

# What Is UBPF?

University-Based Publishing Futures is a new, multi-community coalition of university presses, library publishers, and other academy-affiliated programs that perform the work of scholarly publishing. The purpose of this “community of communities” is to share knowledge among university-based publishers and align our outreach and advocacy efforts for maximum impact.



# Background:

- Inspiration (2020-21)
  - P2L and other convenings
- Conversations (2022)
  - First intra-community, then cross-community
  - Emphasis on Advocacy emerged
- Statement Writing (2023-24)
  - Working group w/ iterative community consultations
- Launch (September 2024)

# Definition: Who We Are

“University-based publishers are university presses, library publishers, and other academy-affiliated programs that perform the work of scholarly publishing. We are part of a vital campus-based knowledge infrastructure that serves the academic community and the public, and we are key players in the broader ecosystem that makes the scholarly endeavor possible. Though our specific relationships with the university vary, we are all deeply tied to the academy, share many core values, and are driven by a common mission: to serve the public good.”

# Definition: What We Do

“University-based publishers nurture bibliodiversity within the scholarly communications landscape by supporting emerging fields of scholarship, amplifying regional voices, and publishing a variety of works ranging from traditional publications to new modes of scholarly communication. We also advance the educational mission of the academy by publishing foundational work used in courses, often at low or no cost to students, and providing publishing expertise and opportunities to our university communities.”

# Shared Values

University-based publishers share the following 6 core values:

- 1. Advancing scholarship**
- 2. Equity and inclusion**
- 3. Broad and equitable access to knowledge**
- 4. Accessibility**
- 5. Intellectual freedom**
- 6. Publishing ethics & integrity**

# Areas of Practice & Proposed Activities

## > **Build relationships and increase alignment** within the community

- Provide opportunities for library publishers and university press staff to work together on collaborative projects.
- Identify opportunities to join our voices in advocacy for policies and programs that advance university-based publishing.

## > **Create a program of knowledge-sharing**

- Carry out a resource audit to identify resources developed within one sub-community that could be usefully shared with the larger group.
- Develop mechanisms to share relevant resources and projects of interest across the community.
- Offer shared trainings on critical topics.

## > **Develop strategies and tools that support advocacy for increased investment in university-based publishing**

- Identify appropriate measures of impact for university-based publishing.
- Develop materials that articulate the unique value of university-based publishing and allow community members to advocate for their programs and each other.

# Next Steps

- Join the UBPF Knowledge Commons Group. Learn how:  
[https://bit.ly/ubpf\\_join](https://bit.ly/ubpf_join)
- Join a Working Group
  - Knowledge Sharing
  - Infrastructure
- Become a Signatory Organization
- More info: [publishingfutures.hcommons.org](https://publishingfutures.hcommons.org)