

## DANISH OPEN ACCESS NETWORK (DOAN)

### - A new Open Access network established

Adrian Price

#### Introduction

From the 9th – 10th September 2009 14 people from 8 Danish universities and other institutions, all with connections to libraries and institutions/activities connected with meta-research activities, met in the Danish town of Roskilde to start the Danish Open Access Network (DOAN).

The Network is a follow-up activity to the one year DEFF project “Public Access to Danish Research”, which ended in April 2009.<sup>1</sup>

The aim of the Network, which is supported by Denmark’s Electronic Research Library (DEFF)<sup>2</sup> is to:

- Spread knowledge about OA in Denmark
- Spread knowledge about OA to a wider library audience
- Support DEFF’s program areas in defining and realising plans and projects concerned with OA
- Support for Knowledge Exchange (KE)<sup>3</sup> activities in the area
- Ensure that DEFF/KE activities are in line with the research possibilities and conditions of universities and research institutions

During the two days spent in Roskilde, the participants discussed the aims of the network and how the network should operate and communicate. As inspiration smaller groups worked with ideas on how to get researchers interested in open access and ideas for open access activities in open access week which starts on the 19<sup>th</sup> October.

#### Open access from a researcher’s view point:

How do external practitioners work and how can open access influence their work? Professor Steen Markvorsen, Danish Technical University, Department of Mathematics, gave a very illustrative account of his research process from idea/experiment to access to and preservation of research results. For

him access to research publications was essential to his own research activities: in his own words: “Metadata is God!”.

Important principles for Professor Steen Markvorsen were: more effective communication routines and transparency, which lead to better access to research results, which in turn leads to inspiration from across different disciplines. The latter could also be realised through his dream of the “complete repository planet”, with coverage also going back in time. The preservation of research results was an important factor for Professor Steen Markvorsen.

#### What else is happening in Denmark?

Mikael K. Elbæk (Denmarks Technical University Library), Bertil Dorch (Center for Scholarly Communication (CfCS), Copenhagen University Library and Information Service) and Anne Sandfær (Denmark’s Electronic Research Library/Knowledge Exchange) then gave a brief overview of various open access activities in Denmark. Activities such as the DEFF project on increasing open access in Denmark that has just ended (which has already been mentioned), the groups and activities under Knowledge Exchange and Nordbib<sup>4</sup>, DEFF’s new project group<sup>5</sup> on open access together with participants from other government agencies, as well as the recent Houghton report “Costs and benefits of alternative publishing models: Denmark”<sup>6</sup> were covered in short status reports.

#### The Danish Open Access Network and [www.open-access.dk](http://www.open-access.dk):

The main concern of the two day event was the establishment of DOAN and not least to plan and launch the website [www.open-access.dk](http://www.open-access.dk).

<sup>1</sup> See the report by Mikael K. Elbæk in ScieCom Info, vol. 5, nr. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Denmark’s Electronic Research Library: <http://www.deff.dk/default.aspx?lang=english>

<sup>3</sup> Knowledge Exchange: <http://www.knowledge-exchange.info/>

<sup>4</sup> Nordbib: <http://www.nordbib.net/>

<sup>5</sup> News item on DEFF’s new open access project group: <http://www.deff.dk/content.aspx?itemguid={604ADF5D-F6E6-4CC9-8E85-D6735D1ADC6D}>

<sup>6</sup> Houghton report on Denmark: <http://www.deff.dk/showfile.aspx?IdGuid={8288B54C-FC4F-40C4-A09C-67429DC32338}>

The aim of the website is to communicate news about open access activities in Denmark and will include profiles of institutions in Denmark working with open access and contain a FAQ and a glossary of open access terms. Importantly, it will also in one place collect the official documents related to open access.

The website will also include a calendar of open access activities in Denmark as well as a number of syndicated blogs related to open access in Denmark and abroad.

An editorial group was set up at the meeting to establish and update the website, which is planned to go live during international open access week.

#### **What now?**

A group has now been established which can help to focus activities on open access in Denmark, there will be a website which can also communicate open access news and facts to researchers, but the participants at the meeting in Roskilde were under no illusions as to the difficulties which lie ahead!



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## BUILDING A REPOSITORY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR FINLAND

Jyrki Ilva

### Introduction

Institutional repositories have a fairly long history in Finland. The first repositories were founded more than a decade ago, and currently almost all of the Finnish universities have at least some kind of repository with variable amounts of content. Last year the Ministry of Education granted funding for a new project which aims to improve the existing national repository infrastructure. In addition to the development of technological infrastructure the project also deals with copyright issues connected with the self-archiving of research articles.

### From e-theses to OA mandates

The development of institutional repositories in Finland originally started out in the late 1990s. Although terms like "open access" or "institutional repository" were not yet widely used, much of what was created at this early stage was of lasting influence.

At first the publishing activities mostly concentrated on doctoral and graduate theses. As the number of doctoral dissertations was growing rapidly year by year, the publishing and printing of them was eating up an increasing amount of resources, and this was making it harder to get anything else published. Digital publishing was seen as a way to save resources by decreasing the number of printed copies of dissertations. After some initial hesitation it became obvious that the digital theses should be available without charge in the open Internet so that their dissemination would be maximized.

