Towards quality controlled monographs in Sweden: exploring the possibilities for a consortium approach

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Monographs: the current dilemma

– Seldomly: open access

– Frequently:
  • Smaller publishers
  • Non-optimized for academic books (little on-line visibility, no searchability...)
  • Distribution limited
  • 50 – 100 000 SEK for printing
  • Loss of copyright
  • Limited quality control
Monographs: the danger

– Ad hoc solutions by local universities
  • Informal approach: use local registration system
  • Formal approach: start local university press

  – In either case there will be little credibility
  – In most cases, unlikely to gain international recognition
  – From a national perspective, inefficient

– Status quo
  • Growing demands for open access
OA Monographs: the solution

- A collaborative (consortium) approach
- A national entity for quality control of monographs allowing subsequent publishing anywhere, preferably open access.

- Project aims to evaluate the possibilities for such an approach
- Funding agencies, publishers, researchers and universities will be contacted for input.