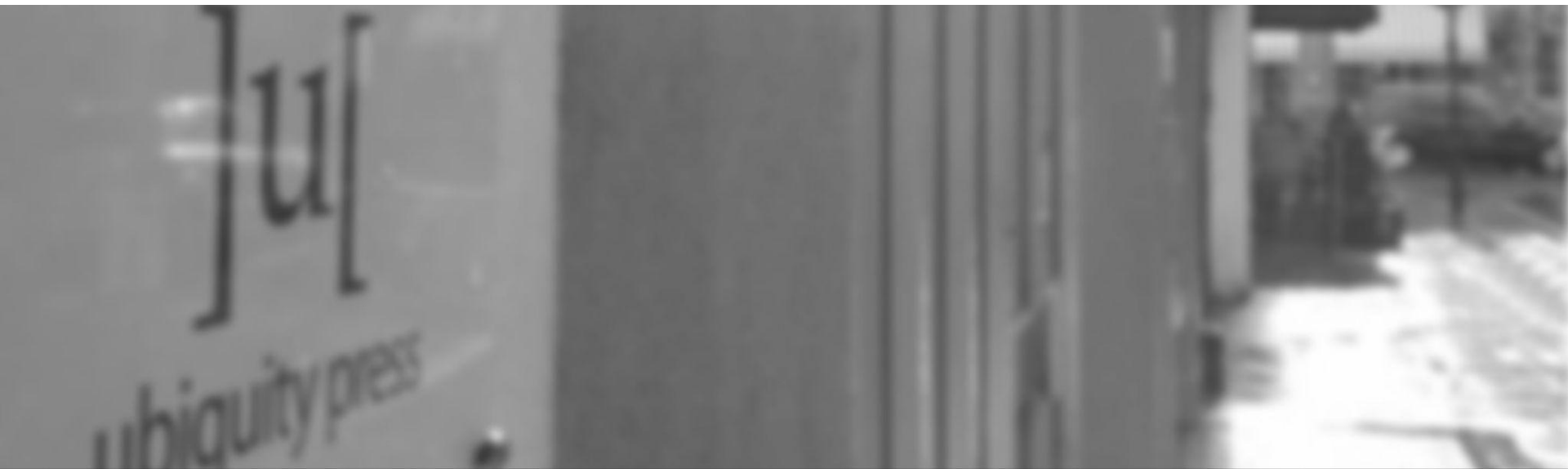
- Open Science
- Publishing models, Open Access models
- Funding models
- Varying external & internal support
- Electronic books
- New university presses
- Publishing support bibliodiversity
- Open Educational Resources
- Research assessment
- AI



Ubiquity case study

Ubiquity:

- Founded in 2008 from within the university, and researcher-led.
- Born from frustration with slow OA adoption in Humanities.
- Operated initially from the university's startup incubator.



2008

Founding

Founded as Ubiquity Press. HSS OA journals and books, data publications. Use of open infrastructure (OJS).



2010

Press support

Began supporting university presses, providing publishing expertise and systems, supporting OA in universities.



2018

Repositories

Response to acquisition of Bepress, aim to provide a modern platform based on open infrastructure (InvenioRDM).



2022

Acquisition

Acquired by De Gruyter, with aim of enabling the company to achieve its potential impact. Carefully chosen partner.



Ubiquity over time

Impact:

- 33 sustainable Open Access Partner Presses
- Over 700 Open Access journals
- Over 10,000 Open Access books

VIRGINIA TECH
PUBLISHING

KIT Scientific
Publishing



STOCKHOLM
UNIVERSITY PRESS

LSE
Press

 Cardiff
University
Press | Gwasg
Prifysgol
Caerdydd

UPLOpen

 UNIVERSITY
of CALIFORNIA
PRESS

 **UTS**
ePRESS

SKS

WHITE ROSE
UNIVERSITY PRESS
Universities of Leeds, Sheffield & York

HUP HELSINKI
UNIVERSITY
PRESS

Principles for collaboration

The Ubiquity Charter:

- To remain open access, open source and unbundled.
- Overseen by a customer board.
- Guaranteed to continue for 5 years after any change of control.



Values-driven publishing

We are open, dedicated to open access, open data, open science and open scholarship, and open infrastructure. We seek to change publishing to the benefit of researchers. We emphasise with our partners and focus on what is important to them. We work hard to be a trusted partner, and guarantee to remain open.

[Read More →](#)

Principles

- For-profit / Non-profit is not useful. B Corp status.
- Demonstrations of trustworthiness:
 - Clearly expressed, shared values, backgrounds
 - A customer charter
 - Contributions to open infrastructure, POSI assessment
- Guarantees of knowledge security

We stand in support of

#DefendResearch

Opportunities for collaboration

Opportunities

- Seek out partners from within the university ecosystem, both for publishing and technology.
- We need university publishing, supporting bibliodiversity, the vast range of types of production.
- Publishers bring expertise, e.g. production, editorial, distribution.
- Libraries excel in working closely with faculty and students.
- Libraries and staff can be slow to adapt to new technologies such as AI, while innovation happens within publishing, startups and the student body.
- Students bring inside experience, capabilities and energy.
- Providing platforms (polish, scalability, security).
- Innovating tools and services with AI.



4UG
Innovation & Enterprise

**Hatchery incubator
programme: open
for applications**

Apply by 24 August

The advertisement features a green background on the left with white text. On the right, there is a photograph of a woman in a green top and a man in a yellow shirt and cap talking in a modern office setting.



**BERKELEY
INNOVATION**

The logo consists of a stylized orange 'B' icon with a small circle above it, followed by the words 'BERKELEY' and 'INNOVATION' in a clean, orange, sans-serif font.



EBERHARD KARLS
UNIVERSITÄT
TÜBINGEN



STARTUP CENTER

**Startup:con
Tübingen #15**

Do, 26.03.2026
17:00 Uhr

The banner features a white top section with the university name and logo, and a dark red bottom section with event details. A photograph of two men on a stage is positioned in the center, with a large screen behind them showing a blue building.