The early adopters of these policies included several Finnish universities: University of Jyväskylä, University of Oulu, University of Helsinki, University of Tampere and Helsinki University of Technology all started their publishing programs for digital theses in the late nineties or just after the turn of the decade. All of these universities had their own policies and technical solutions, and there was a lot of variation on the practical issues. In addition to theses, some of these universities also published serial publications.

The ideas propagated by the international open access movement began to gain foothold in Finland a few years later. The Finnish Open Access Working Group (FinnOA) was founded in 2003, and it had an important role both in creating awareness on these

issues and also advocating the creation of open access policies especially on the national level. As part of this development the Finnish Council of University Rectors signed the Berlin declaration in May, 2006.

Although many universities had already had some kind of open access publishing activity for several years, the impact of the open access movement extended beyond a mere adoption of new terminology. There were new open source technological platforms like DSpace, which slowly started to replace the older locally-developed publishing systems. The open access movement also brought along the idea of self-archiving research articles to an institutional repository to ensure their open availability. Self-archiving was seen as a novel and exciting idea, but as in most of the other countries, the number of self-archived articles actually deposited to Finnish repositories remained extremely low for several years. In practice it turned out to be very difficult to motivate researchers to deposit their articles as long as it was voluntary.

In May 2008 the University of Helsinki made a decision to impose a self-archiving mandate on its researchers. The mandate will be in effect starting from January 1, 2010.<sup>1</sup> This was the first open access mandate in Finland, and what made it even more important was that the decision came from the oldest and most prestigious university in the country. Although the rector's decision initially received surprisingly little public attention, it is becoming apparent that it has changed the playing field rather dramatically. So far the University of Tampere is the only other university to decide on a mandate (and it can be argued that this decision, with less strict wording than in Helsinki, is more accurately described as a recommendation than as a proper mandate)<sup>2</sup>, but there's a growing pressure on all of the Finnish

<sup>1</sup> See Marjut Salokannel: University of Helsinki opens its research vaults: a few words on open access and the new research environment in Finland. ScieCom Info, Vol 4, No 23 (2008). URL:

<http://www.sciecom.org/ojs/index.php/sciecominfo/article/view/653/447>

<sup>2</sup> This has been argued by Stevan Harnad: Correction: U. Tampere Policy Merely A Request, Not A Mandate. Open Access Archivangelism, August 27, 2009. URL: <http://openaccess.eprints.org/index.php?archives/622-Correction-U.-Tampere-Policy-Merely-A-Request.-Not-A-Mandate.html>

universities and also research funding agencies to adopt similar policies. Of course, many universities are probably waiting to see how well the mandates of Helsinki and Tampere will work out in practice.

### Developing new practices and infrastructure

The Finnish Ministry of Education has provided funding for a two-year project (2009-2010), which supports the building of a national infrastructure for institutional repositories. The project consists of three sub-projects, which are each run by one of the three partner-organizations: The Helsinki University Library concentrates on creating practices and workflows for self-archiving (with special attention to copyright issues), the National Library provides ready-for-use repository infrastructure and technical solutions for Finnish DSpace-based repositories and the Oulu University Library documents its experiences in choosing a new technical platform for its own repository. In addition to these aims the project also promotes co-operation between repository managers and developers and the adoption of common policies and practices on the national level. These national solutions should, of course, be compatible with the international best practices.

The sub-project run by the Helsinki University Library is closely connected to the forthcoming OA mandate of the university. As part of the preparations for this mandate, the University of Helsinki has started negotiations with the leading scientific publishers in Finland. The publishers are encouraged to define their self-archiving policies, which the library will then submit to the international Sherpa/Romeo database. This will benefit all of the Finnish universities, and to some extent, also universities in other countries as well. There are also plans to create a handbook (or an openly-accessible wiki) on copyright issues related to self-archiving. Uncertainty over copyrights and publishing agreements seems to be one of the most common stumbling blocks for individual scholars wishing to deposit their articles to a repository.

The sub-project coordinated by the National Library of Finland concentrates on technical and metadata issues. The National Library has a long tradition of providing centralized IT-services for the Finnish library network. The library has already introduced two DSpace-based repository services, Doria and Theseus. Doria (<https://oa.doria.fi>) was originally launched in February 2007, and it currently contains more than 40 000 items from several institutions (not all of them open access, though). The National Library provides the technological platform and each of the customer organizations takes care of the management of its own collections and publications. The development of Theseus (<https://publications.theseus.fi>) started out in 2008,

and it will be the common repository for all of the 26 Finnish universities of applied sciences (*yrkeshögskola*). At first stage it will contain all of the graduate theses accepted within these organizations, but there are plans to expand it to include other materials (including self-archived articles) as well.

With the project funding the National Library continues the development of its centralized repository platforms and also develops open source technical solutions in co-operation with other DSpace-based archives. The first development project was a new statistics tool for DSpace. The first version of the Simple Stats tool was completed in April 2009, and it is currently in use in several repositories (you can try it here: <https://oa.doria.fi/simplestats/front>). At the moment the National Library is developing a new modular ingest system which works outside of DSpace and will hopefully make it easier to create new workflows for each organization and ingest process. The ingest system will be compatible with the forthcoming DSpace version 2.0, which is expected to come out in 2010.

