The Rise of New University Presses and Academic-Led Presses in the UK
Graham Stone

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The momentum is gathering...

Sensible institutions will already have been thinking about how it might be possible to unlock the unspecified ‘extra credit’ for exceeding the open-access requirements of REF2021.

Definitions

» A “set of activities led by college and university libraries to support the creation, dissemination, and curation of scholarly, creative, and/or educational works”


» “a publishing initiative set-up and run by academics... ...Academic-led presses are most often not-for profit, independent, highly ideological entities, set up to provide an alternative publication route to the commercial presses or to support the open access publishing of books for example”

Janneke Adema, Coventry University
Background to the UK study

» Both NUPs and ALPs appeared to be a growing movement in the UK
  › Little beyond anecdotal evidence

» Jisc study grew out of papers from:
  › The Northern Collaboration (June 2015)
    – 25 HEIs in the North of England
  › SCONUL 2015 winter conference (November 2015)
    – http://eprints.hud.ac.uk/26550/
Objectives

» Identify existing and future NUP/ALPs in the UK
» Learn of the motivations behind their establishment
» Determine the types of output being published
» Identify the publishing platforms being utilised
» Ascertain what business models are being applied

» Explore potential areas for support from Jisc
New University Presses
Survey results
43 universities responded

› 19 New University Presses
  – including those that did not respond but are known to exist

› 12 university are considering a press
  – 8 may launch within 5 years

› 16 have no current plans, but 4 are potentially interested

In the next 4/5 years we could see as many as 27 NUPs in the UK
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Press name</th>
<th>URL</th>
<th>Publication types</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiff University</td>
<td>Cardiff University Press</td>
<td><a href="http://cardiffuniversitypress.org/">http://cardiffuniversitypress.org/</a></td>
<td>Journals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldsmiths, University of London</td>
<td>Goldsmiths Press</td>
<td><a href="http://www.gold.ac.uk/goldsmiths-press/">http://www.gold.ac.uk/goldsmiths-press/</a></td>
<td>Monographs; non-standard modes and forms of communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingston University</td>
<td>Kingston University Press</td>
<td><a href="http://fass.kingston.ac.uk/kup/">http://fass.kingston.ac.uk/kup/</a></td>
<td>Monographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRUC (Scotland’s Rural College)</td>
<td>Rural Policy Centre (RPC)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sruc.ac.uk/info/120161/our_publications">http://www.sruc.ac.uk/info/120161/our_publications</a></td>
<td>Research reports; policy briefings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University College London</td>
<td>UCL Press</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ucl-press">http://www.ucl.ac.uk/ucl-press</a></td>
<td>Journals; monographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Buckingham</td>
<td>University of Buckingham Press</td>
<td><a href="https://ubpl.buckingham.ac.uk/">https://ubpl.buckingham.ac.uk/</a></td>
<td>Journals; monographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Central Lancashire</td>
<td>UCLan Open Journals</td>
<td><a href="http://pops.uclan.ac.uk/">http://pops.uclan.ac.uk/</a></td>
<td>Journals</td>
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<td>University of Chester</td>
<td>University of Chester Press</td>
<td><a href="https://www.chester.ac.uk/university-press">https://www.chester.ac.uk/university-press</a></td>
<td>Monographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Edinburgh</td>
<td>Edinburgh University Library Open Journals</td>
<td><a href="http://journals.ed.ac.uk/">http://journals.ed.ac.uk/</a></td>
<td>Journals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Hertfordshire</td>
<td>University of Hertfordshire Press</td>
<td><a href="https://www.herts.ac.uk/uhpress">https://www.herts.ac.uk/uhpress</a></td>
<td>Monographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Huddersfield</td>
<td>University of Huddersfield Press</td>
<td><a href="http://unipress.hud.ac.uk/">http://unipress.hud.ac.uk/</a></td>
<td>Journals; monographs; sound recordings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Universities of Leeds, Sheffield and York</td>
<td>White Rose Press</td>
<td><a href="http://universitypress.whiterose.ac.uk/">http://universitypress.whiterose.ac.uk/</a></td>
<td>Journals; monographs</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Surrey</td>
<td>Surrey Undergraduate Research Journal (SURJ)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.surrey.ac.uk/library/learning/undergraduatejournal/">http://www.surrey.ac.uk/library/learning/undergraduatejournal/</a></td>
<td>Journals</td>
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<td>University of Warwick</td>
<td>Warwick journals hosting service</td>
<td><a href="https://journals.warwick.ac.uk/">https://journals.warwick.ac.uk/</a></td>
<td>Journals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Westminster</td>
<td>University of Westminster Press</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uwestminsterpress.co.uk/">http://www.uwestminsterpress.co.uk/</a></td>
<td>Journals; monographs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of York</td>
<td>University of York Music Press (UYMP)</td>
<td><a href="http://www.uyp.co.uk/">http://www.uyp.co.uk/</a></td>
<td>Music scores</td>
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</table>
## Motivation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Existing NUPs</th>
<th>Planned NUPs</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Demand from/for early career researchers and academics (including supporting first time publishing)</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing OA publishing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supporting University’s strategy/objectives</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To enhance the reputation of the university</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate research</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovation/new forms of publishing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moving existing internal publishing activity (including library related research)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Established Presses

