

# What Lies Beyond: Editorial, Volume 9, Part 2

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*Some of the resistance to the search for extraterrestrial intelligence boils down to conservatism, which many scientists adopt in order to minimise the number of mistakes they make in their careers. This is the path of least resistance, and it works; scientists who preserve their images in this way receive more honors, more awards, and more funding. Sadly, this also increases the force of their echo effect, for the funding establishes ever bigger research groups that parrot the same ideas. This can snowball; echo chambers amplify conservatism of thought, wringing the native curiosity out of young researchers, most of who feel they must fall in line to secure a job. Unchecked, this trend could turn scientific consensus into a self fulfilling prophecy. (Loeb, 2022: 50)*

## Introduction

Welcome to the twenty first edition of *Exchanges: The Interdisciplinary Research Journal*, which happens to also be our premier issue for 2022 as well. If you have never read *Exchanges* before, then you are most welcome, as it is always a pleasure for us to have new readers. Naturally, you are just as welcome if you are part of our ever-growing community of regular readers. As always in this editorial, I will be discussing developments here at the journal, alongside providing readers with an overview of the articles in the issue. Naturally, you will also find more about how to contribute to future *Exchanges* issues through our various calls for papers, not to mention our social media presences.

### *Unlocking Tomorrow*

This editorial's title was chosen, in part, because it reflects Avi Loeb's excellent and accessible text (2022) concerning in part a thesis on evidence for intelligence beyond this Earth combined with a highly-reflexive critique of academic research discourse practices. Strongly recommended reading for anyone with a passion for exploring the challenges facing heterodox research endeavours and the normative barriers placed to arguably defanging their expression. Or perhaps any early career scholar vacillating between pursuing their consuming, original research passions or seeking a more secure career path within an adherence to orthodoxy.

This editorial title though was also chosen because we are actively looking towards the future of the journal, beyond 2022 itself. Not because we are ready to abandon 2022 already - although it has not been *that* great a year given the current global geopolitical and economic situation. Rather, because the time seems right to look beyond the immediate horizon towards a significant date in the journal's history. As this volume's number probably already alerted some readers, we are heading towards the milestone publication of *Exchanges'* tenth birthday issue in October 2023. Hence, this seems the perfect time to launch not one, but two initiatives geared towards greeting that event with renewed enthusiasm and vigour.

Back in the times long before Brexit, social distancing or lockdown<sup>i</sup> were quotidian terms, the very first issue of *Exchanges* materialised in October 2013. At the time, I was in the early stages of my own doctoral journey and was, regretfully, blissfully unaware of its creation. More is the pity, as I would have loved to have submitted some of my own research thoughts to its pages. The journal flowered from the shared desire of Warwick's early career researcher community to produce an 'intellectual gateway for research engagement at a regional, national and international level' (Thrift, 2013: 2). Or more prosaically to offer a 'new peer-reviewed online journal, dedicated to the publication of high-quality work by researchers in all disciplines' (Grainger Clemson et al, 2013).

Reading back through those high-minded, well-meaning and aspirational introductions to the first volume, I am not sure anyone expected the title to still be a going concern at the point of which we moved towards a tenth anniversary. I confess, recently having concluded my own fourth year of curating *Exchanges'* existence, I am unsure whether I expected the journal or myself to still be enmeshed in tandem by now either. In both cases we most certainly are, which is a delightful and satisfying outcome, supported not least from the efforts of all those editors, contributors and readers past and present. *Exchanges* as the journal exists today still strives to meet many elements of those founders' visions, even as by necessity it has evolved its scope beyond the worthy if, arguably, moderately more localised contents of the earliest volumes. Perhaps, one might consider how it is only in recent years that we have truly begun to realise Thrift's lofty ambitions for the title in terms of range, globality and internationalised discourse.

Nevertheless, external events willing, as it looks increasingly certain that *Exchanges* will achieve its birthday goal in a little over eighteen months, we have decided it is a perfect juncture to launch a pair of related initiatives. The second, you will find later in this editorial in our *Anniversary Call for Papers* below<sup>ii</sup>. The first though, let's deal with right here and now, because it directly concerns you – the reader!

