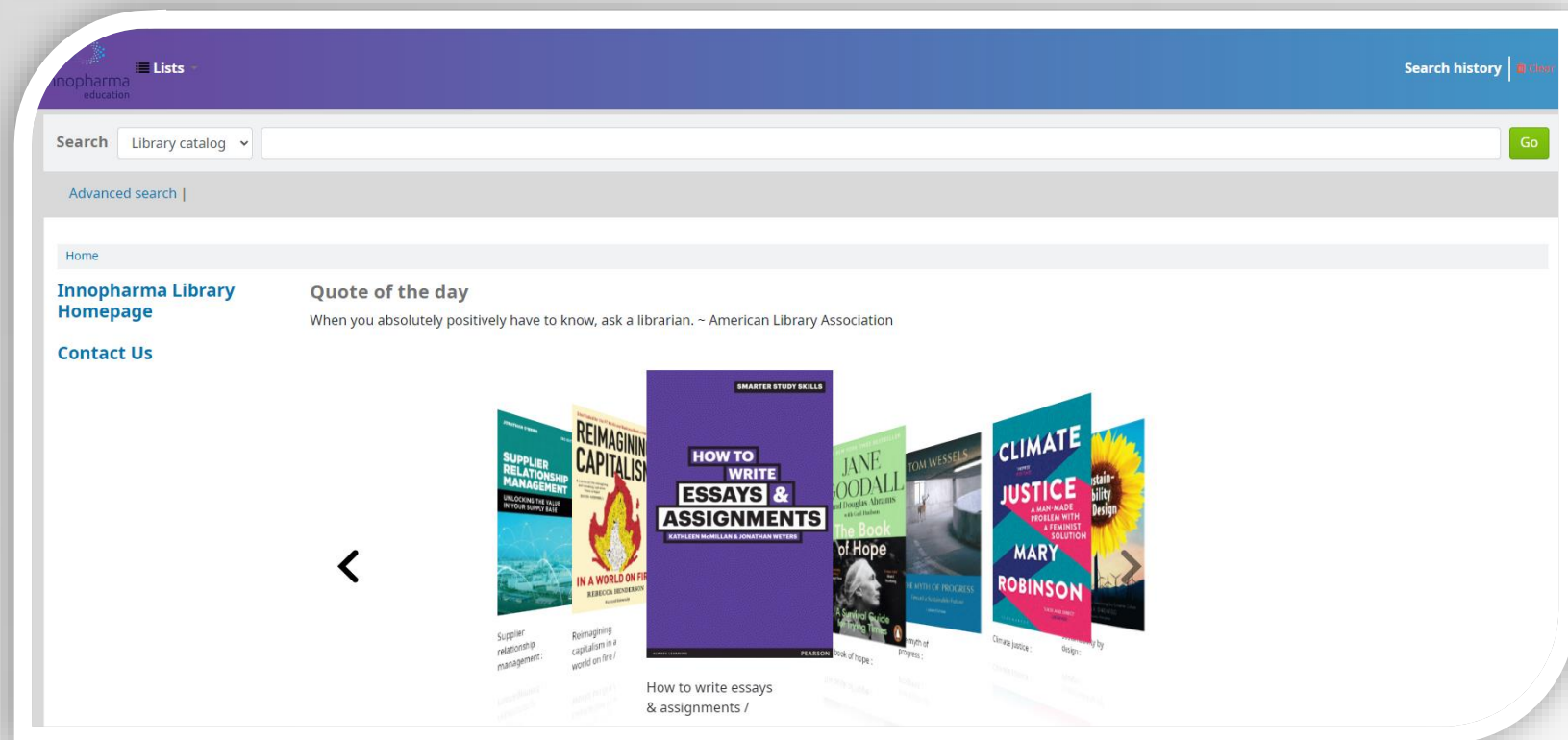


# The Digital Library @

## As Open as Possible...

### KOHA Library Management System



#### Choosing Koha

After careful consideration and evaluation of various options, we chose *Koha* as our Library Management System (LMS).



