User-driven scholarly communications

The Stockholm University Library example

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Scholarly Communication
Basic Structure

Stockholm University

Stockholm University Library

Stockholm University Press

Administration

Editorial boards, etc

External reviewers, authors etc
What we add
Thank you – Questions?

Useful Links

- [www.stockholmuniversitypress.se](http://www.stockholmuniversitypress.se)
- [http://blog.stockholmuniversitypress.se](http://blog.stockholmuniversitypress.se)
- [http://www.su.se/english/](http://www.su.se/english/)
- [http://www.ubiquitypress.com](http://www.ubiquitypress.com)
- [http://www.oapen.org/home](http://www.oapen.org/home)
Common Questions

- **The cost of publishing?**
  - GBP 300 per journal article
  - Approx. GBP 3,250 for a standard book (200 pages)

- **Who makes decisions?**
  - The Publishing Committee, based on recommendations from the editorial boards

- **Which subject areas do you cover?**
  - All the areas where there’s a demand for reasonably priced OA publishing
  - An Editorial Board for the subject area is also needed

- **What dissemination channels do you use?**
  - OAPEN for online books
  - Amazon & Bokinfo (SWE) for Print-on-Demand books
  - Subject area databases & Search Engine Optimisation for journals (takes time to fulfil criteria)
  - Approved by the Norwegian Register for Scientific Publishers (Level 1) & The Danish Bibliometric Indicator

- **What organisations are you members of?**
  - OASPA, DOAJ, Ubiquity Partner Network, CrossRef & COPE (the last two via Ubiquity Press)

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I'd like to talk to you today about the governing principles of the publication services at Stockholm University Library, by using the Stockholm University Press as an example.

Stockholm university has over 3,300 faculty members, and more than 69,000 registered students (29,000 full time), mostly HSS, but strong in some science areas as well.

We needed an upgraded publishing service for our researchers, and there was a demand for more Open Access options. The press was formed based on a decision of the Vice-Chancellor in December 2012, who delegated to the library to take care of the running of this operation.

The request to form an Open Access press, on a non-profit basis (following the principles of the entire university).

So, the most important task of the publisher is to support, enhance and drive development to support the social nature of the science-making process.

Another meaning-making action intrinsic to the process is to Review others’ work to be inspired and to help them get better.

The rationality of publishing, based on what researchers need to do to earn merit.

Learning in a social context – the press itself becomes a learning tool for the entire university, we can teach young scholars that an alternative route to the traditional channels is possible.

We are working on the issues of dissemination of knowledge about publishing strategies, and to create a new system for merits through editorial work, in addition to the the author role.

No library staff works solely with press matters. They have other duties at the library to ensure that the perspective about the meaning-making process is in place (I, for example work with forming strategies for learning and instruction about all library services to both researchers and students)

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The Publishing Committee makes final decisions about proposals (books and journals) and book manuscripts

The editorial structure is built on the collaboration between the different stakeholders of the process

The administration is a part of the university, and thus have access to databases and information channels to facilitate the support to researchers as authors, editors and reviewers

The press has been allowed to grow slowly, and in accordance with the users’ needs, and that is what I would like to describe today.

Starts with a proposal ➔ through a first screening by editors and reviewers ➔ decision in Publishing Committee ➔ if accepted ➔ the second review process (can include the same reviewers as for the proposal) ➔ Author correct suggested revisions ➔ Final assessment by Editorial Board and Publishing Committee ➔ Publish e-book with print-on-demand option through for the major online book stores (Amazon, and Book info in Sweden etc.)

The quality assurance part is managed by the library/staff in close collaboration with the editorial boards, by way of the online systems

The production process (typesetting, copy-editing, printing) is managed by our service partner Ubiquity Press.

The readers/users of our services is also a part of the structure, as most of our ideas for improvements and development come from their comments and suggestions.

The network of presses belong to the Ubiquity Partner Network, and can thus take advantage of developments being made without having to focus on them ourselves, so they also make a part of the same delicious cake.

Researchers at the University forms Editorial Board groups who are responsible for the assessment of proposals and book manuscripts and to select and communicate with the reviewers of both these incarnations of book projects.

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Aims & Considerations

- The rationale of publishing, based on what researchers need to do to earn merit
- The work to accelerate this process and to create agency for researchers to act in two ways.
- A well-oiled publishing structure without extra costs or too much additional work for the authors and editors
  - A university-wide framework for talking about the rationality of publishing by adding knowledge and skills to the organisation
  - Learning in a social context – the press itself becomes a learning tool for the entire university, we can teach young scholars that an alternative route to the traditional channels is possible
  - Keeping up structures to encourage ethical publishing guidelines and best practices to archive the intended goal – to communicate
  - So, the most important task of the publisher is to support, enhance and drive development to support the social nature of the meaning-making process.
- The press is there to follow the practical syllogism of the researcher ➔ I'm a researcher, therefore I publish to communicate my results and conclusions.
- We create a platform to take care of the practical work, to let the researchers focus on their expertise, by running an agile and responsive organisation where we are not afraid to adjust to changes in the landscape

Aims & Considerations

- We are working on the issues of dissemination of knowledge about publishing strategies, and to create a new system for merits through editorial work, in addition to the the author role.
- We also create platforms to look at publishing metrics from different perspectives, to serve the HSS areas but also to add recognition for the work intrinsic in the peer-review process.

Final Remark

- One could argue that starting a new press without any of the old measures of credibility in place is actually not supporting researchers problems with finding the right publication channels for dissemination of their work, we could be seen as just

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