- Journals: Fully open access, with no subsequent paid version nor charges for optional formats.
- Monographs (including edited collections): Fully open access, with charges for optional formats (print, PDF, ePubs, etc).
- Textbooks: No open access formats.
- Conference proceedings: Fully open access, with charges for optional formats (print, PDF, ePubs, etc).
- Music scores: No open access formats.
- Recorded music: No open access formats.
- Data: No open access formats.
- Other: Fully open access, with charges for optional formats (print, PDF, ePubs, etc).
Possible future publishing

Established and those considering a press

- Journals
- Monographs (including edited collections)
- Textbooks
- Conference proceedings
- Music scores
- Recorded music
- Data
- Other
Possible future publishing

Other formats include:

- Enhanced and experimental publications
- Videos (conferences and interviews)
- Subject-specific overlay journals
- Short-form monographs
- Grey literature (Reports)
Support and guidance from Jisc

1 = not important
5 = really important

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Existing (Average)</th>
<th>Planning (Average)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Governance/structure</td>
<td>3,5</td>
<td>3,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Licensing and contracts</td>
<td>4,0</td>
<td>4,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial best practice</td>
<td>3,0</td>
<td>2,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peer review</td>
<td>2,5</td>
<td>2,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution/dissemination</td>
<td>3,5</td>
<td>3,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>3,0</td>
<td>2,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preservation</td>
<td>4,0</td>
<td>4,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>3,0</td>
<td>2,8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

22/11/2017  12th Munin Conference 22–23 November 2017
Academic-Led Presses

Interview results
» Interviews conducted via Skype and email

» Aimed to acquire a better understanding of ALPs currently operating in the UK or publishing for the UK market

» Provides an overview of the needs and future requirements and the problems they currently face and/or have faced in the past

» 14 ALPs took part in the study
### Academic-Led Presses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Press</th>
<th>Publisher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Counterpress</td>
<td>meson press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>electric.press</td>
<td>Open Book Publishers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goldsmiths Press</td>
<td>Open Humanities Press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language Science Press</td>
<td>Open Library of the Humanities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mattering Press</td>
<td>punctum books</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayfly Books</td>
<td>Roving Eye Press</td>
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<tr>
<td>MediaCommons Press</td>
<td>Ubiquity Press</td>
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Full interview transcripts available at: [http://repository.jisc.ac.uk/6652/](http://repository.jisc.ac.uk/6652/)
Community based, often as a reaction to the commercialisation of scholarship

“The primary thing is to disseminate good quality humanities research and to encourage good quality humanities research through the provision and through the dissemination of digital objects.” Rupert Gatti

“This press was an attempt to create a third route for academics.” Stephen Connelly (Counterpress)
Publishing fields and formats (1)

» Wide range of fields in the humanities, but also sciences
  › Some ALPs specialise in a specific field
  › Others welcome submissions from all fields within the humanities