*So, What Matters to You? Reader Survey 2022*

Ever since I took over running *Exchanges*, I realised much of the journal's operations had been run on the axiom that an interdisciplinary journal specialising in early career author's publications *had* an audience. There is much in the literature and discourse of scholarly publishing that would argue, in contrast, how scholars' interests and reading habits are directed at the article level of access. Yet, authors continue to contribute and collaborate with the journal, so we must be meeting some needs.

However, being an empiricist at heart, the question of how accurately we are satisfying our readership remains a moderately irksome unanswered question. Certainly, each published author is offered a formal route for feedback and comment on their experiences, not to mention an invite to appear on the *Exchanges Discourse* podcast. Incidental and anecdotal comments from the readership do arise periodically too, providing welcome, if staccato, further datum to draw upon.

Nevertheless, our broader readership have always remained a loosely understood, amorphous assemblage which invites further exploration in terms of their wants, needs and desires. Ahead of the lockdown period I was working towards hosting some focus groups to explore some of these very issues in a more formalised setting. While these, like so many plans, were side-lined by circumstance, as Editor-in-Chief, I think the run up to our anniversary year offers an opportune moment to revisit this area.

Hence, I am delighted to announce this issue sees the launch of our first ever readers' survey. In short, it asks our readership – and indeed anyone with an interest in the title – to offer some insight into what they most value and desire from *Exchanges*. It is, by necessity and efficacy, a brief and anonymous instrument which should take a scant few minutes to complete. I would strongly encourage anyone, however peripheral or perhaps devoted your interest or involvement with *Exchanges* might be, to take a few moments to contribute your thoughts. You will undoubtedly help us in shaping our own direction of travel and aspirations for the *next* ten years of the title!

To participate in the survey – please follow the link below:

- **Reader Survey:** [forms.gle/JpdGjxU8EsYpCNxy6](https://forms.gle/JpdGjxU8EsYpCNxy6)

Should you experience any issues - be they local security measures or simple accessibility - with being able to access or respond via this form, then please [contact me directly](#) and I will provide an alternative format.

My profound thanks in advance for your contributions and feedback. The survey will run throughout May and early June, closing on or around **Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022**. So, there is plenty of time to get involved.

## Papers

Would that synchronicity have afforded us the chance to present twenty-one papers this issue, but sadly such a frivolous goal has been denied us. Nevertheless, I am once again delighted to present a goodly number of articles, critical reflections and conversations this issue which should provide ample reading matter for the interdisciplinary curious scholar and student alike. Those with a more archival leaning, might also find particular interest in our final piece contributed by an author whose name with which you may already be quite familiar.

## Articles

We begin the issue with **Maria Anna Bertolino's** work which considers a *Post-Urban Life in the Italian Alps during a Pandemic*. While historic trends have seen emigration from the region, over the past decade there has been a tangible shift to re-habitation of the Alps. The author explores how this repopulation has been further enhanced by migration away from urban environs as a consequence of the impact of COVID-19 on locations of desirable domicile. Hence, Bertolino considers how this contemporary 'rediscovery' may have served to reshape prevailing perceptions of the Alps. In turn, the author suggests such assessments may in actuality be framed through a nostalgic perceptual lens ([1](#)).

We move on to **Jon Braddy** article which employs Guattari's concept of schizoanalytic cartographies and the *octothorpe* (#) to analyse the classic 80's film *War Games*. Braddy considers Guattari's four cartographies and explores what they can expose when they are utilised as an analytical lens. The author draws further illustrative examples from other work and films with themes which resonate with AI and cybernetic theory to further their argument. Then, moving to the piece's central thesis, the article explores the movie *War Games* itself and especially the WOPR machine intelligence at the heart of the film's apocalyptic simulation games, within Guattari's framing ([17](#)).

The next piece continues our martial informatics theme as Anna Kosovac examines *Factual Divergence and Risk Perceptions*. Submitted in response to our call for papers on *fakery*, the author considers the emergence of barriers for the public communication of factual information where trust in experts has been diminished. Drawing on work within psychology, risk analysis, communication, epistemology and political studies, Kosovac contemplates if there is any underlying truth to this oft espoused public antipathy towards experts. Through their explorations and considerations, Kosovac concludes experts remain valued by the public at large, but that threats to the stability of this trust are clearly evidenced in many domains ([35](#)).

