The Road to Open Access in Denmark

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Contents

• Open Access definitions and history
• Open Access economy
• EU’s Council Conclusions on scientific information in the digital age: access, dissemination and preservation
• Open Access Committee’s tasks
• Basic considerations and recommendations from the Open Access Committee
• Process after the Open Access Committee’s final report
Open Access definitions and history

• Definitions
  – Free access to research publications
  – Other access models and other models of financing than pure subscription
  – Public financed research shall be freely accessible:
  – Green Open Access
    • Deposit a copy of the article in institutional repository in parallel with traditional publishing
  – Golden Open Access
    • Traditional scientific journal, but with author payment (1.500 – 3.500 $ per article)

• History
  – Budapest Open Access Initiative, December 2001
  – Berlin Declaration on Open Access, October 2003
  – EU’s Council Conclusions November 2007
Open Access economy

• Open Access is a really good business
  – Green Open Access is a low hanging fruit

• Benefits
  – Defined as increased return of existing investments
  – Better access to research is 300 million DKR worth yearly in Denmark

• Costs
  – Shift to Open Access globally is cost neutral and possibly a saving of approximately 200 million DKR yearly
  – Mapping of costs in the complete system
  – Quantification of savings on digital production and distribution

Council of the European Union’ conclusions on scientific information in the digital age

• Through the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation the Government has in November 2007 approved the Council of the European Union’ conclusions on scientific information in the digital age: access, dissemination and preservation
  – A) Reinforce national strategies and structures for access to and dissemination of scientific information
  – B) Enhancing coordination between the member states of policies and practice regarding access and dissemination
  – C) Ensure long-term preservation of scientific information, including publications and data as well as paying due regard to scientific information in national information preservation strategies.
The Open Access Committee’s assignments

• Planning the implementation of the Council of the European Union’ conclusions

• In connection with the planning the committee must clarify:
  – How publicly funded research can be made publicly available online
  – The economic consequences associated with this
  – How support from Danish researchers can be secured for the implementation
  – What kind of role the research-funding bodies should have in connection with the implementation
  – How to allow for clarification of copyright issues

• Accomplishing the planning of the Council of the European Union’ conclusions

• Preparing an approach to the EU Commissioner for Research and Innovation and the EU Commissioner for the Information Society and the Media with a request for the commissioners to work out a common European initiative in relation to the publishers about Open Access publishing.
Basic considerations in the Open Access Committee

• There shall as far as possible be free access to the results of all public funded research
• Publishing in Open Access shall still be based on a publishing process with integrated quality assurance in the form of peer review
• Long-term preservation of Danish research publications and research data shall be high on the agenda
• Open Access must not be a hindrance for publishing of Danish research in the most prestigious journals
• The Open Access Committee has produced recommendations for both Golden and Green Open Access. It is the evaluation of the Committee, that Green Open Access clearly is the practicable way, which also is reflected in the recommendations of the Committee
Selected recommendations out of a total of 14 (1)

- **Recommendation 1.** National Open Access policy is established by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation
- **Recommendation 2.** Research councils and foundations establish Open Access policies
- **Recommendation 3.** Universities and other research institutions establish Open Access policies
- **Recommendation 5.** Establishment of common Internet access to Danish research results
Selected recommendations out of a total of 14 (2)

- **Recommendation 6.** Danish scientific publishers prepare discussion paper on transition to Open Access
- **Recommendation 7.** DEFF coordinates the implementation of the recommendations by the Open Access Committee
- **Recommendation 10.** Increased focus on Open Access in DEFF consortia licenses
- **Recommendation 12.** Establishment of a comprehensive long-term preservation service for the universities’ publications
Process after the Open Access report

• Hearing with 170 stakeholders and 48 hearing statements received
  – Broad support to the principle of free access to results of public financed research, but at the same time a number of wishes, proposals and worries, which the Committee shall address

• Debate
  – Articles pro and con, workshops, statements from the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation, Parliament Committee questions to and individuals meetings with the Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation

• Preparation of Strategy for Denmark and revision of recommendations
  – Both documents delivered to the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation 1 December 2010

• Ministers use of Strategy?
Where to find the full report:

- Recommendations for implementation of Open Access in Denmark, Report from the Open Access Committee:
  - [http://www.deff.dk/content.aspx?itemguid=%7b61764199-932F-4F87-AE1F-D7E71ACDB4CB%7d](http://www.deff.dk/content.aspx?itemguid=%7b61764199-932F-4F87-AE1F-D7E71ACDB4CB%7d)
  - Or use Google 😊