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 establish 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. (ellectronics) 1973.
 Systems Librarian at DTU Library, Project Manager of "Public Access to Danish research",
"Danish Open Access Network" and the National Danish Research Database