### *Critical Reflections*

Moving to our critical reflective pieces, we are pleased this issue to offer three very different articles. The first by **Francesca Brunetti**, resonating in contrast with Bertolino's earlier piece, considers the *terrona*, or the stereotypical representation of the southern Italian woman. Through employing a methodological approach which calls upon drawing, feminism and ecology the piece explores how the media represents the *terrona*. Brunetti continues seeking within their work to transform these perceptions, through aligning and connecting the *terrona*'s traditional traits to the Mediterranean's natural resources. The piece is notable for being extensively illustrated throughout by the author's artistic flair (55).

The second reflection is provided by **Abdelhafid Jabri** and in it the author looks at *the Experience of Environmental Epiphany in the Lives of Aldo Leopold, Thomas Hill Jr., and Albert Schweitzer*. In this piece Jabri considers how baseline alterations in personal outlook can also result from short-term events. This contrasts with views that such opinions are solely predicated through longer-term experiences. In considering such 'environmental epiphanies', Jabri illustrates their thesis through the exploration of the three titular figures revelatory experiences. In each case, intimating how in each case a new awareness was triggered through a powerful emotional experience (82).

Finally for this section, **Leanne Weston** offers us an insightful and highly engaging piece looking at the *(In)Visible Woman*, as the author examines the career of actor Ruth Madeley. Weston considers and expands upon the casting practice of 'cripping up', and explores its impact on disabled actors' representation, careers and community. In turn, the author exposes how Madeley's current prominence within various landmark productions presents a valuable positive shift for disabled actors and the representation of disabled lives on screen, even if arguably it forms an exception rather than a prevailing norm. In particular, Weston highlights how the complexity of the roles Madeley inhabits serve to shift productions beyond a typical paradigm of 'inspiration' or 'ableist narratives' for disabled characters (88).

### *Conversations*

After a long absence from our pages, we have been able to include two conversation pieces this issue; a fact which pleases me enormously. We do not see quite as many of this submission format as we did in the early issues of *Exchanges*, and it would be great to present many more in future editions.

Nevertheless, firstly **Theodoor A.M. Richard** is in conversation with **Peter D Hershock**; inspired by our call for ‘AI - Pandemic or panacea’ pieces. Resonating modestly with Braddy’s earlier piece, Richard and Hershock centre on the ethical, rather than technological, challenges posed by AI, Richard and Hershock draw on a Buddhist framing to shape their debate. Their discussion continues as they explore ideas around Hershock’s ‘virtuosic relational dynamics’ and specifically how it can be deployed to organise a society on a less individualistic stance. Finally, it concludes centring on a proposal that Buddhist philosophy can offer benefits towards achieving an enriched and sustainable discourse of AI ethics ([97](#)).

The second conversation is with political science, women’s and gender studies scholar, and city councillor, Lisa Disch. In her discussion, author **Clementina Gentile Fusillo** begins by discussing the crucial motivations and drivers for Disch’s research endeavours. The conversation continues by looking at the ‘constructivist turn’ in theories of political representation, and discussed how ‘good representation’ can be achieved within the political and governance sphere. The scholar’s discussion concludes by reconsidering Disch’s service as an elected councillor and in particular the genesis and locus for their resultant feelings of empowerment within the role ([111](#)).

### *Postscripts*

Back in volume 6(2) I collated an index of the first six volumes of *Exchanges* covering the publication period late 2013 through to early 2019. This has been a consistently downloaded contribution, underscoring its value to a section of our readership. As a result, given the number of our volumes published in the three years since then, an update seemed a timely addition. Hence this issue includes an article, author and keyword (subject) index for the journal’s subsequent issues by myself, **Gareth J Johnson**. It is intriguing to observe how the keyword index highlights the disciplinary breath of the subjects broached by our authors. It is also satisfying to reflect on the many different authors who have contributed to our title’s continuing discourse ([121](#)).

