



A NEW FUTURE

NEWSLETTER | June 2025

The Biodiversity Heritage Library (BHL) is entering a bold new chapter. Following the **Smithsonian Institution's decision to end its role as BHL's host by 1 January 2026**, the BHL consortium has been working hard to secure a sustainable future.

Since our Annual Meeting in April, we have:

- Appointed a Transition Director and a Communications Director;
- Formed a dedicated Transition Team;
- Confirmed a new fiscal sponsor to support BHL's operations; and
- Released our official **Call for Support**.

BHL is committed to transparency and regular updates – this newsletter is just one way we'll keep our global community informed. We will be releasing regular #BHLTransition updates via the [BHL Blog](#). You can also follow BHL on [Bluesky](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for the latest updates.

Read on for more about our ongoing transition.



Reflecting on the 2025 BHL Annual Meeting in Berlin

In April, BHL held its Annual Meeting, bringing together representatives from our Member and Affiliate institutions from around the world. This year's meeting focused on transition planning, community engagement, and the sustainability of open biodiversity infrastructure. The sense of shared purpose and global solidarity was energizing and affirmed just how vital BHL is to so many institutions, researchers, educators, and the public.

[Learn More >>](#)

Welcoming Transition Leadership

As part of the Transition Planning during and after the Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee appointed two new leadership positions to facilitate the transition and lead a Call for Support to plan BHL's next chapter.



Kelli Trei
Transition Director

Kelli Trei, Biosciences Librarian and Associate Professor at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, brings a wealth of leadership experience and a deep commitment to BHL. Most recently, she served as Vice-Chair on the BHL Executive Committee and the EC Secretary before that. Her leadership, steady presence, and long-standing engagement with BHL have proven invaluable during transition planning.



Nicole Kearney
Communications Director

Nicole Kearney, Manager of BHL Australia and Chair of BHL's Persistent Identifier Working Group, brings over a decade of experience with BHL and a strong record of international collaboration, digital engagement, and strategic communication. As Communications Director, she will lead BHL's internal and external communications through the transition and into the next chapter.



BHL released its official [Call for Support](#) on June 11. We are seeking new institutional partners to host or support BHL's core operational roles, technical infrastructure, and key services. This support is essential to ensure BHL's long-term continuity, resilience, and growth. We welcome interest in permanent, short-term, or shared arrangements.

Initial expressions of interest are encouraged by **31 August 2025**, but responses will be welcomed on a rolling basis.

[Learn More >>](#)



How You Can Help

BHL was built by a global community, and we need that community now more than ever. There are many ways you can support the future of BHL.

Respond to our [Call for Support](#)

We welcome creative and collaborative proposals, from funding models to shared staffing or infrastructure.

Share the [Call for Support](#)

Help us reach institutions and funders who may be able to help host BHL roles, infrastructure, or services.

Advocate for BHL

Speak up about the importance of BHL in your institution or community.

Support BHL Directly [Make a Donation](#)

Thank you for being part of the BHL community. With your help, we'll ensure that biodiversity knowledge remains freely accessible.

Stay Connected with BHL



SUPPORT BHL

www.biodiversitylibrary.org

197,000+ Titles | 318,000+ Volumes | 63+ Million Pages

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

BHL @ SI Libraries and Archives | 1000 Constitution Ave NW | Washington, DC 20560 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!