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National HSS journal flipping project:

Norwegian open journals in the humanities and social sciences

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Background

- The Norwegian Research Council have given support to a selection of Norwegian HSS journals based on a yearly application process
- In 2017 a transitional arrangement is in place for 42 Norwegian HSS journals. Financed by NRC, The Ministry of Education and Research and the 4 largest universities. An important prerequisite for still being included is that the journal has become open access.
- From 2018 a new model will be in place for a 3-year period (2018-2020)
- The model will be evaluated during the 3-year period, and this will be basis for a further funding model

The new model

- Funding in place from NRC and Ministry of Education and Research. Institutions are also expected to contribute to the funding
- The journals to be selected are based on:
 - An application process where the society/publisher fills out an application form and estimated cost to be covered
 - The journals are then subject to an evaluation by a committee consisting of scholars from both humanities and social sciences
 - CERES has been given a clear mandate to negotiate with the publishers in consultation with the institution

What journals are eligible?

- Scholarly on the Norwegian levels 1 or 2
- 2/3 of the authors should be affiliated to a Norwegian research institution.
- «Tidsskriftet skal ha en norsk forfatterkrets og primært henvende seg til en nasjonal fagoffentlighet»
- In Norwegian? Subject to discussion. White paper to Stortinget *The Humanities in Norway* of March 2017: "...publishing in Norwegian..."

The publishing committee will give recommendations to which journals should be bought through the consortium based on a set of guidelines, where the central criteria are listed above.

Timeline

- 14th of June: Information meeting with the journal publishers and societies
- Primo/mid August: Journal publishers and societies sign up for the journals they wish to be part of the arrangement
- 15th of June: deadline for research institutions to give their calculated costs for the journals currently receiving support (besides other journals in Norwegian of interest). These numbers, collated with the FTEs for the institution, will be used to stipulate the financial support the institution should pay.
- Primo September: The publishing committee will give recommendations to which journals should be bought through the consortium, with the journals who have signed up as a starting point. The number of journals depends on the grants to the consortium and the pricing of the journals.
- Primo/mid September: List with the prioritised journals ready
- Autumn 2017: Negotiations with the publishers and administering the consortium

Negotiations with the publishers and administering the consortium

CERES will approach

- the institutions for signing up formally with an agreement worked out by CERES and our legal adviser. They will then be invoiced in accordance with the financial support we have stipulated for them.
- the journal publishers and societies. We will revise the budgets for the journals which are eligible for the arrangement (in accordance with the list from the publishing committee). These will be negotiated, and result in a signed agreement, worked out by CERES and our legal adviser.

The income and expenses for the consortium will be revised in order to determine the number of journals in the agreement.