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Aiding Scientific Journals Towards Open Access Publishing

Summary of status reports by 2008-10-16

This series of memos reports administrative and organizational issues
in the Division of Publication Infrastructure

The present memo can persistently be accessed as follows:

Memo persistent URL: <http://piex.publ.kth.se/reports/rapp/006/>

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Related information can be obtained via the following www sites:

The PLEX website: <http://piex.publ.kth.se/>

The author: <http://www.ida.liu.se/~erisa/>

1 Overview

This progress report from the NordBib project “Aiding Scientific Journals Towards Open Access Publishing” is structured as follows:

1. Overview of project structure and reported progress to date
2. Details of progress reports organized by institution
3. Details of progress reports organized by working groups
4. References to draft project reports

Sections 2 and 3 have been obtained by putting together the reports that have been filed by the actively participating institutions. These two sections have essentially the same contents, and the difference is that the contents have been sorted according to institution in section 2 and according to working group in section 3.

Project Structure

The project is organized in terms of six workgroups called WG1 through WG6, and eight participating institutions as follows:

DK1	Museum Tusulanum Press, Copenhagen
DK2	Copenhagen Business School Library
FI1	Federation of Finnish Learned Societies
FI2	University of Helsinki
NO1	University of Oslo
NO2	University of Tromsø
SV1	Head Office, Lund University Libraries
SV2	Linköping University and KTH (Stockholm)

Each institution may participate as active member, passive member or not at all in each of the six workgroups. Passive members commit to coming to meetings and participating in discussions, but not more. Active members are committed to produce deliverables. The project plan contains milestones for deliverables which should be interpreted as a plan for the work, although a plan that may be changed if and when circumstances so require.

Overview of Status Reports from the Participants

The participating institutions have been asked to submit brief status reports for their contributions to the WG where they are active members. These status reports form the basis for the present summary report. The following table shows, for each WG, what are its active members and a one-line characterization of the work done so far by that member in that workgroup. (The two Finnish institutions file a joint report). This table is intended for overview only and the one-line characterizations are sometimes incomplete. The details follow in the next section.

WG1:	Editorial Software Systems
DK2:	Translation of OJS into Danish in progress
FI:	Introduction of OJS for a number of journals

- Translation of OJS into Finnish being revised
- SV1: Translation of OJS into Swedish in progress
- SV2: Revision and use of JARSS system; design of publication model for review and publication of structured ("semantic") research data

- WG2: Business Models
 - DK1: Development of business models when changing a number of existing journals to open access
 - DK2: Retro-digitization activity in progress
 - NO2: Activity delayed due to other obligations; will resume now
 - SV1: Retro-digitization activity has started
 - SV2: Analysis of ramifications of author-charge and hybrid business models

- WG3: Communication Platforms
 - DK1: Testing of dissemination strategies, business models and software platforms for changing existing journals to open access

- WG4: Copyright Support
 - FI: Questionnaire about copyright practices; information to publishers through guidelines and otherwise
 - SV1: No activity due to lack of demand

- WG5: Low Volume Printing
 - DK1: Print-on-demand solution applied to journals in project
 - SV1: System model for print-on-demand has been designed
 - SV2: System model for print-on-demand using university printing office is being designed

- WG6: Governmental Funding Policies
 - DK1: Participation in funding policy debate
 - FI: Material being collected

Common Activities and Cooperations

There have been two meetings for the project as a whole, one in August, 2007 and one in May, 2008. Because of the diverse constraints mentioned above, there has not yet been any working meetings within the working groups. The next meeting will be held on 12.12.2008.

Progress and Problems

The start of work has been delayed in several of the participating institutions, and as a result there has not been much opportunity for cooperation between the different members of each workgroup. We expect that this will change in the near future since there has been increasing activity in the autumn of 2008.

2 Institutional Progress Reports

The following are the brief progress reports that have been filed by each participating institution. The headline for each institution shows the working groups where the institution is an active participant.

