Open Access Books in Academic Libraries: How Can We Adapt Workflows & Cost Management to an Open Scholarly Communications Landscape?

The past year has been an exciting time for those working with the publishing of academic books. The topic of Open Access Books has been widely discussed in many workshops and conferences, and there is growing recognition that scholarly output formats beyond academic journal articles must be included when discussing Open Access policies, funding and workflows.

Building on this momentum, LIBER's Open Access Working Group held a workshop at LIBER 2019 on the topic of Open Access (OA) books in libraries. Two key questions were at the heart of the session: how do we determine how libraries are currently working with OA books, and what can be done to help libraries make more books available in Open Access, and to raise the profile of these books?

The workshop was facilitated by Frank Manista (JISC), Olaf Siegert (ZBW) and Sofie Wennström (Stockholm University Library/Stockholm University Press). The keynote speaker was Eelco Ferwerda (DOAB/OAPEN).

Keynote Presentation 'OA monographs and the role of libraries'

by Eelco Ferwerda
- Open Access leads to innovation in book publishing, especially in terms of new collaborations and new infrastructure and services;
- The transition to Open Access has just begun – 16,700 OA books listed in DOAB and growing;
- New business models are being developed;
- Authors seem to support the idea that all future scholarly books should be Open Access but providing print options is still important for readers;
- Challenges include the infrastructure for metadata about OA books, like using DOIs for easy tracking and interoperability between systems;
- Communities need to support bibliodiversity and allow for multiple formats and other innovations in publishing;
- Libraries have a key role in the transition to Open Access!

Possible roles for libraries to support OA books

by Olaf Siegert
In line with the workshop aim of mapping what libraries can do to speed up the transition to Open Access regarding scholarly works in book format, Olaf Siegert presented an overview of three areas related to common library structures or workflows.

1. **Collection management:** make OA books a part of the regular library acquisition workflows; index relevant titles in the library catalogues and discovery systems to ensure the end users can find them.
2. **Publication services:** ensure that the OA policy includes books and that the library can host a publishing house or host books in the institutional repository; provide funding for producing OA books; support authors making choices to publish openly.
3. **Organisational and staff development:** provide opportunities for staff to develop skills related to publishing, copyright, OA business models and metadata standards; ensure library management take the lead in the transition; integrate workflows with other services.

Library Survey Results Summary

Presented by Sofie Wennström
As the Open Access Working Group was preparing the theme for this workshop, it became clear that there was a lot of uncertainty about what colleagues in the LIBER community were doing in the area of OA Books. A survey was therefore circulated to get a better idea of the current landscape.

This is a brief overview of the findings:
- The responses indicated that libraries do not always have the resources to run a publishing operation themselves due to, for example, budget constraints or a shortage of staff. However:
    - 40% of the responding libraries already publish OA books or are planning to do it
    - another 43% thought it was a relevant activity for libraries
- 83% of the respondents noted that they distribute OA books via a repository
- 29% of the organisations manage funds for OA books
- 24% provide library funding to pay for OA books author fees
- 81% include OA books in discovery services or catalogues
- 60% contribute to shared OA initiatives or services

The survey indicated challenges ahead such as funding issues, lack of necessary skills among staff and a need to foster the OA culture in the library and at the home institution. At the same time, opportunities remain if libraries can find ways to reallocate funding and work with current budgets and to create or develop workflows that include open access books.

Workshop Results

The aim of the breakout session was to not only to share recent developments and reports on the current state of OA books and related library workflows but also to collect ideas for general guidelines to be used for creating such workflows. The good examples and the wishlist was inspired by suggested activities presented in the Knowledge Exchange landscape study on OA monographs (Ferwerda et al., 2017).

Good Examples of activities done in libraries

- University Presses who send metadata about published books to DOAB, OAPEN & BASE (*example: Stockholm University Press*)
- Libraries which provide funding for OA books, for which authors can apply (*example: University of Reading*)
- Collaboration between organisations to add scale to publishing activities (*example: White Rose University Press*)
- Expanding the repository to include OA books (including creating awareness for the service). (*several libraries do this*)
- Hosting breakfast or lunch meetings to showcase OA support for researchers (*example: Södertörn University*)
- Including OA books in discovery services and catalogues (*examples: Exeter University, TU Dublin, ZBW Leibniz Information Centre for Economics, RCSI, University of Toulouse, French National Bibliographic Agency*)

Wishlist of things that libraries would like to do in the future

- Shared guidelines for metadata requirements for OA books
- Buy-in from university management (funding to develop systems and services)
- More work with skills development for librarians (on an organisational and individual level)
- Mapping the needed infrastructure for libraries
- Find a simple way to work with moving metadata between systems, more interoperability
- Working out when and where decisions to acquire OA literature is made
- Global registry of OA books

Interested in learning more?

All the data from the survey, details about the workshop outcomes and the presentations from the speakers are available for download via https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3354194

Suggested Further Reading

Adema, J. (2019). *Towards a roadmap for OA monographs. A Knowledge Exchange Repor*t. Bristol: Knowledge Exchange. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2644997

Adema, J., & Stone, G. (2017). *Changing publishing ecologies: a landscape study of New University Presses and Academic-led Publishing*. London: Jisc. Retrieved from http://repository.jisc.ac.uk/6666/

Eve, M. P., Inglis, K., Prosser, D., Speicher, L., & Stone, G. (2017). Cost estimates of an open access mandate for monographs in the UK's third Research Excellence Framework. *UKSG Insights*, 30(3). https://doi.org/10.1629/uksg.392

Ferwerda, E., Pinter, F., & Stern, N. (2017). *A Landscape Study on Open Access and Monographs: Policies, Funding and Publishing in Eight European Countries*. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.815932

Neylon, C., Montgomery, L., Ozaygen, A., Saunders, N., & Pinter, F. (2018). *The Visibility of Open Access Monographs in a European Context*: Full Report. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1230342

Pyne, R., Emery, C., Lucraft, M., & Pinck, A. S. (2019, June 18). *The future of open access books: Findings from a global survey of academic book authors*. London & Berlin: Springer Nature. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.8166599.v1

Stone, G., & Marques, M. (2018). *Knowledge Exchange Survey on Open Access Monographs* [Report]. Retrieved from http://repository.jisc.ac.uk/7101/

Useful Links

- ➔ OAPEN Library http://oapen.org/home
- ➔ Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) https://www.doabooks.org/
- ➔ Bielefeld Academic Search Engine (BASE) https://www.base-search.net/about/en/
- ➔ Open Edition https://books.openedition.org/?lang=en
- ➔ White Rose University Press https://universitypress.whiterose.ac.uk/
- ➔ Stockholm University Press https://www.stockholmuniversitypress.se/
- ➔ Towards an Open Monograph Ecosystem (TOME) https://www.arl.org/category/our-priorities/scholars-scholarship/scholarly-publishing/tome/
- ➔ The Global Sustainability Coalition for Open Science Services (SCOSS) http://scoss.org/