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## **Authentic Interdisciplinarity: Anniversary Issue Call for Papers**

*The key objective of this journal arises from Warwick's ambition to provide an intellectual gateway for research engagement at a regional, national and international level. Interdisciplinary research is an increasingly important part of our academic future and this publication seeks to provide a spot-light for non-traditional collaborations and those keen to push the barriers of their disciplinary activity. (Thrift, 2013: ii)*

### **Context**

*Exchanges* was founded in 2013 as an explicitly interdisciplinary journal, with a mission to further the communication between disciplines, and to encourage scholars to reach out and embrace thought and practice beyond their own disciplinary traditions. In this respect it resonates with the *Institute of Advanced Study's* mission to create 'synergies between traditional disciplines' (IAS, 2022). Consequently, *Exchanges* has over the past decade achieved this goal through the production of numerous volumes containing work from dozens of scholars around the world drawn from a myriad of disciplinary traditions. However, while these articles have offered unique insights, arguably few of them could be considered to specifically have unpicked, exposed or interrogated ideas and practices of interdisciplinarity.

As many authors have noted while scholarship within the academy was once dominated by disciplinary work, moves towards a greater interdisciplinary research culture have grown over the years (e.g. Marres, 2020; Robinson, 2008). Today, it has arguably become normalised as a mainstream activity by university leaders and funding agencies. Working in tandem with other significant sectoral bodies these actors have been keen to support the idea of how complex and problematic challenges can be best addressed through scholars working together across the disciplinary divide (Bothwell, 2020). Emerging scholars too are increasingly encouraged for the sake of their career, to embrace interdisciplinary working and thinking. Yet despite these moves, operationally many scholars continue to primarily work and self-identify with unitary disciplinary departments and schools.

As a consequence of these developments, aspects of the academic publishing field too has adapted to accommodate a framework of interdisciplinary discourse from scholars situating in collaborating fields. Many research journals, *Exchanges* among them, have capitalised on this by encouraging a greater interdisciplinary publishing culture through the provision of their diverse fora. Although, as disruptive challenges to a preeminent disciplinary publishing culture such titles may experience a

varying degree of acceptance or face existential challenges (O'Brien et al., 2019).

However, while research may draw on differing or contrasting methods, methodologies and epistemologies, the degree to which such work can be perceived as 'authentically' interdisciplinary is questionable. In part some of the difficulties with seeking to publish what might be demarcated as 'authentic interdisciplinary' work, are disagreements over the definition of what interdisciplinary work actually comprises, as much as any resistance to move beyond traditional disciplinary realms. For some scholars, interdisciplinary work might today be perceived as a more natural occurrence within some disciplinary realms than others. Nevertheless, any personal desires to become a greater 'interdisciplinary' may be countered with pragmatic or career necessities or others. Yet, there are counters that work badged as interdisciplinary suffers from a 'diminution' of the rigor and focus witnessed were it to be situated entirely within a singular or closely related fields of study (Bothwell, 2020). Thus, the question might be posed, is interdisciplinarity research simply a prevailing trend rather than a genuine evolution of the scholarly research paradigm?

This gives rise to further questions concerning the definition of 'interdisciplinarity' and how we might differentiate 'authentic' from 'inauthentic' research practices. In turn, explorations of these synergistic themes may serve to better illuminate new insights into the state of cross-disciplinary research and research communications today. Not least with respect to whatever modest role *Exchanges* itself may have contributed.

#### *Call & Inspirations*

*Interdisciplinarity is the coming together of two or more disciplines to formulate a research question and an innovative method of finding an answer to that question. The research question might arise from the relationship between these disciplines or from the problematic boundary where the research from two or more disciplines intersects, providing a new direction to explore. The combination of divergent considerations from these disciplines often creates a new way of thinking about a problem. (Grainger-Clemson et al., 2013: iii-iv)*

So, tying into the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary issue of *Exchanges: The Interdisciplinary Research Journal* we are seeking contributions which seek to celebrate, challenge or define ideas around **authentic interdisciplinarity**. Authors may wish to draw on their own research practices and activities or adopt a more holistic stance in engaging with the prior literature and activities within this broadly demarcated field. As is *Exchanges'* tradition, we will potentially consider any work which its authors choose to present which seeks to address the themes evident within this call.



Authors may also wish to draw upon methods or methodological practices within a variety of field. Alternatively, they may consider explore if there are discrete or disparate audiences for interdisciplinary rather than unitary disciplinary work in academia today. Additionally, pieces considering, rationalising or amplifying cross-disciplinary discourse concerning centring on the concepts of authentic interdisciplinarity would be warmly received.

