

The Coherent Quarterly



News from the editorial team at Coherent

Last year was a busy and productive one for us. Our thanks to you, dear customers, for your insights, suggestions, and support. You helped us launch five new products and plan six more. We particularly appreciate those of you whose votes helped us win two “best” awards at Charleston.

The Editorial team and I are taking a moment to update you on what we did in 2024 and give you a glimpse of our plans for 2025.



Stephen Rhind-Tutt, President

Expanded coverage of the Global South

- We launched [Latin American History and Culture](#), dedicated to preserving, digitizing, and amplifying Latin American and Latinx voices. Inspired by requests from the library community, the initiative builds on the lessons we’ve learned with [Africa Commons](#) and [South Asia Commons](#).
- Elizabeth and Stephen traveled to South Africa and met with our *Africa Commons* advisors in person for the first time. We also engaged with librarians, digitization experts, and publishers, continuing to learn how best we can preserve African voices and make them accessible to the world.
- We launched our first resource dedicated to literature from the continent’s Western countries, [West African Magazines](#), developed in partnership with Sabinet.
- *South Asia Commons* expanded to include more than 500,000 items, with guidance from our advisory board in identifying key open resources for indexing.
- We launched [Oceania Commons](#), a new initiative to collect, preserve, and disseminate critical research and information from Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands. The first module [Oceania Policy](#) is available now. It is the largest grey-literature database covering the region, with regular updates from national, state, and local governments, think tanks, associations, and healthcare organizations—including the smallest nonprofits. Watch this space as we continue to add additional Oceania focused modules to *Oceania Commons* in 2025.
- Early in 2025, we’ll release *The Iran Society of India Archive*, offering unique perspectives on the intellectual collaboration and cultural understanding between India and Iran. Open and freely available to all, it’s our first project fully sponsored by the portion of revenues we set aside when libraries purchase [South Asian History and Culture](#); we contribute these funds to making digital content newly accessible.
- And... We’ll be introducing additional features and content in all these collections, including an AI-powered front end. We’ll also be sharing news of partnerships and will unveil a new open database.

History and living archives

- We completed the migration of Accessible Archives collections to [History Commons](#). The entire product range is now hosted on a modern, high-functionality platform and cross-searchable with our other history content.
- We met with Todd Presner, Head of Digital Humanities at UCLA and one of the authors of the influential *Urban Humanities*. He provided valuable insights into how humanities scholarship is evolving—from the confines of the ivory tower to high-impact, practical, cross-disciplinary spaces. In response...
- ...we launched [LGBTQ+ Social Justice and Culture](#), a preservation and research archive. The initiative focuses on working with communities and the creators of current, hidden, underground, and neglected works that drive social and spatial justice. We’re licensing extraordinary content, ranging from self-published items to activist publications, podcasts, websites, and videos from LGBTQ+ advocacy organizations, grassroots blogs, and niche online magazines.
- To support this new kind of project, we’ve updated our platform to index and preserve short-lived media formats such as zines, podcasts, videos, and blogs. We’ve made podcasts and videos keyword searchable, assigned permanent identifiers, and added other functionality.
- We’ve had a wonderful response so far—not just from librarians, but from students and the communities themselves. In 2025, we’ll add more new collections under the “Social Justice and Culture” umbrella.

Applied Science Commons

- We saw that colleges were being encouraged by funders and future employers to enhance students’ practical knowledge. In response, we launched [Applied Science Commons](#) at the Charleston Conference in November. This new platform is designed to index and preserve scientific information that’s hard-to-find and practical, in many formats across the applied sciences.
- The new Commons debuted with [Public Health and Social Care](#), focusing on frontline public healthcare and social policy. Coming soon, collections on AI, data, and computer science will be added to the *Applied Science Commons* platform.
- We’re honored that the Charleston community voted *Applied Science Commons* the Best New Product and Most Impactful Product—two awards that validate our commitment to bridging the gap between academic learning and real-world application.

Grey literature

- [Policy Commons](#), with more than 17 million items, is now the world's largest discovery service and repository of policy documents. It covers 21,534 organizations across the world—and it grows every hour.
- We expanded our definition of grey literature to include podcasts, blogs, and videos. We're now indexing many in *Policy Commons* and preparing to include more in *Applied Science Commons*.
- It's been a long-standing problem that links to grey literature break, so we implemented a solution. Last year we added COIs (Content Object Identifiers) to every item of grey literature we index. COIs work like DOIs, but they've been engineered to cope better with realities of grey literature like thin metadata. Now you can cite and manage grey literature as easily and reliably as you do journal articles.
- We're planning a major update to *Policy Commons* in 2025 that will include new fields, new impact functionality, and substantial improvements in metadata and coverage. Watch for rollout announcements throughout the year.

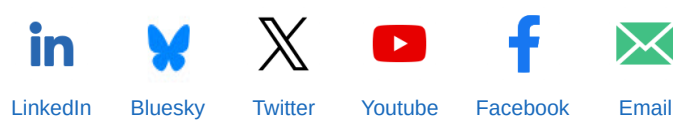
As always, we hope to hear from you with comments, questions, suggestions, requests, or anything else on your mind. Your feedback is what's most important to us.

With best wishes for a happy and successful New Year,

The Coherent Digital Editorial Team

Stephen Rhind-Tutt
Elizabeth Robey
Toby Green
Bob Lester

Visit us!



LinkedIn Bluesky Twitter Youtube Facebook Email