### Challenges for the next few years

In her already-classic pamphlet, "Innkeeper at the Roach Motel" Dorothea Salo paints a rather gloomy picture of the state of the institutional repositories.<sup>3</sup> Much of what she says applies to the Finnish situation as well. Most of the existing Finnish repositories have been built more or less on a shoestring budget, and they have often been short on resources and proper institutional support. Although institutional mandates may be giving new attention to the needs of repositories, their long-term sustainability and development is still an issue.

This brings us to the question of organization. It is obvious that by combining and sharing the resources between organizations it would be possible to build stronger repositories with adequate resources behind them. This has been the idea behind the National Library's centralized services all along. On the other hand, there has also been quite a lot of discussion on how much centralization is really needed for institutional repositories - what could and should be centralized and what would be best done on the local level.

In addition to the centralized services offered by the National Library Finland has a network of other repositories that are being run locally on a university level. Like Doria and Theseus, many of these repositories are based on the DSpace software, but a

<sup>3</sup> Dorothea Salo: Innkeeper at the Roach Motel. Library Trends 57:2 (Fall 2008). Available at <http://minds.wisconsin.edu/handle/1793/22088>.

few of the older ones have their own locally developed technical platforms. Some of the universities have had their own repositories and publishing systems for many years, and they are not necessarily very keen on replacing them with a common national repository, even if it might make sense from a purely financial point of view. However, the fact that many universities are likely to have their own locally-run repositories even in the future doesn't rule out the need for co-operation.

Of course, the concept of institutional repository as we know it at the moment is not fixed in stone and it is likely to evolve over time. Already there's a lot of pressure to get the repositories better integrated with other university-level systems and services. These include Current Research Information Systems (CRIS) and Virtual Learning Environments. This means that the repository infrastructure - whether local or centralized - must be flexible enough to adapt to these

demands. As far as possible, the technical interfaces between different systems and modules must also be built on commonly-used protocols instead of ad hoc solutions. There's a lot of work to be done, no matter who is going to do it.

From the Finnish perspective, another important challenge for the repositories is the currently ongoing organizational upheaval in the Finnish university system. The legal status of the universities will change in 2010, and there will be several mergers and new strategic alliances between the universities. This is likely to have an effect on several of the currently operating repositories. Although there's some uncertainty over how things will work out, these changes may also provide new opportunities for co-operation and the building of an improved repository infrastructure for the Finnish universities and research institutions.

## THE UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND JOINS SKEMMAN

Áslaug Agnarsdóttir

Skemman (<http://www.skemman.is>) is an open-access repository serving four universities in Iceland. The project was originally started by the University of Akureyri library in 2002. In 2006 the library of the Iceland University of Education joined and a project group was formed to continue the development of the repository, which uses DSpace software. In February 2008 the University of Iceland's University Council voted to join Skemman and to collect electronic copies of students' theses as well as the paper copies that had traditionally been preserved. On 1 July 2008 the Iceland University of Education was merged into the University of Iceland as one of its five schools. It was then decided that the management and technical administration of the system would be moved to the National and University Library (NULI) and that thesis collection would begin with the school year 2008-2009. In December 2008 Bifrost University and the Iceland Academy of the Arts joined Skemman, as did the University of Iceland as a whole.

So far Skemman houses mainly student dissertations and theses. In the future the plan is to include articles and other material by university faculty and staff members.

The University of Iceland has three graduation dates: in October, February and June. As the technical staff at NULI encountered problems in setting up the DSpace software, both the October 2008 and

February 2009 theses had to be collected by e-mail or on CDs, since the repository was not yet set up for self-archiving by students. This caused an immense amount of work for librarians at NULI who have had to take on the work of inputting the theses. (This work is still underway.) Most students graduating in June 2009 were able to self-archive their theses, but not all have entered their theses into the system yet. When Skemman was introduced to the University of Iceland, it was thought of as an open-access repository. However, it was decided that each student should be free to choose whether access to their thesis, in part or whole, should be open or closed. It has been a considerable disappointment to librarians at NULI that quite many students choose to deny electronic access to their theses. Some even choose open access to begin with but change their mind later and ask for access to be closed.

So far 1759 students have submitted their theses. Of these, 809 belong to the School of Education. Skemman contains 7 doctoral dissertations, 413 masters' theses and 1339 undergraduate theses. No member of the academic staff has submitted work so far, although there is a category set aside in the repository structure for them.

This autumn a new edition of the DSpace software will be implemented but it is obvious that a lot of development still remains to be done before Skemman can fulfill its purpose as planned.



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## STARTING AN OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL IN ICELAND

Ian Watson

The *Bifröst Journal of Social Science / Tímarit um félagsvísindi* ([bjss.bifrost.is](http://bjss.bifrost.is)) is now in its third year. While it is not the only open access scholarly journal in Iceland, it was the first one to use international open access software (OJS) and to be listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals ([doaj.org](http://doaj.org)). The most recent annual issue was 180 pages and included 9 articles. This article presents the history of the journal and summarizes lessons learned from the journal's first three years.

### *Subsidy model*

The journal is entirely subsidized by Bifröst University. Bifröst University occupies a campus in the countryside 110 km north of Reykjavík and offers bachelor's and master's degrees in business, law, and the social sciences. Founded in 1918, Bifröst was in earlier decades a business college run by the cooperative movement in Iceland.

### *Paid editorship*

During the journal's first year, it was run off one page on the school's web site, using the web site management system, with links to PDFs of the articles. The editor, a social science faculty member, was not paid specifically for work on the journal. A graphic designer was hired to lay out the articles at the end of the year, create a cover, and manage printing.

