

発表タイトル	The Research Cooperative, a social network for better research communication
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In the present Internet Era, it is possible in theory to meet anyone online, anywhere, at any time of day or night. So why do research student and researchers struggle to find the help they need for getting their work published? Despite the potential of the Internet, there are still many barriers to effective research communication, but they are not technical barriers.

In the poster, I outline the aims, history, and less-than-satisfactory achievements of *The Research Cooperative*, an online social network and NPO that I first began developing in 2001, while working in Japan. Early experiences with the network led me to organise a conference at the National Museum of Ethnology, under the title of “*Research Writing in Japan: Cultural, Personal and Practical Perspectives*” A conference volume with the same title was published: P. J. Matthews and J. Akamine (eds), 2004, *Senri Ethnological Reports* No. 49.

The Research Cooperative (<http://researchcooperative.org>) was established in 2001, and now has a nominal membership of more than 7000 members, including editors, translators, illustrators, publishers, students and researchers from all regions of the world, and working in many different languages. Despite some success in building this network, it remains poorly known and under-utilised.

The Research Cooperative is not just aimed at serving the anthropological research community, or Japan. Its aim is global: all research fields, all countries, all languages, and all forms of research-based communication.

With its existing exposure on the Internet the Research Cooperative network is globally accessible, but unfortunately, we are far from achieving our full potential as a social network. The limitations are not technical but financial, cultural, and social. People are naturally shy about asking for help. In many research cultures, there is little experience of mutual academic support, and little experience in negotiating with editors and translators. The network offers a model for collaboration that is definitely needed in the Internet Era, and for the Open Access movement to be effective in academic publishing.