



UK-Ireland Digital Humanities Association

2026 Community Interest Groups Call for Proposals

Application Form

Working Group Name:

Cultural Heritage Open Scholarship Network (CHOSN)

Coordinators:

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- Ilkay Holt, Scholarly Communications Lead, The British Library, [REDACTED]
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Potential participants:

CHOSN welcomes anyone interested in open scholarship and research support within Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAM). The group is particularly relevant to people working at the intersection of digital humanities, cultural heritage, and open research.

Potential participants include but are not limited to librarians, archivists, museum professionals and curators; research support and research development staff; repository and digital collections managers; copyright officers; IT specialists and research software engineers; technicians; research-active staff in GLAM organisations. Early career researchers interested in open scholarship are particularly welcome to participate.

Abstract (<250 words max):

Cultural Heritage Open Scholarship Network (CHOSN) is a community of practice for research enablers and research-active staff working in Galleries, Libraries, Archives and Museums (GLAM) who are interested in advancing open scholarship. The group provides a collaborative space to share knowledge, skills and good practice across areas such as open access, open

research, scholarly communication, repositories, digital collections, research data, copyright, persistent identifiers, responsible AI, and open infrastructure.

Through regular community meetups, webinars, shared resources and collaborative working groups, CHOSN explores the ways that openness can strengthen research, collaboration and the long-term stewardship and reuse of cultural heritage knowledge. The group welcomes participation from across the UK and Ireland, and beyond and aims to foster collaboration between GLAM organisations, higher education, and the wider digital humanities community.

Visit the CHOSN [website](#) to find out more and join our [JISC mailing list](#) for regular updates about our events and activities.

Relevance (250-500 words):

Open scholarship is a fundamental aspect of all disciplines of research and practice. Increasing expectations around open access, open research, FAIR data, ethical and responsible use of AI, and sustainable digital and open infrastructure are reshaping how humanities research is created, shared and reused. GLAM plays an increasingly important role in enabling digital humanities research through their collections, repositories, digital infrastructures and professional expertise. Despite this, there are relatively few community spaces that bring together the people working at the intersection of open scholarship, cultural heritage and digital humanities.

CHOSN addresses this need as an established community of practice for research support and research-active staff across the GLAM sector. Initiated in November 2023 and coordinated by the British Library, the network has grown through regular monthly community meetups, webinars, openly shared resources, and collaborative activities as well as thematic working groups. It has a mailing list of over 200 subscribers, primarily from the UK and maintains a website at <https://openscholarship.gitbook.io/chosn> which provides information about its activities and community resources. CHOSN provides opportunities for peer learning, knowledge exchange and practical collaboration around emerging topics in open scholarship.

Building on this established community, becoming a Community Interest Group (CIG) would strengthen CHOSN's connections with the wider digital humanities community while bringing a distinctive GLAM and open scholarship perspective to the Association.

CHOSN provides a dedicated community of practice for people working at the intersection of cultural heritage and digital humanities. Its focus is not on a particular research topic or methodology, but on the practices, infrastructures and skills that enable open and sustainable digital scholarship within and across GLAM organisations. This perspective complements the Association's existing CIGs by bringing together librarians, archivists, curators, repository managers, research support professionals, technologists and researchers alongside the academic digital humanities community.

The proposed CIG strongly aligns with the Association's core values. It promotes community through regular peer exchange and knowledge sharing as well as by shared resources and collaborative initiatives that respond to community needs; collaboration across institutions, disciplines and sectors; openness and transparency through advocacy for sustainable open scholarship and open infrastructure; and inclusivity by recognising the diversity of roles, institutions and research practices within GLAM.

The group also offers opportunities for collaboration with other Community Interest Groups where openness intersects with their work by strengthening connections between higher education and the cultural heritage sector.

Next Steps and Community Growth

Over the next 18 months, the CIG will build on CHOSN's existing activities while gradually strengthening its connections across the UK and Ireland.

During the first six months, we will establish the CIG within the Association, confirm coordination arrangements, introduce the group to the wider DH community, and continue CHOSN's regular community meetups and ongoing activities.

Over the following 6–12 months, we will work with members to identify emerging priorities, support focused working-group activities, and organise opportunities for knowledge exchange around open scholarship in GLAM. We will also explore opportunities for joint discussions and activities with other CIGs where our areas of interest intersect.

By the end of the initial 18-month period, we will review participation and priorities, share resources and outputs arising from the group's activities, and identify opportunities for future collaboration with other CIGs and relevant communities.

New participants will be encouraged through CHOSN's existing mailing list, website and professional networks, alongside the Association's communication channels and events. We will particularly seek to broaden participation across the UK and Ireland and across different types and sizes of cultural heritage organisations, while remaining open to anyone interested in open scholarship in the GLAM sector.