During the journal's second year, a 20% staff position (one day a week) was defined and a new editor hired. This had a positive effect, as it changed the editorial work from something that was done in off-hours, as one of the various pro bono duties of an academic staff member, to something with a defined amount of staff time.

The new editor brought in the Open Journal Systems (OJS) system. The university computer staff provided space on a Unix server, and the editor was able to handle the installation and administration himself. Most layout responsibilities were also shifted from an outside graphic designer to the editor. The editor, who is also a social science faculty member, has good amateur computer administration, word processing and desktop publishing skills; long experience of academic writing; and is a native English speaker with good Icelandic skills.

Articles are edited in OpenOffice (although Word or

InDesign could also be used). PDFs are created by printing to Adobe Distiller, as the OpenOffice PDF export engine is of inferior quality. Creating a style template for text, figures, and tables was key to making the layout more efficient. Doing layout in-house reduced costs significantly, and increased quality, as the previous graphic designer did not have experience with academic publishing. But a graphic designer was hired to create a cover for the printed version of the journal. However, the InDesign files for the cover are owned by the university, not the designer. That means they can be revised each year at a lower cost than if all work was outsourced to a designer.

### *Paid peer review*

The editor and his supervisor made the decision to pay a small honorarium for peer review. This amounts to €90 if the review is completed within four weeks; else €60. While this is a token amount, the editor feels that this has had a positive effect on the speed and quality of reviewers' work, though it is hard to say for sure. However, the process of transferring these relatively small sums abroad to reviewers abroad can be cumbersome. As the journal's scope is broad, it is not always possible to rely on the same reviewers over and over again and much time and effort goes into finding appropriate reviewers.

### *Defining the scope*

While the journal published many working papers in its first two years, the editor has tried to move towards having mostly peer-reviewed articles. The journal's policy is to publish only articles which have a connection to Iceland in some way. As the journal is subsidized by an Icelandic university which receives a mixture of tuition and public funds, the management sees the journal as serving the Icelandic scholarly community.

### *Printing costs*

During the journal's first two years, a fixed number of copies of the journal (150-200) were printed, either entirely by offset or with a offset cover and digitally printed content. Copies were distributed free to authors and to Icelandic libraries. Leftover copies were stored at the university office. Printing costs were quite high – on the order of €15-20 per copy – and not all copies were used.

During the journal's third year, the editor analyzed the

costs of moving to a print-on-demand system. It looked as if sending printing abroad, to one of the major print-on-demand portals such as lulu.com, could reduce printing costs by at least 50% without any reduction in quality. Although that means printing the cover of the journal digitally rather than by offset, the quality difference is negligible. On-demand printing appears to offer better text print quality, binding quality, and cover paper quality than traditional printing. This savings stands up to the cost of shipping printed books from England and of paying Icelandic VAT and customs processing costs on their arrival in Iceland. Much other quality printing in Iceland is now done abroad, so the journal is not an exceptional case.

One of the major pluses of print-on-demand is the ability to print a smaller number of copies. The plan for the future is to limit the print run to about 60, just those necessary for distribution to libraries and authors. A link from the journal website to the Bifröst “store” at a website like lulu.com allows anyone, anywhere, to order a nicely printed and bound version of each year’s journal for about € plus shipping costs, at no cost in labor to the journal’s management. But as the same information is available in PDF form for free, most readers will probably choose to download single articles and print them out at home.

#### *Citation formats*

In the past, scholarly journals have typically required a particular citation format. These formats have been important components of journal identity and in particular, compliance with them has been a notable component of the social control exercised by the journal publishing process. During the journal’s first year, the APA style was required, but it soon became obvious that the three main academic fields at Bifröst have differing citation traditions, and that since articles are most often read individually, little attention is paid to whether a given journal issue has a consistent citation style. Therefore the decision was made to permit authors to use any citation style they feel is appropriate. However, authors are required to be consistent, to use care in allowing readers to trace the sources of what they say, and to follow commonly accepted bibliographic conventions.



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#### *Cultural attitudes towards open access*

Especially within the library community in Iceland, there is a very positive attitude towards open access in Iceland and considerable awareness of the movement. Open access provides many benefits to users in remote communities, where small institutions do not have the ability to pay high subscription costs, and it also opens up new and more flexible publishing outlets for Icelandic scholars. Outside the library community, though, much work remains to be done in explaining the benefits of open access to scholars and university administrators. Within Iceland, Bifröst is a leader in encouraging open access publication, as Bifröst faculty who publish articles in the *Bifröst Journal of Social Science* receive bonuses from the university.

There are a few other Icelandic open access journals, notably *Stjórnmal og stjórnsýsla*, published by the association of Icelandic political scientists on a custom-designed Mambo platform. For the most part, though, scholarly publishing in Iceland proceeds under the old subscription-based models and articles have little visibility in search engines. The analytical complexity of the incentives involved in traditional and open access publishing is sufficiently great that many people in academia may not have time to fully grasp the nature of the changes underway.

#### *The future*

Growth in open access publishing in Iceland is highly likely. Open access periodicals can put information on the web more quickly and at a lower cost than traditional journals. The fundamental value added by a journal is that it identifies good work (saving users time spent judging and evaluating), provides a stamp of approval for good work through the review process (thus giving authors the means to be heard), assists with formatting and editing, and provides a way to store scholarship so that it can live on into the future. Old-style periodicals which rely on the distribution of printed copies provide this same value, but incur the extra costs associated with managing subscriptions and printing. The *Bifröst Journal of Social Science* is one of several journals to show that the open access model can deliver high-quality scholarship to the Icelandic academic community at a low cost to university budgets.



## CREATING A LIBRARY SERVICE FOR SCHOLARLY OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS

Ingrid Cutler

### Introduction

In 2008 the University of Bergen Library started a project for supporting independent open access journals at the University of Bergen.<sup>1</sup> The service was aimed at already existing journals that wanted to convert to an open access model, and to research groups that planned to establish a new electronic journal with open content.

This paper will focus on the experience gained from serving the scholarly open access journals at the University of Bergen Library – first and foremost the challenges connected with establishing such a service. There is also the question as to what degree libraries should offer this kind of publishing service: should academic libraries act as publishers of scholarly journals?

### Objective

The objective of the project at the University of Bergen Library was to assist research groups in creating their own journals and train editors in using the software. The library would have knowledge about how to establish and manage scholarly journals, and be able to act as a coordinator, offer technical support as well as enhance visibility and ensure permanent archiving of articles. The editors themselves would have the responsibility to manage and publish their own journals. A further goal of the project was to capitalise on this knowledge in order to create a nationally coordinated library service and a user group for open access journals. Such a service would make it easier for libraries and journal editors to cooperate on solutions and share experiences.

### The Project

#### *Software*

The University of Bergen Library decided to use the software Open Journal Systems (OJS) for the journals connected to the project.<sup>2</sup> OJS is open source software created by the Public Knowledge Project (PKP). It is free, easy to install, and offers a system that is simple to understand and manage for journal editors. An important argument for choosing OJS is that it is used by over 2000 journals worldwide, which means that it has a high degree of sustainability, and there is an active user group working with the system.<sup>3</sup>

The Public Knowledge Project also offers similar systems for managing and publishing other types of research material. Open Conference Systems (OCS)<sup>4</sup> is software for administrating conferences and publishing conference items that has many of the same functions as OJS. In addition, the PKP project is developing software for publishing monographs called Open Monograph Press (OMP).<sup>5</sup> Even though it was not part of the initial project to offer an open access publishing system for such material, the library knew that research groups would be interested in such an option. Obtaining knowledge of these systems would therefore be an additional value for the library in a long term perspective.

#### *Scope*

An open access journal is a journal where all content is openly and immediately accessible online in full text. In OJS it is possible to choose different layers of access; all open content, some open content, or a fully subscription model. The University of Bergen Library initially wanted to support journals that were fully open access, but decided that the service would also be given to journals with hybrid or delayed options for open access. This choice was taken because some journals are, or feel that they are, still dependent of subscriptions to survive economically.

Furthermore, the library discussed if it should demand some kind of quality level of journals that should

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<sup>1</sup> Bergen Open Access Publishing (BOAP). The project received funding from Norwegian Open Research Archives (NORA), the Norwegian project for institutional repositories. There is also a Nordic project for aiding scholarly journals towards open access publishing (NOAP). This project used some journals as case studies, but did not have the objective to give on-hand support to new journals. The NOAP project ended in august 2009, and the experience gained will hopefully be used by academic libraries and research institutions that wish to support independent journals towards open access publishing. More information on the NOAP wiki: [http://www.ub.uir.no/wiki/noap/index.php/NOAP\\_project](http://www.ub.uir.no/wiki/noap/index.php/NOAP_project)

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<sup>2</sup> The library also tested journal management software, DPubS (Digital Publishing System): <http://dpubs.org/> DPubS is an open-source software system designed for scholarly journals, monographs and conference proceedings. The library decided against DPubS partly because it is a less user friendly system than OJS.

<sup>3</sup> The Public Knowledge Project web site: <http://pkp.sfu.ca/>

<sup>4</sup> OCS: <http://pkp.sfu.ca/?q=ocs>

<sup>5</sup> OMP: <http://pkp.sfu.ca/omp>

receive support. The question was whether the library should support only peer reviewed journals or whether non-peer reviewed journals should be accepted as well. Open access journals have been criticized because of their less consistent quality, and one way to meet this criticism would be to demand new independent, open access journals – that receive support from the library - to be peer reviewed. The library, however, felt that it was not the library, but the editorial team themselves that should be responsible for the quality (as well as the content) of the journals. The University of Bergen library therefore decided to offer support also for non peer reviewed scholarly journal as a part of the project.

### *The journals*

The project was initiated by a request from a research group in music therapy (GAMUT) connected to the University of Bergen. This research group contacted the library because they wanted assistance in order to find a sustainable model for online, open publishing for the already existing printed journal *Nordic Journal of Music Therapy (NJMT)*,<sup>6</sup> a high ranked journal in the Norwegian publication system. GAMUT also wished to check out OJS for their already existing open access journal *Voices (A World Forum for Music Therapy)*.<sup>7</sup> The editors were initially positive to an open access publishing model for both their journals, as they already had seen the benefits of open access publishing for *Voices*. However, they found it difficult to find enough resources to continue to publish their journals independently, and therefore wanted the University of Bergen library to assist in finding an alternative model for their journals to commercial publishing.

