

Publishing with Open journal systems (OJS): the engaged university and library support at the University of Stavanger,

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Abstract

From 2018, University of Stavanger (UiS)'s Library started using Open Journal Systems (OJS) as a journal management system to facilitate the open access scholarly publishing and therefore support transferring and updating of established the existing journals and the launching of new ones.

Currently, four active campus-based open access journals are hosted by the OJS at UiS Library, with some others in progress. All these journals operate within the same OJS implementation with the same design and layout on top, however, there are also possibilities for some customization and modifications at the individual journal level.

The purpose of this presentation is to discuss how OJS is supported by UiS Library, what skills are needed for journal staff, and challenges so far.



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Introduction

Upgrading OJS is not an easy task and requires extensive technical expertise in order to make sure it's done correctly. As well, a botched or incomplete OJS upgrade procedure can result in OJS malfunction and loss of your data. UiS Library has successfully upgraded old OJS platform to the newer version. The new interface and look has been developed and includes the following features:

- ✓ Dimension badge
- ✓ DOI option
- ✓ Responsive and clean design
- ✓ Responsive and easy access menu
- ✓ Abstract views, PDF views and download status
- ✓ Keyword cloud
- ✓ Top 5 most read articles last week
- ✓ How to cite
- ✓ Most read articles by the same author(s)

The screenshot displays the JCSW journal website. At the top, there are navigation links: HOME, CURRENT, ARCHIVES, ABOUT, and a search icon. The main content is divided into three columns. The left column features the 'CURRENT ISSUE' section for 'Vol. 15 No. 1 (2020)', published on 2020-09-17. Below this is the 'EDITORIAL' section with the title 'Social work between empirical explorations, different contexts, voices and conceptual challenges' by Åse Vagli, with a PDF download button and citation information. The middle column shows 'ARTICLES' with the title 'How I became homeless' by a group of authors, also with a PDF button and citation info. The right column contains a 'KEYWORDS' cloud with terms like 'social work', 'Norway', 'emotions', and 'research'. Below the keywords are logos for DOAJ, Scopus, ROAD, Crossref, ISS, OJS, and NORD. At the bottom right, there is a 'MOST READ LAST WEEK' section for a special issue on COVID-19.

<https://journals.uis.no/index.php/JCSW>

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UiS Library Roles as an OA Publisher

Stavanger University Library initially supports all the steps of setting up a journal but also train the editors and the subsequent users to participate in some part of the process.

What We Provide?

- ✓ Library provides technical support
- ✓ Library creates a journal web site
- ✓ Library assigns DOI to each article
- ✓ Library deposits the references and metadata in CrossRef
- ✓ Library helps to migrate older content to the new site
- ✓ Library advices on copyright and licensing
- ✓ Library provides help in ISSN and DOAJ applications
- ✓ Library manages OJS server, maintains the OJS database and software, makes backups
- ✓ Library performs the layout and design customization
- ✓ Library advices on the digitization of print back issues, where it exists

Moreover, once a journal is set up, the library with the help of web editor for one of the journals from the faculty of social sciences conducts training sessions for the editors to learn the administrative side of the editorial platform. Editorial duty lies entirely with the editors of the journals.

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What skills are needed for journal owners and Editorial Staff?

Journal staff usually focus on content of the submissions only, but they need to have the following skills:

- ✓ Technical skills with online publishing and editorial systems,
- ✓ Proofreading, copyediting and layout skills,
- ✓ Decision-making capabilities to support copyright issues.

Challenges

- ✓ OJS is a template-based platform but when it comes to front-end design, it has its limitation.
- ✓ From the viewpoint of IT, there is a need for several technical skills such as web design skills to customize the style sheets and web layout, graphic design skills to produce banners, logos and cover pages
- ✓ There are certain limitations which make it difficult to get to the details of the article. For instance, when an article comes with a long abstract or number of references, the webpage becomes unfriendly.
- ✓ Another challenge is when PKP launches a new OJS update. Some features cannot be migrated.
- ✓ The learning curve is the greatest challenge. The editors often differ significantly with respect to age, academic rank, and computer skills. Some faculty members have been frustrated with the system.



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