Authors looking for further inspiration to frame their articles may wish to look to ideas from among the following topics of potential interest:

- Authenticity and/or inauthenticity within interdisciplinary research and practice
- Becoming an interdisciplinarian – practical advice or critical reflections
- Conversations with interdisciplinary giants
- Creating, evolving and/or maintaining interdisciplinary research practice
- Critical reflections of *Exchanges*: then, now and tomorrow
- Defining boundaries between inter, multi and trans-disciplinary research
- In defence of the unitary disciplinarian in an interdisciplinary academy
- The interdisciplinary decade: key developments of the past ten years
- What lies beyond the fringes or overlaps of interdisciplinary thought?

However, authors are encouraged to develop their own ideas, thought and methodological approaches or insights, and need not only adhere to the above suggestions, provided as inspiration.

As a journal with an early career focus, *Exchanges* especially welcomes submissions in response to this call from scholars at an early or formative stage of their academic research careers. Papers authored by uniting scholars from disparate disciplines providing multiple viewpoints will be especially welcomed as responses to this call (e.g., scientists writing with humanities scholars). Additionally, as this call is tied into our anniversary issue, we would encourage submissions from authors who have previously published with *Exchanges* throughout its existence too.

#### *Formats & Deadlines*

Manuscripts may be submitted for consideration as peer-reviewed pieces (academic papers or review articles) or as editorially reviewed shorter contributions (critical reflections or conversations), as desired by their authors. However, please note the format adopted will modify the submission deadline (shown below).

- **Peer-reviewed papers or review articles**  
**30th November 2022**
- **Critical Reflections, Conversations (interviews) or Essays**  
**30th June 2023**

For more on these formats, their respective requirements and word limits please see the open call below, or our online Guide for Authors ([Exchanges, 2022a](#)).

Alternatively, contact the Editor-in-Chief via the address below. Manuscripts submitted beyond these dates may still be considered for publication in the anniversary issue, at the Editor-in-Chief's discretion. Authors should note that the anticipated publication date for work submitted for this call is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

#### *Manuscript Submission*

All articles should be submitted via *Exchanges'* online portal. New contributors will be required to register for an account with the journal as part of the submission process.

[exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/submission/wizard](https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/submission/wizard)

Authors should highlight in their submission note to the editor the format under which their manuscript should be considered. If authors are unsure if their manuscript proposal meets the requirements of this call, they are strongly advised to consult with the Editor-in-Chief ahead of submission. Submissions of sufficient quality but which do not sufficiently address the themes of this call, may be instead considered under the non-thematic, open call for papers at the Editor-in-Chief's discretion.

As with all our themed calls, papers deemed by the journal to be suitably scholarly, but falling outside this call's framing, may be instead considered under the non-thematic, open call for papers at the Editor-in-Chief's discretion.

Further guidance and advice on submission can be found here:

[exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/about/submissions](https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/about/submissions)

#### *Contact Details*

The Editor-in-Chief, Dr Gareth J Johnson, welcomes informal discussions with authors concerning their submissions to this call ([exchangesjournal@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:exchangesjournal@warwick.ac.uk)). However, a pre-submission discussion is not a prerequisite for the submission of a manuscript to be considered with respect to this call.

## **Open Calls for Paper**

Thematic call aside, if this issue has whetted your appetite to consider contributing to *Exchanges* then you will be pleased to know the journal welcomes submissions throughout the year on any subject, with no deadline. Articles which pass our review processes and are accepted for publication will subsequently appear in the next available issue.

As *Exchanges* has a core mission to support the development and dissemination of research by early career and post-graduate researchers, we are especially pleased to receive manuscripts from emerging scholars or first-time authors. However, contributions from established and senior scholars are also welcomed.

### *Peer-Reviewed Articles*

*Exchanges* welcomes submissions of research or review articles to be considered for peer-reviewed publication. Articles can be on any topic, ideally written for a multi and interdisciplinary audience. We are especially pleased to consider work incorporating elements of interdisciplinary methods, methodology or thinking. Peer-reviewed pieces should normally be between 4,000-6,000 words in length at submission.<sup>iii</sup>

### *Critical Reflections & Conversations*

*Exchanges* also welcomes submissions of interviews (conversations) with key scholars or critical reflections on important scholarly events, conferences or crucial new texts. These works undergo a briefer internal, editorial review, scrutiny only, but should still be written to the highest professional standard. Typically, these pieces have a shorter lead time to publication than the peer-reviewed submissions.

