

2026 CHORUS Board Nominees Bios

Matt Cannon is the Head of Open Research for Taylor & Francis based in the UK. He helps set journal policies and establishes best practice to increase the reproducibility and transparency of research. He is a member of the Research Data Alliance, FORCE11 and on the steering group of the STM Publishing Association's Research Data Project.

Nicola Poser is the Director of Marketing and Sales at the American Mathematical Society. Nicola has 20 years of experience in academic and STM publishing, having worked on books, journals, and online products at publishers of varying sizes and business models. Over the years, Nicola has worked in sales and marketing, market research, and new product launch strategies. In addition to her responsibilities as Director of Marketing and Sales, Nicola serves as the coordinator for the Accessibility Working Group at the AMS. She is also an active volunteer with the Society for Scholarly Publishing, having served as co-chair of the Marketing Communications committee and currently as a member of the Accessibility Sub-Committee of the DEIA Committee.

Paul Sanders oversees the company's customer-facing, platform development, and client services teams ensuring effective and customer-centric experience across the company's community of publishers. With a relatively short tenure in scholarly publishing, he has benefited greatly from absorbing the industry through the many perspectives of that diverse community. Prior to Silverchair, Paul has had the unique opportunity to work in several industries going through digital transformation, including shifts to the online booking of travel, the rise of digital marketing and advertising, the print-to-digital transformation of marketplace publications, and early attempts at online medical records. A background spanning a variety of technology-focused roles, including marketing, user experience, product management, and operations across those industries has equipped Paul with a keen set of insight that he now brings to publishers navigating their own digital transformations – be it from print to digital, from traditional web to the burgeoning opportunities in AI, or anything in between.

Christopher Straub is a growth-oriented and results-driven C-level executive with more than 20 years of experience in scholarly publishing providing inclusive leadership in strategic planning and innovation. He has global finance, operations, and systems experience in the publishing, technology, and nonprofit industries. Chris has expertise in organizational restructuring, new product development modeling and implementation, system conversions, and mergers and acquisitions.

Today Chris manages Finance, Administration and Operations with additional responsibilities steering GSW's open access community journal Lithosphere to success. Prior to GSW, Chris's scholarly publishing experience includes serving SAGE Publications Inc. as Corporate Controller and CQ Press as Director of Finance. He is a licensed CPA in the state of VA and holds a BA in Economics from Dickinson College.

Alexandra (Alix) Vance is CEO of AIP Publishing and is responsible for the overall operation and day-to-day management of AIP Publishing. Her previous executive roles have included COO at the Center for Education Reform, Executive Director of Reference Publishing at CQ Press—a division of SAGE Publications, and Vice President at Ebook Library/EBL. Prior to joining the CHORUS Board, Alix served on the ALPSP North American Steering Committee, Editorial Board of Learned Publishing, and Board of Directors of The Society for Scholarly Publishing.

Annie Hill has more than 25 years of experience in scholarly publishing. Committed to equitable open science strategies and equity, diversity, and inclusion in publications, she is Editorial Director of the Journals program at the American Psychological Association, where she oversees the strategic direction, editorial policy, and business operations for a portfolio of 90 journals.

Patrick Franzen is the Senior Director, Publications at SPIE, the international society of optics and photonics, where he is responsible for business strategy and innovation across all publication activities including proceedings and conference content, journals, and books, and oversees editorial, policy, production, and sales operations. Prior to joining SPIE, Pat was the Senior Director, Professional Publishing for Lumina Datamatics, a global content, technology, and commerce company. He currently sits on the CHORUS Forum Task Force and is an elected member of COPE Council, and has held multiple volunteer roles for the Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP).

M. Scott Dineen earned his BA from West Chester University of Pennsylvania and his MA in English (Rhetoric) from Indiana State University. He joined The Optical Society in 1997. Today, he is Senior Director of Publishing Production and Technology at Optica. He received the 2017 Treasurer's Award "For excellence in publishing technology and development of new tools essential for maintaining and enhancing OSA's publishing leadership. PRISM and the OSA Publishing platforms are prime examples of his abilities."

Lauren Kmec is the Deputy Executive Editor for the Science family of journals, published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Her responsibilities include editorial policy, financial management, and projects related to research integrity and open science. She also oversees the copyediting of Science content and the administration of Science-sponsored awards for researchers. Lauren currently serves on the Council of Science Editors' Editorial Policy Committee and the Society for Scholarly Publishing's Education Committee. She has 20 years of experience in the scientific publishing industry and holds a BS in chemistry from Bucknell University.