In the summer of 2008 *NJMT* accepted an offer from Taylor & Francis for taking over the publishing of the journal. Although the editors initially were interested in finding possible solutions for managing the journal after an open access model, the expense and time used on managing *NJMT* independently made them accept the offer from Taylor & Francis. The library could not, at this time, offer support for an alternative solution so that the editors could continue to publish the journal independently.

The other journal published by GAMUT, *Voices*, had a different focus than *NJMT*. It had always been important for the editors to keep managing the journal after an open access model. Many of the contributors and readers are from third world countries. The editors of *Voices* wanted a system that would enable administrating different types of content in the same system. *Voices* consist not only of articles, but also columns and discussion forums. The library therefore tried to integrate OJS with the content management

platform Drupal,<sup>8</sup> which could be used for presenting the other material. This has already been done by other journals using OJS, but the library found that the systems would demand competence not existing at the library at the time.

The situation today is that *Voices* has not yet started publishing on OJS, but the journal is planning to publish the first issue on the new platform in 2009. The experience with *Voices* shows that it is more difficult for already existing journals to convert to a new system, partly because material needs to be moved and converted, and partly as a result of the need to change routines and administration.

*Nordic Journal of Information Literacy in Higher Education (NORIL)* is a journal that is administrated by the library of [psychology, education and health](#) at the University of Bergen.<sup>9</sup> This journal started implementing the OJS software already in 2007, and the first issue of the journal was published in February 2009. Much of the experience from *NORIL* has benefitted the work with other journals connected to the project when it comes to using the software, design of web pages, administrating content and users, and general competence on what is necessary to think about when starting a new journal.

*SMH-nytt* is a non peer-reviewed journal published by the special group for medicine and health subjects in Norway.<sup>10</sup> In 2008 *SMH-nytt* decided to convert their already existing paper journal to an electronic platform. The editors contacted the University of Bergen Library because they had heard of the publishing support given by the project. This journal is not connected to the University of Bergen, but the library still decided to host the journal on their server and give training in OJS. An OJS application for the journal was installed in the autumn of 2008, and the first issue was published in December the same year.

The University of Bergen Library has been in contact with several research groups from the University, and also outside the institution, that have showed interest in starting a new open access journal, converting an already existing journal to an open access model, or to find electronic publishing solutions for books or research reports. It is usually the financial issues that make journal editors decide against going over to an open access model. Many of them still feel dependent on subscriptions, and this is especially true for printed journals.

### *Hosting*

Several different solutions for hosting the journals have been examined – including hosting services offered

<sup>6</sup> NJMT: <http://www.njmt.no/>

<sup>7</sup> Voices: <http://www.voices.no/>

<sup>8</sup> Drupal: <http://drupal.org/project/drupal>

<sup>9</sup> NORIL: <https://noril.uib.no/index.php/noril>

<sup>10</sup> SMH-nytt: <http://boap.uib.no/journals/index.php/smh>

through PKP,<sup>11</sup> OASPA,<sup>12</sup> and national solutions through the library consortium. Yet, the University of Bergen Library found that the cheapest solution for the journal would be to offer hosting through the University Library itself. The library pays for the server and OJS application, which for the library constitutes a minor expense in the overall budget. In the beginning the library installed a separate OJS for each journal connected to the project. However, development of the software, allowing individual design for journals, has made it possible for the library to install the journals on one OJS application. The library is now in the process of moving most of the journals to one application. The exception is *Voices* that will need special adjustments. Other academic libraries in Norway that offer a service for OJS are providing similar hosting solutions. Hosting is one of the places where libraries can contribute to the financial situation of individual journals.

#### *Training*

The University of Bergen library has given several journal editors training in using OJS in the project period. So far individual training has been given to each journal. More training and sharing of experience is needed, and this could be done by arranging a workshop in OJS. There is a need, not only to learn more about functionality in OJS, but also to share experiences and take up issues that concern independent open access journals in general. There has also been expressed a need for establishing a national user group for libraries and editors that use OJS.

#### *Adding value to the journals*

The library staff have knowledge of how and where to index the journals for increased visibility. OJS is adapted to the Open Archives Initiative (OAI) protocol for metadata harvesting (OAI-PMH), which makes content available in a range of search engines. OJS also has a Google Scholar plug-in that exports content for indexing and searching. An additional service for enhancing visibility is DOI by Crossref,<sup>13</sup> which gives permanent links to articles. However, this may be a too expensive service for individual journals, thus offering an example where a national or institutional membership might be able to reduce the price. Moreover, the library has the possibility to ensure that articles are archived through the institutional repository or by indexing the journal in Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ),<sup>14</sup> a service that also offers long term archiving solutions for

articles. Finally, the University of Bergen library has the competence to assist journal editors on copyright issues and different types of licenses for administrating rights and use of content.

It should also be mentioned, that several journal editors have wanted the library to offer solutions for assuring that articles in their journal to have the same quality formatting as those in journals published by commercial publishers. Yet, creating templates for each single journal is probably not a job for the library. On the other hand, the library should obtain competence on how to format documents so that they can guide journal editors. Some of these issues concerning quality of articles will probably find a solution through the ongoing PKP development of an easy to use application for formatting documents to publishing layout formats.<sup>15</sup>

#### **Lessons learned: Should academic libraries become journal publishers?**

When scientific publishing started out it was managed by research societies themselves, and it is only during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century that most scholarly publishing has been taken over by commercial publishers, and turned into big business. Even though most journals today are published by major publishing houses, independent journals managed by the research communities themselves still exist. Most new journals start out independently, and it often takes time for a journal to achieve the economic sustainability and reputation for quality that will make commercial publishers interested. Also, there are many journals that continue to be managed by the research communities out of idealism and interest.