DK1 (WG2, WG3, WG5, WG6)

WG2: Business Models

Activities started: Selecting appropriate periodicals to be assisted in migrating from traditional to OA dissemination. Meetings have been held

- with editor-in-chief of *Ethnologia Europaea* Dr. Orvar Löfgren
- with editor-in-chief of *CHAOS* PhD Mikael Aktor
- with editor-in-chief of *Renæssanceforum* (Journal of Renaissance Studies) Dr. Marianne Pade
- with the board of *Fortid & Nutid*
- with editor-in-chief of *Danish Yearbook of Philosophy* Dr. Finn Collin
- with editor-in-chief of *Classica & Mediaevalia* Dr. Tønnes Bekker-Nielsen
- with editors-in-chief of *Transfiguration* Dr. Nils Holger Petersen and Dr. Svein Aage Christoffersen
- with editor of *Monographs on Greenland | Meddelelser om Grønland* Dr. Hans Christian Gulløv

Negotiations with selected periodicals about the migration from traditional to Open Access dissemination have been carried out. New and individual business models for those chosen periodicals that migrate from traditional to Open Access have been discussed and developed at different levels.

Milestones achieved: Finished selecting of and negotiating with relevant periodicals. New and individual business models partly developed. New and individual business models have been tested on a number of the chosen periodicals (their editorial board members).

WG3: Communication Platforms

Activities started: Testing new promotion, marketing, and dissemination strategies on a number of periodicals that are migrating from a paper based to a digital (OA) version or that are migrating from an online subscription based version to an OA version. Testing of new business models for periodicals that are migrating from subscription models to OA models and the consequences of/benefits of marketing and dissemination in this situation. Exploration of existing platforms, such as OAIster and DOAJ and commercial search engines. Innovation of new communication strategies for online scholarly periodicals.

Milestones achieved: Setup of positions. Meetings and negotiations with participating periodicals. Planning of individual actions for the participating periodicals. Test implementation of new dissemination strategies have been scheduled but not yet implemented.

WG5: Low Volume Printing

Activities started: Investigation and implementation of a software package that from author and editor input creates print-ready pdf-files and XML files. Print-on-Demand solutions applied to those of the periodicals included in the project that have been or are in the process of migrating from print based to online based (OA). Supplementary research on Print-on-Demand services.

Milestones achieved: Testing of a author tool that from author and editor input creates print-ready pdf-files and XML files. Agreements made on how to use Print-on-Demand printing for online/OA periodicals. Meetings with a number of domestic and international Print-on-Demand companies.

WG6: Governmental Funding Policies

Activities: Making an inventory of Nordic Governmental funding bodies.

Milestones: In Denmark we have an inventory of relevant key persons regarding funding bodies for scholarly communication. In addition MTP has been actively participating in the funding policy debate at several seminars and conferences by giving papers and by giving interview to the press.

DK2 (WG1, WG2)

WG1: Editorial Software Systems

OJS has been translated to Danish. We're still in the process of correcting flaws and adding some additional modules that have changed while the main translation took place. The work has been coordinated with those other university libraries in Denmark that are about to start using OJS as an service to their research community. It has been a good opportunity to begin network activities in for OJS managers in DK.

A survey is being planned to identify attitudes towards OJS among editorial staff. And attitudes towards open access publishing editors. Focus is on identifying service needs in relation to the already offered OJS-system. Eg. enhancements to the software and development wishes (both OJS), and other services perceived as integral to publishing ejournals.

WG2: Business Models

Four journals on Ejournal@CBS has been retro digitizing back issues. The approach has been different for each journal. Through meetings with the staff at especially two of the journals we are monitoring the process with the

aim to document economic and workload investments. Two of the journals are done retro digitizing their entire back file (1988 and 2001 respectively).