» Almost all ALPs publish books

» 3 ALPs publish journals

» Multimodal and experimental
  › electric.press and Media Commons Press
  › Others do not have the finances or technological skills
Publishing fields and formats (2)

» Print and PDF is the most common format
» Mobi, Epub, HTML and XML are also used by some

“We are particularly fond of the printed book, which we are not giving up on. In fact, I will maintain strenuously and vigorously that the printed book has a mobility, portability, longevity, usability, iterability and attainability, that is still incredibly useful and that people still desire” Eileen Joy
Recommendations
For Jisc and the wider community
» Supporting community building
» Integration with the library supply chain
» Assistance with increasing number of tools and platforms
» A call for funders and government agencies to support these initiatives
Support community building

» During 2016 a new university press email list was created by Megan Taylor at the University of Huddersfield Press
  › UNIVERSITYPRESS@JISCMAIL.AC.UK

» A similar effort at community building and knowledge exchange is the radical open access collective, which, as a network, runs a community-driven information platform on open access and scholar-led book publishing in the HSS
  › http://radicaloa.disruptivemedia.org.uk
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Infrastructure</th>
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<tr>
<td>Content/publisher services - Publishers/Presses and Suppliers</td>
<td>Infrastructure services - Publishers/Presses and Suppliers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Content/publisher services - New University Press and academic-led publishing</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Publishers/Presses and Suppliers

- We have established negotiation criteria for new OA publishing offers, using our Collection Management & Development policy and OAPEN-UK recommendations
  - e.g. Knowledge Unlatched
  - At least one new OA content agreement in 2017/18
    - https://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/Documents/CMD%20Policy%20summary%20final.docx
    - https://www.jisc-collections.ac.uk/Documents/CMD%20Policy%20annexes%20over1.2.pdf

- Work with SCONUL/RLUK on a draft value proposition/business case directed at libraries and senior institutional managers
New University Press and academic-led publishing

- Re-negotiating existing agreements as appropriate
  - E.g. membership agreements
- We have released a call for further academic-led publishing offers
  - In discussions with a number of ALPs
- We will also investigate the potential of how we can do something similar for UK NUPs
Infrastructure services

» All types of ‘suppliers’

› Investigating the potential of an OA publishing services framework agreement
  – Jisc Collections will complete negotiation and evaluation criteria for potential new agreements, include metrics, metadata and impact and liaise with the National Bibliographic Knowledgebase (NBK) project team
  – To allow NUPs/ALPs to use a framework agreement to choose platform suppliers and other services using a Jisc Collections negotiated agreement
New University Press and academic-led publishing

- Continue work to foster a community for New University Presses (NUPs)
  - To include discussions with the Library Publishing Coalition, and presses in other European countries, e.g. German and the Nordic States

- Investigate the potential of a consortium approach to ALP distribution

- Work with HEFCE/UUK on OA monographs work, ensuring NUPs/ALPs are part of the “diverse ecology” of OA publishing.
New University Press and academic-led publishing

- Support with distribution/dissemination
  - Hold a workshop with invited book suppliers, acquisitions librarians and NUPs/ALPs to discuss the issues and plan a way forward

- Develop a toolkit
  - Justifications for starting up a NUP
  - Establish publication workflows
  - Best practices guidelines
  - Creation of a set of generic licences, standardised agreements etc.
  - Establish preservation guidelines
  - Best practices for metadata
Reports to the UUK Open Access Coordination Group

- Comprising stakeholders including HEFCE, ARMA, funders, libraries, academics, learned societies, new and established presses and Jisc
- Monitor and evaluate progress towards OA book publishing
- Promote and accelerate cultural change towards OA publishing within academia and among traditional publishers
- Advise on technical barriers to OA publishing and make recommendations for further work and investment
- Promote innovation and diversity in business models for OA book publishing, including potentially via encouraging support for existing pilots
Janneke Adema, Research Fellow in Digital Media at the Centre for Disruptive Media at Coventry University
Graham Stone

Jisc Collections senior research manager

Graham.Stone@jisc.ac.uk

jisc.ac.uk