The development of electronic publishing and open source software has made it easier for research groups to establish and manage their own journals. Research groups are able to manage their own electronic journals at low expense with the support from academic libraries or research institutions on hosting the journal and giving technical support. Journal editors and libraries can share work resources, costs, and competence necessary in order to manage independent journals. This is a way for academic libraries to support open access publishing at their institution.

The project at the University of Bergen Library has shown that there is a demand for this type of publishing service at the institution. Consequently, and to return to the initial question: university libraries should, if not act as publishers, at least facilitate open access initiatives by providing the

<sup>11</sup> PKP offers hosting through the Simon Fraser University (SFU): <http://pkp.sfu.ca/commercial>

<sup>12</sup> The Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association, OASPA, offers hosting through Scholarly Exchange (SE): <http://www.scholarlyexchange.org/index.html>

<sup>13</sup> Crossref: <http://www.crossref.org/>

<sup>14</sup> DOAJ: <http://www.doaj.org/>

<sup>15</sup> Lemon8-XML: <http://pkp.sfu.ca/lemon8>

know-how and the infrastructure for supporting independent scholarly journals towards open access publishing.



**Ingrid Cutler**, Senior Executive Officer, The University of Bergen Library

## THE FOCUS ON PUBLISHING AT THE NTNU LIBRARY

Ingar Lomheim

### Background

In the strategic planning for the period 2009 – 2011, The Norwegian University for Science and Technology Library has decided to put a special focus on publishing.

There are two major reasons for this decision:

First of all it is based on a letter from the university rector to all faculties about the establishment of a central institutional repository. The letter is a follow up of several recommendations made by a university committee in a report given to the rector in 2007. The repository should be a mandatory electronic archive of all master and doctoral thesis. The rector furthermore made a strong recommendation to the university staff that all kinds of publications should be included in the archive, and also be allowed to be published open access (OA).

The Library has been given the role as an administrator for the archiving and publishing systems.

The second reason for this strategic effort from the library is a general strong belief in the OA movement, as a supplement and an alternative to the traditional commercial publishing activities. The Library wants to play a central role in supporting our local environment to enhance the achievements on open access publishing.

### Project organisation

The main focus area called “Publishing” has been split into to parallel activities (projects):

- The NTNU Institutional Archive
- Open Access Publishing

A total of 11 people are involved, using from 20% to 80% of their total work time on the projects, with some overlap between the two activities.

A steering committee with representatives from the university faculties has been established.

### Publishing

The main goal for this project is to establish a centre of publishing competence at the Library.

The centre will offer special services to the university staff during the process of publishing, and will be an

advisory office about where to publish, how to publish, different tools in publishing and about legal questions on copyright and special agreements. A major priority will be to develop our expertise in these different areas, and obtain successful associations with the faculties.

### The NTNU Institutional archive

The university rector has appointed the library as the administrator of the institutional repository. The system used is DIVA from Uppsala University. All master and doctoral thesis shall be archived and there is a strong recommendation also for open publishing. Routines for depositing doctoral thesis into the archive are well established. A major effort will be done in the coming months to introducing depositing routines for the master process and the deliverance of master thesis to the archive. A portal system that will guide the student through the process with automatic routines for archiving in DIVA will be introduced. Activities on recommending authors at the university to archive all kinds of scientific publishing in DIVA will be intensified.

### Open Access Publishing

Through this project the library will build an infrastructure for open electronic publishing at the university. Furthermore the aim is to establish strategies for communication with faculties on open access publishing, presenting possibilities and advantages with special focus on parallel publishing. Open Journal System (OJS) and Open Conference System (OCS) will be installed and the library will provide technical and legal advice to the faculties on online journal and conference publishing.

### Resources

Archiving and publishing of doctoral thesis started in 2005 at the Library, and through this work some knowledge and competence on central topics has been established in our staff. The decision made by the library director to go for the focus areas described above has brought further demand for resources to publishing activities. This means mainly human resources, and the people have all been recruited from other activities inside our library. An open announcement was made on these new projects with only a few requirements on

special skills (IT, OA, publishing). Staff members who were interested in learning about, and working with archiving and publishing were invited to apply for the positions.

There are few problems with recruiting within this

field since we are in a situation where electronic resources and services are taking over, and people can be transferred from traditional paper handling operations to new and interesting projects in our library.



**Ingar Lomheim**

NTNU Library. Senior Advisor 2008 –.

NTNU Library. Library Director 1998 – 2008.

NTNU Library. Head of Public Services 1996 – 1998.

The University of Technology Library. Head of Public Services 1986 – 1996.

The University of Technology Library. Subject Librarian 1979 – 1986.

The University of Technology. MSc. (electronics) 1973.

Systems Librarian at DTU Library, Project Manager of “Public Access to Danish research”,

“Danish Open Access Network” and the National Danish Research Database

## OPEN MINDS – AN INTERVIEW WITH GUNNEL ENWALL, PRESIDENT OF THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF LETTERS, HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES.