This decision was driven by several factors:

**Open-Source philosophy** *Koha* embodies the principles of Open-Source Software, providing us with flexibility, transparency, and control over our library operations.

**Cost-effectiveness** Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) of *Koha* was significantly lower than the alternatives considered.

**Customization** *Koha* offers a high degree of customization and flexibility; this allowed us to tailor the system to our unique requirements and workflows.

**Local support** We chose to have *Koha* implemented, hosted, and supported by a local company (*Interleaf*, based in Bray, Co. Wicklow).

**Active Online community** Like many Open-Source Software projects, *Koha* boasts a vibrant online community of users, including librarians, developers, and enthusiasts.

### Our open Institutional Repository

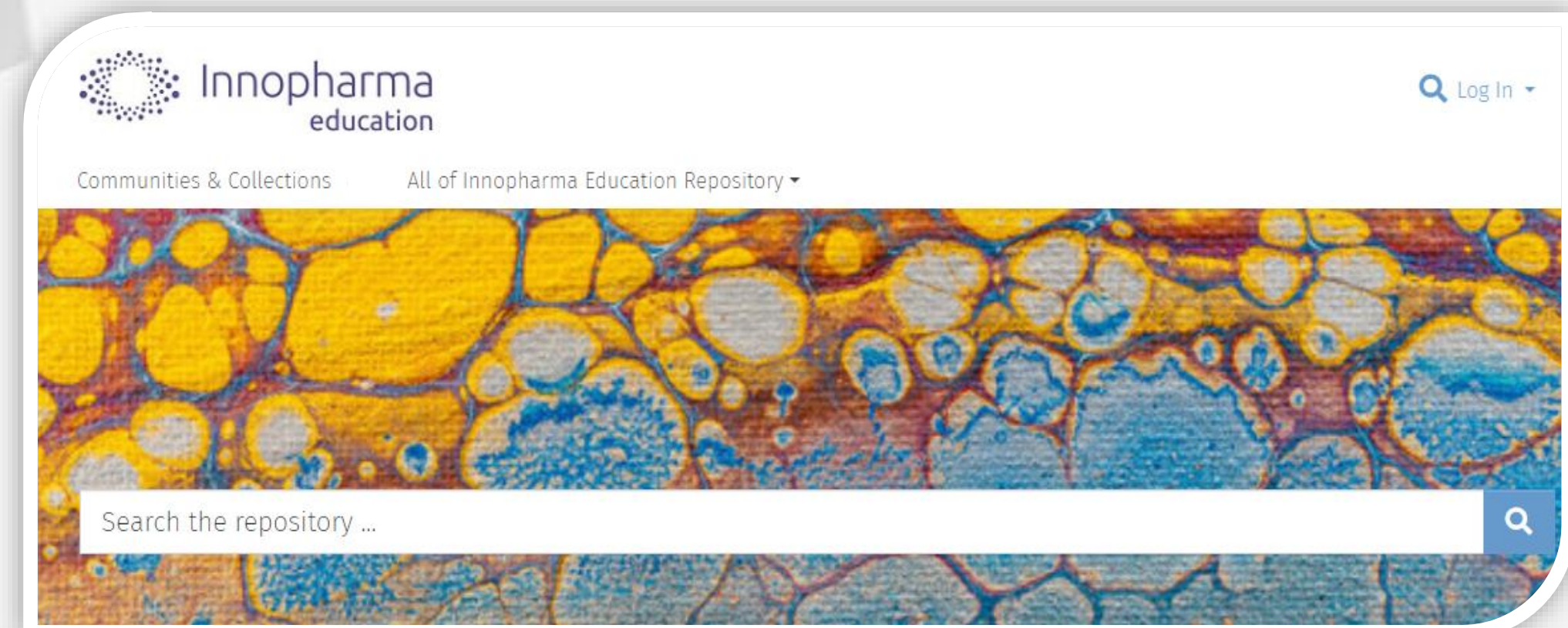
#### Implementing DSpace as our Institutional Repository

**Open-Source Foundation** Choosing Open-Source Software (OSS) where possible is something that we are passionate about here at Innopharma Education.

Values such as openness, access and collaboration are vital to libraries and these align with the ethos of open-source software. *DSpace* offered everything we needed in a repository as well as having the advantages shared by all OSS, such as vendor independence, community support and collaboration and long-term sustainability.

**Cost** Like *Koha*, *DSpace* is open-source and so is freely available for use without licensing fees. We chose *Atmire* to implement and support the system and the overall cost was significantly lower than that of alternatives.

**Flexibility** *DSpace* offers flexibility in terms of the types of content it can manage and we use *DSpace* to store a wide range of digital materials, including scholarly articles, datasets, multimedia files, theses, and more. Additionally, *DSpace* supports various metadata standards, enabling interoperability with other systems and repositories.



### Supporting our patrons through open resources



#### Open Educational Resources

Lecturers are encouraged to use OERs for their teaching and a comprehensive list of such resources has been developed and promoted. Our students also have access to Open Access journal collections such as *Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)*, *MDPI Journals*, *Frontiers*, *Elsevier Open Access Journals* and Open Access book collections, such as *Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB)*, *Digital Book Index* and *Open Textbook Library*. Several particularly relevant Open Access books have also been handpicked from these collections and added to the Library catalogue.



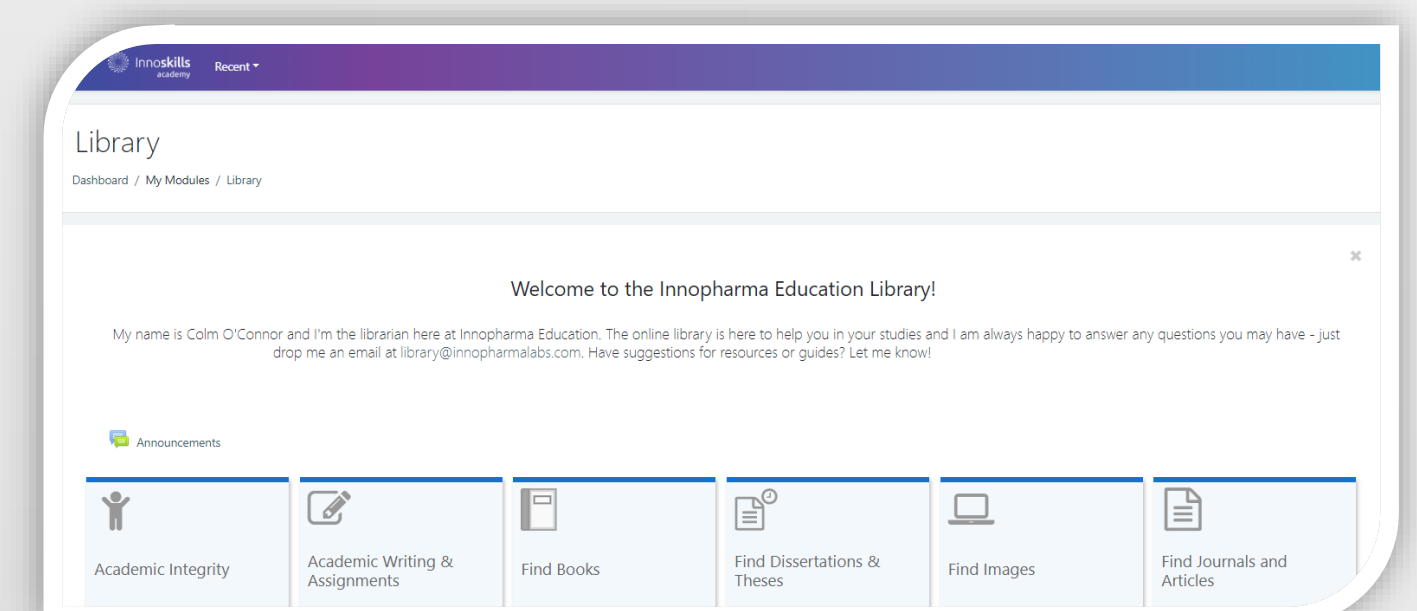
#### Zotero

We encourage students to use *Zotero* for reference management – *Zotero* is free, open source and offers all the features we feel are necessary. At Innopharma Education library, we believe in equipping students with tools that not only enhance their academic journey but also provide lasting value beyond graduation. Knowledge gained in using other paid for reference management tools, such as *Endnote*, can often be wasted when students graduate and no longer have free access.

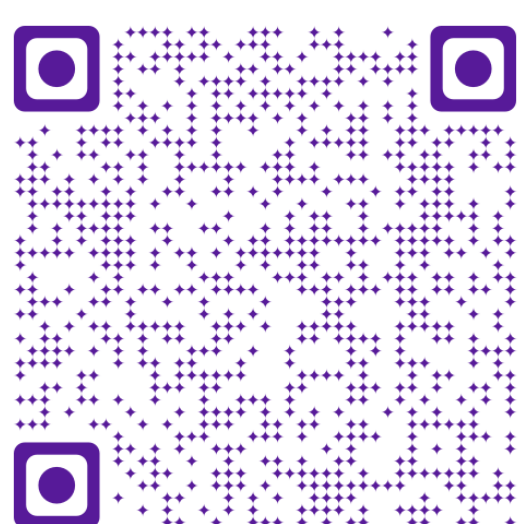
## ...As Closed as Necessary



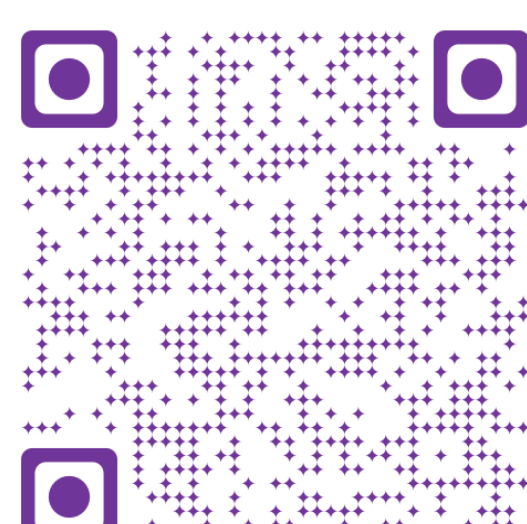
As a private institution, our library cannot be fully open. The Innopharma Education library is housed on Innoskills - a customised version of Moodle. This means that some sections of our library (e.g., guides, lessons, videos) are only available to our registered staff & students. eBooks, apart from those which are Open Access, are also only available to patrons and we use the *OpenAthens* authentication service to ensure this secure access.



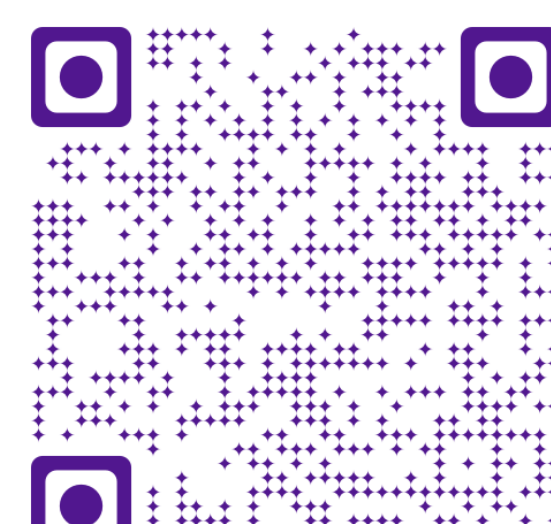
## For more information



Scan to view our OPAC



Scan to view this poster



Scan to view our repository



Colm O'Connor

College Librarian &  
Research Specialist at  
Innopharma Education