Critical reflections and conversation pieces are popular with our broader readership, due to their innate accessibility. They are also an excellent format for first-time authors looking to get a piece into publication in the near future. Both critical reflection pieces should typically be between 1,000-3,000 words in length, and conversations between 1,500-4,000 words. However, the Editor-in-Chief is happy to discuss exceptions to these rules with prospective authors - see contact details above.

### *Deadlines*

There are no submission deadlines and manuscripts are accepted for consideration throughout the year. Manuscripts which pass our review requirements will be published in the next available regular journal issue. Regular issues of *Exchanges* are typically published in late April and October.

*Advice for Prospective Authors*

As an interdisciplinary journal with a wide scholarly readership, authors should seek to address their manuscripts to a general academic audience. Wherever possible, consideration should be given to unpack, delineate and expand on any potentially 'disciplinary niche' language, terms or acronyms. Ideally, authors' manuscripts should seek to incorporate some elements of interdisciplinary thinking or perspective, and outline the broader scholarly relevance of their work. For interviews and critical reflections, authors are advised to highlight the importance of disciplinary discourse or interviewees' scholarly contributions to the global academy, society and public at large.

*Exchanges* has an expressly multidisciplinary, global and largely academic readership which have strong interests in work encompassing or straddling disciplinary boundaries. Manuscripts providing an introduction, overview or entry point to key disciplinary trends, discovery and discourse are often among the most frequently accessed publications in the journal.

The Editor-in-Chief welcomes approaches from authors via email, or video-call, to discuss prospective articles. However, abstract submission or editorial discussions ahead of a submission are not a requirement, and authors may submit complete manuscripts without any prior communication. Authors are encouraged to include a note to editor indicating the format of their work (e.g. article, critical reflection etc.).

All submitted manuscripts will undergo editorial review, with those seeking publication as research articles additionally undergoing formal peer-review by external assessors. Editorial decisions on manuscript acceptance are final, although unsuccessful authors are normally encouraged to consider revising their work for later reconsideration.

More information on article formats, wordcounts and other submission requirements are detailed in our author guidelines ([Exchanges, 2022a](#)). All manuscript submissions must be made by their lead author via our online submission portal. *Exchanges* is a diamond open access, scholar-led journal, meaning there are no author fees or reader subscription charges (**Fuchs & Sandoval, 2013; Bosman et al, 2021**). Authors retain copyright over their work but grant the journal first publication rights as a submission requirement.

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## **Forthcoming Issues**

Behind the scenes my editors, associate editors, reviewers and authors are all working towards new content for our future issues. Naturally, while our next regular issue is scheduled for late October 2022 (v10.1), activity continues on preparing our three current special issues too: respectively relating to the Anthropocene, nerd culture and pluralities of translation. While we're not yet in unquestionable sight of a publication date for these, my hopes are high we'll see the emergence of some of these as we reach the summer.

Currently, we do not have any further special issues under preparation. Nevertheless, I have enjoyed a range of discussions with various scholars about potential new projects in recent months. Hence, keep a close watch on the journal's announcements page and social media accounts for notification if and when any new initiatives are announced.<sup>iv</sup> As EIC I always welcome further approaches and exploratory discussions for further special issues from our contributor community.

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## **Acknowledgements**

My thanks as always to all our authors and reviewers for their vital intellectual contributions towards this issue. Without you, producing a quality-assured, peer-reviewed, scholar-led publication would not be possible. Thanks as well to our reader community and attendees at the recent Accolade sessions led on behalf of *Exchanges* too for helping develop the debates and insights around the journal and its contents.

My continued thanks to the members of our Editorial Board and associate editor community for their insights on matters of publishing policy, operations and ethics. Naturally, I am especially indebted to them for all their editorial labour contributions, particularly in maintaining an ongoing interaction with authors and reviewers alike. They are also a pleasure to work alongside, which makes my life a whole lot easier.