FI (WG1, WG4, WG6)

WG1: Editorial Software Systems

We are working with OJS (Open Journal System).

6 journals are published on OJS:

- Auraica (2008-)
- Informaatiotutkimus (2008-)
- Memoranda Societatis pro Fauna et Flora Fennica (2007-)
- Openaccess.fi (2006-)
- Tiede ja ase (2007-)
- Tieteess tapahtuu (2007-)

8 other journals are testing or using the system but not yet published:

- eGenos (2008-)
- Elore (2006-)
- ITcon (2007-)
- Musicae Scientiae
- Nordic journal of surveying and real estate research (2007-)
- Silva Fennica (2008-)
- Sosiaalilketieteellinen Aikakauslehti (2007-)
- Suo (2006-)

Update of new version 2.2. caused some errors and some extra setup work was needed.

Translating OJS into Finnish. The new version 2.2 brought amount of new phrases: the translation done in 2007 has been reexamined. Plugins translated partially and e-mail templates not yet translated. The partial translation is in use.

WG4: Copyright Support

Started summarizing the questionnaire about copyright practice and made some extra inventory among journals. Checked the copyright guidelines in cooperation with Suomen Tiedekustantajien liitto ry (Förbundet i vetenskapspublisering i Finland rf) and informed publishers in copyright issues when publishing parallel web versions, new web journals and in retrodigitization.

WP6: Governmental Funding Policies

The inventory on governmental funding: continued collecting material; some information needed from the other Nordic countries.

See also reference 3 listed at the end of this report.

NO2 (WG2)

The University of Tromsø is an active member of WG2, and a passive member of WG1 and WG3.

WG1: Editorial Software Systems

Though a passive member of this working group, we wish to remark that we are planning an upgrade of our old OJS version to the current.

After this we plan to commence two activities:

1. Letting the editors of our two current OJS OA journals in to OJS, to utilize the editorial support functions. Today, they work outside OJS and University Library staff publishes the journal in OJS. Our current version is not, in our opinion, suited to let users in, this is different in the newer versions. We will also implement both journals in one installation, our current version is a single journal version that we must operate one of per journal.
2. Migrating two other local OA journals from a homepage-based life to OJS.

WG3: Communication Platforms

A comment to WG3 is that we have experienced that linking to OA resources from wikipedia articles has generated important amounts of traffic. This is our experience from Munin, our IR, but we believe this is also something that should be utilized for journals. While linking to resources from Wikipedia articles that the resource is relevant to (a very important consideration) will generate direct hits, it will also increase the page rank of the journal website itself, thus placing it nearer the top of Google hit lists.

WG2: Business Models

The milestones that are our direct responsibility, are as follows.

M2.3 Establishing a 1/4 position (Jan 08). This has to some extent been accomplished, but due to our taking over NORA (Norwegian Open Research Archives) at short notice very little work has actually been accomplished yet. We are now setting aside days on my calendar exclusively to work on the project; this should improve the situation dramatically, though the February 09 for M2.11 deadline may be a bit tight.

M2.4 Establishing an internet presence (Feb 08). This was accomplished in 2007, by our setting up a wiki dedicated to this project. Uptake by

project members has been low, though. The writing belonging to the M2.3 will now be done directly in the wiki, so that it will be filled with useful content for potential readers. It might be that the wiki, and the post-project continued updating of this, should be the major deliverable from WG2, not the promised report, which will be out of date shortly after its being finished.

M2.11 Preliminary report ready for discussion (Feb 09): This deadline may be difficult to maintain, we will work to get in position as early as possible. My time will be divided between NORA and NOAP in the coming months, so that NOAP will have more than position available.

M2.12 Final report and reporting to Nordbib (May 09): I foresee some problems with this, too, but we are talking about a month or two, not more.

SV1 (WG1, WG2, WG4, WG5)

Eftersom Håkan, som var den som hade huvudansvar för NOAP hos oss, lämnade LU i april har vi en allmän försening i våra aktiviteter så även i NOAP.