Jan Hagerlid

### Introduction

Gunnel Engwall is President of The Royal Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities, has served as Vice-President and President of Stockholm University and as President of UNICA (The Network of Universities from the Capitals of Europe).

In 1989 she was appointed Professor of Romance Languages, especially French at Stockholm University. Her research started out in the field of quantitative linguistics with a thesis in 1974 on the vocabulary of modern French best-selling novels. In addition to articles in this field she published ten years later a frequency dictionary based on these best-selling novels. Her other main field of research concerns linguistic and stylistic studies on the French works of the Swedish author August Strindberg. This work has resulted in two dozen articles. Since 1992 she is also the Chairperson of the board for the edition of August Strindberg's Complete Works.

### Interview:

**The Academy has signed the Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities in 2009 and also the Petition to the EU for Open Access to the results of publicly funded research in 2007.**

**Could you give me some background to these decisions? Which were the motives?**

**What kind of discussion preceded the decisions?**

For me the awareness of these issues was raised by my work with UNICA that organized a series of seminars about libraries and the journal crisis. UNICA is a network of universities from the capitals of Europe and today has 42 members. I have also been the Chairman of the Library Board of Stockholm University where those same issues were on the table.

When it came to signing these declarations and petitions there were really no contrary views or heated debate. When the principles of Open Access were explained to the members of the Academy they found it natural to support them. Research has always been based on the work of predecessors and therefore the results have to be openly available to all interested. Researchers should not sign away the distribution rights to their own work. The distribution of research results should not be restricted.

Actually the decision to sign the Berlin Declaration was taken already in 2007 but for some reason it has been registered for 2009 at the website of the Berlin Declaration. The Academy also signed the EU petition in the beginning of 2007.

**What measures have been taken by the Academy to act in the spirit of the Berlin Declaration?**

The Academy has strongly supported the project to digitize its journal *Fornvännen* – Journal of Swedish Antiquarian Research – from its start in 1906 up to the present and make it openly available online. The new journal issues are Open Access after a short embargo period of 6 months. The Academy has supported this project in several ways especially financially. This started before its signing of the Berlin Declaration.

The Academy is deeply involved, from this year also as one of the funders, in *Litteraturbanken*, where classical works of Swedish literature are made available on the Internet. This is a project which started a few years ago but which already is rich in contents. It keeps very high editorial standards. The texts are scientifically edited, and should have a quality that also makes it quite correct and obvious to cite the digital version. At the same time there is a clear ambition to make the works here available to the layman. There are introductions, specialist terms are explained, indexes make searching easier etc. As from this year I have been appointed chairman of the Board of *Litteraturbanken*.

**The Digital version of *Fornvännen* has been much appreciated. Do you have any plans to go on converting other publications to online Open Access mode?**

There are on-going discussions but no decisions taken as yet. The Academy has been looking for a solution combining online publication with print on demand. We know that many of our readers want a printed version even if it is available online. Now we use a publisher on Gotland who also offers print on demand. We publish both conference series and monographs.

**Habits and publication patterns differ widely between different subjects. How would you briefly describe the special challenges for the Humanities in using digital and open access publication channels? In what direction do you think publishing in the Humanities is going?**

The natural mode of publication in the Humanities is quite different from that in Sciences and Medicine. Monographs play a very important role and the subject matter of many disciplines often makes it more relevant to use other languages than English. Why publish studies on the French language in English? It would seem self-evident that studies in French, Italian, Russian or Swedish languages and literature are published in these languages. But today this is not the case. My doctoral students in French Language tell me that they are afraid to lose merit points if they publish in French instead of English.

This trend is strongly connected to the recently very popular methods of evaluating scientific quality using citation data from databases like ISI:s Web of Science. The coverage in these databases has a very strong bias towards Science, Technology and Medicine published in predominantly English language journals. Research in the Humanities, in monographs and in other languages than English is not at all well represented. There is a very strong critique among Humanities scholars of the models for quality evaluation now gaining ground. I do feel that whoever makes judgements of academic quality should also read the works of those being evaluated and not just use quantitative measures.

These evaluation models also constitute a problem for Humanities scholars that want to publish in Open Access journals to reach the widest possible audience.



**Gunnel Engwall**, President of The Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities, professor of Romance languages at Stockholm University

OA journals have often not been around long enough to get citation measures. If they want to compete for papers from Humanities scholars they have to strive for excellence. Getting OA journals in the Humanities with a high quality ranking would definitely raise the interest of Humanities scholars. And I do believe that they should try to publish in high prestige publications. The problem today is how prestige is awarded to some publications and not to others.

The Academy is going to arrange a seminar about ranking universities, where issues of evaluation and publication channels will be very important.

**You have a long research career at Stockholm University including assignments in a leading position at the university. Have you seen any changes in the attitudes of fellow researchers regarding digital publication and Open Access during that time?**

Certainly there is a clear change. Researchers realize that they have greater chances of being cited if their publications are online. I hope that a growing proportion of publications will be Open Access. It is important that peer review in OA journals keeps a very high standard, and that this is getting well known among researchers. If highly respected scholars publish in OA journals and take part in their editorial boards other scholars will follow. There are already a number of high status OA journals in Medicine and Biology, so this is quite possible to accomplish.

**Jan Hagerlid**, Senior Executive Officer -  
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