My gratitude too goes to Rob Talbot and Yvonne Budden at the University of Warwick for their technical support, especially with the recent system upgrades. My thanks as well to the IAS' John Burden and Sarah Penny for their various supporting and advisory roles, especially in terms of guiding new contributors to our door.

Finally, my grateful thanks as always to our publisher, the [Institute of Advanced Study](#) at the University of Warwick for their unceasing financial and strategic backing for *Exchanges* and our related activities.

## Continuing the Conversation

*Exchanges* has a range of routes for keeping abreast of our latest news, developments and calls for papers. In-between issues to continue the interdisciplinary exchange of experience underlying our operations you may wish to listen to our growing range of podcasts or read our blog posts. Please do contribute as we value hearing the thoughts of our author and readership communities.

Editorial Blog: [blogs.warwick.ac.uk/exchangesias/](https://blogs.warwick.ac.uk/exchangesias/)

Linked.In: [www.linkedin.com/groups/12162247/](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12162247/)

Twitter: [@ExchangesIAS](https://twitter.com/ExchangesIAS)

As Editor-in-Chief I am also always pleased to discuss potential publications, collaborative opportunities or invites to talk further about *Exchanges* and our activities. Contact me if you would like to arrange a consultation via Teams.

### *The Exchanges Discourse*

More new episodes of the companion podcast series, *The Exchanges Discourse*, have appeared over the past few months, including some of our most in-depth discussions with authors yet. As always, episodes continue to include a focus on including advice for new academic authors. Once more with the publication of this issue, I will be inviting our latest authors to appear as guests on the podcast over the coming months.

I heartily encourage all readers of the journal, and especially first-time authors, to tune in to our forthcoming and back catalogue of episodes: available on all major podcast platforms, and specifically hosted on the *Anchor.fm* site.<sup>v</sup> All episodes are free to stream or download and listen to at your leisure. Naturally, we also welcome approaches from potential guests or suggestions for topics we could address as part of future episodes too.

Podcast: [anchor.fm/exchangesias](https://anchor.fm/exchangesias)

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Gareth has been *Exchanges'* Editor-in-Chief since 2018. Along with a doctorate in cultural academic publishing practices (Nottingham Trent), he also possesses various other degrees in biomedical technology (Sheffield Hallam), information management (Sheffield) and research practice (NTU). His varied career includes extensive experience in academic libraries, project management and applied research roles. His professional and research interests focus on power-relationships within and evolution of scholarly academic publication practice, viewed from within social theory and political economic frameworks. He has extensive skills in areas including academic writing, partner relationship management and effective communication practices. He is an outspoken proponent for greater academic agency through scholar-led publishing. Gareth is also the Mercian Collaboration's Executive Officer, a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy, and hosts a number of podcasts, including *The Exchanges Discourse*.



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## Endnotes

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<sup>i</sup> I shall not continue here lest I depress our readers too much, but undoubtedly 2013 seems with hindsight to occupy a very different global and national environment than that which we ‘enjoy’ today, despite being only nine years previously.

<sup>ii</sup> **Announcements:** As with all our calls for papers, you can also always find the summary, full-text and requirements on our announcements page:

<https://exchanges.warwick.ac.uk/index.php/exchanges/announcement>

<sup>iii</sup> **Word counts:** We do not include abstracts, references, endnotes or appendices for the purposes of establishing a submissions word count. While submissions just over or under their word count will still be initially considered for review, those significantly in excess of these numbers will be declined and returned to their authors with advice for revision.

<sup>iv</sup> **Initiating Special Issues:** If you are seeking a suitable home for a dedicated volume of the journal we certainly welcome outline discussions for the ways in which *Exchanges* could become your publication partner. While our facilities are modest, we have been excited to work with various scholars on special issues past and future (**Exchanges, 2022b**). You are warmly invited to contact myself as Editor-in-Chief to discuss any prospective ideas, without commitment. You may also wish to listen to a past episode of *The Exchanges Discourse* (**Exchanges, 2020**) wherein I discuss the thinking and pragmatic concerns around initiating a special issue collaboration with our journal.

<sup>v</sup> **Podcast:** The podcast is also streamed on Spotify, Apple and Google Podcasts and other podcasting platforms. Search for it by name.