Status för våra aktiviteter.

WG1: Editorial Software Systems

Översättning av OJS till svenska: Påbörjat i höst och beräknas vara klart i år eller början av nästa år.

WG2: Business Models

Establishing a small-scale digitization activity. Påbörjat. Tidskriften RiG står för innehållet och Lunds universitetsbibliotek står för digitaliseringen

WG4: Copyright support

Efterfrågan har hittills varit obefintlig.

WG5: Low volume printing

Vi har tagit fram en modell för ett generellt print-on-demand system som vi under nästa år kommer att testa tillsammans med DK1 eller DK2.

SV2 (WG1, WG2, WG5)

Linköping University and KTH appear as a joint unit in the NOAP program; the work is structured as follows:

- WG1, part 1: Linköping University Computer Science Department together with the Group for Publication Infrastructure at KTH

- WG1, part 2, as well as WG2 and WG5: Linköping University Electronic Press

Software support is done jointly for part 1 and part 2 of WG1. A brief report of progress follows.

WG1: Editorial Software Systems, part 1

The work is oriented towards new aspects of editorial support systems for scientific journals. One part of it is based on the use of the JARSS system for managing the editorial tasks of a scientific journal. A new user interface has been prepared for JARSS in order to prepare it for the new and extended tasks. The facility for multi-language use has been strengthened in this context.

The other part of the work concerns the design of author support and editorial support for the case where journals (in an extended sense of the word) are used for publishing research data, and not merely for conventional articles. A software base called KEPS has been built and some services have been implemented in it. Also, a draft report concerning design challenges and design issues in the publication of research data has been written.

See also reference 1 listed at the end of this report.

WG1: Editorial Software Systems, Part 2

The work is oriented towards the use of the JARSS system. Several installations of JARSS have been made to allow various groups to test and evaluate the system. One of these installations was for real in that JARSS was used in the organization of the conference ETD 2008. The result of these installations has been real-world experience leading to constructive feedback for necessary improvements. These improvements have been incorporated into a new version, shortly to be released.

Two new installations of JARSS will be done for the new open access journals, Culture Unbound and Northern European Journal of Language Technology. Dependent upon obtaining funding from FAS a third journal in Special Pedagogic has been approved for hosting at LiU E-Press and will make use of JARSS. Two further journals are currently in preliminary start-up phases and are likely to make use of JARSS in the 12 to 18 month time frame.

WG2: Business Models

Linköping's task is to "analyze the ramifications of 'author charge' and 'hybrid' approaches to open access..." The analysis has been begun, a draft report has been written and can be accessed via the project Wiki: http://www.ub.uit.no/wiki/noap/index.php/Main_Page .

See also reference 2 listed at the end of this report.

WG5: Low Volume Printing

LiU E-Press has been working with LiU Tryck to offer a print-on-demand service. LiU Tryck recently obtained printing equipment allowing cost-effective, low volume printing. At present, LiU Tryck is working on developing a cost-structure for this type of service. At E-Press we will need to develop our system so that upon clicking a button, users are asked to fill in some information about their desired purchase. This is then sent to LiU Tryck as an order form. Since much of this development will have to be done in conjunction with Uppsala University (who operate the DiVA publishing system used by LiU E-Press) and since the DiVA group has been completely occupied with the release of a new version of the publication system, implementation of print-on-demand will have to wait until Spring, 2009.

3 List of Draft Memoranda

Draft versions of forthcoming project reports have been submitted for a few combinations of institution and working groups, as follows:

1. For WG1/SV2. Erik Sandewall: Towards Journal Publication of Fact and Knowledgebase Modules
2. For WG2/SV2. David Lawrence: Open Access Business Models - Implications
3. For WG4/FI. Eeva-Liisa Aalto: A draft report on the questionnaire about copyright practice among the journals of the member societies of the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies