
Institutional policy implementation at UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Authors: Clara Boavida (UMinho) and Brigita Serafinavičiūtė (LMT)

Reviewers: David Ball (SPARC Europe) and Yasar Tonta (Hacettepe)

October 2015



Summary

The University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway (hereinafter UiT) based in Norway is the northernmost university of the world with more than 11,000 students and 1,600 academic staff. The goal of the OA policy adopted by UiT in 2010 is to make freely available all scientific publications from the university. The policy encourages self-archiving through institutional repository – Munin -, fosters Green self-archiving and recommends Gold OA publishing option as an alternative. A sharp increase of OA publications since 2010 is evident, and the publishing fund may be part of the explanation of the rapid growth here. The Munin collection at the moment has 7,361 items, of which more than 99% have an openly available full text. The Munin's policy is included in ROARMAP. The University Library of Tromsø has the main responsibility to support the OA policy and has a special Open Access adviser working full-time.

1. Introduction

The UiT is the northernmost university of the world. Climate change, the exploitation of Arctic resources and environmental threats are topics of great public concern, and which the UiT takes special interest in.

On the 1st January 2009 the UiT merged with the University College of Tromsø. On 1st August 2013 the University merged with the University College of Finnmark. The new university has now four campuses. They are located in Tromsø, Alta, Hammerfest and Kirkenes. The number of students and study programmes increases due to this merger. The new university has become an even more important driving force for Northern Norway and international cooperation in the High North. From January 1st 2016 the university will grow further due to mergers with the University College of Narvik and the University College of Harstad.

According to the 2014 data,¹ at the UiT there are:

Employees - 2,907.9, among them:

¹ https://en.uit.no/startside/uit/dbhartikkel?p_document_id=328103

- Number of academic staff – 1,639.5
- Number of administrative staff - 768.6
- Number of other staff - 499.7

PhD's - 101

Students – 12,180 (in the fall term 2014)

Teaching is research-based. UiT's seven faculties offer, in spite of a dedication to Northern issues, a broad range of study programmes. The academic community in Tromsø is highly international. More than 20% of the academic staff and 10% of the student body are from abroad. The UiT offers more than 20 English taught master's degree programmes, and all faculties offer English taught courses at both bachelor's and master's level.

The scope of academic activities of UiT is well seen from this graph:

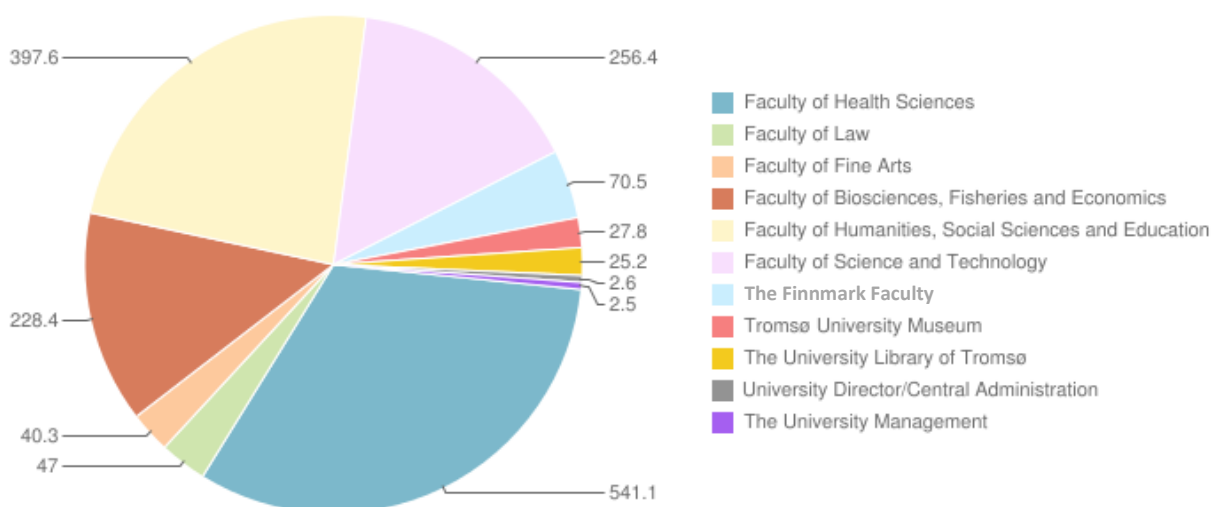


Figure 1 – Academic staff, 2014, per department

UiT's key research focuses on the polar environment, climate research, indigenous people, peace and conflict transformation, telemedicine, medical biology, space physics, fishery science, marine bioprospecting, linguistics and computational chemistry.

UiT's Centre for Advanced Studies in Theoretical Linguistics, CASTL, and CTCC, Centre for Theoretical and Computational Chemistry, have both been designated Norwegian Centres of Excellence. In 2002 the Tromsø-based NST, Norwegian Centre for Telemedicine, was appointed a World Health Organization Collaboration Centre.

In 2014 UiT was involved in 1,361 journal articles, 336 articles in anthologies and 23 monographs.² The scope of the publications is presented in the graph.³

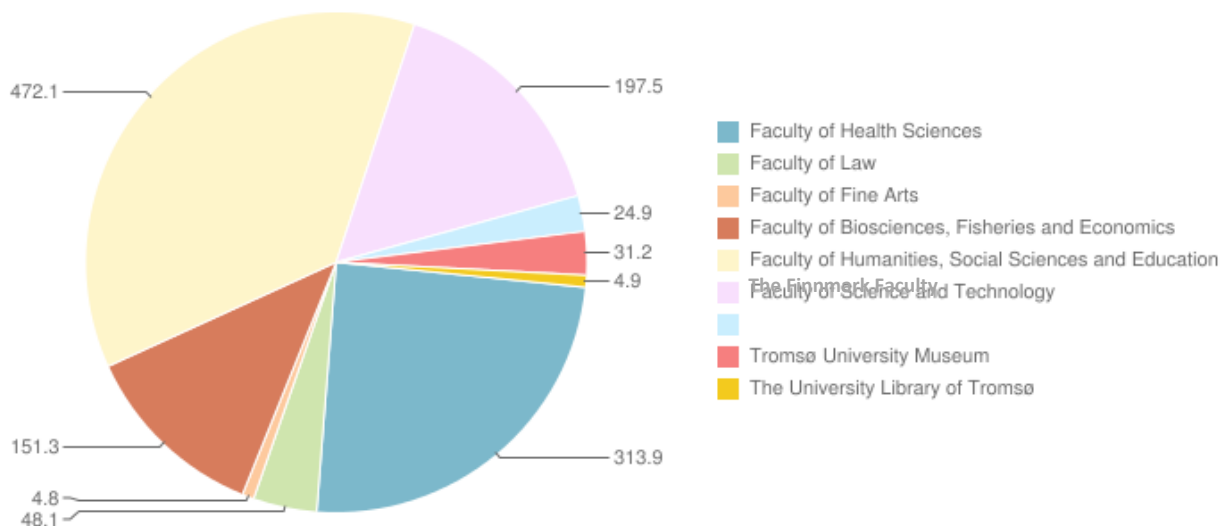


Figure 2 – Publication points, 2014, per department

Summary of main points:

- UiT The Arctic University of Norway is the northernmost university of the world
- With more than 12,000 students and more than 1,600 academic staff UiT is an important driving force for Northern Norway and international cooperation in the High North
- UiT’s main research competencies lay in climate and arctic environment research, fishery science, theoretical linguistics, health sciences, computational chemistry, and space physics.

2. Repository

Munin is the UiT’s institutional repository.⁴ It was launched on the 21st of September 2006. Munin is based on DSpace, and a submission portal, closely integrated with Munin, is also based on DSpace. The DSpace submission form is adjusted to fit the needs of information for all involved parties. The submission portal is available 24/7 and it is possible to submit theses from home or elsewhere.

The size of whole collection includes 7,361 items distributed as follow:

² Database for Statistics on Higher Education (DBH):

<http://dbh.nsd.uib.no/pub/?rapport=antall&aar=2014&niva=1&insttype=1&instkode=&avdkode=&seksjonskode>

³ https://en.uit.no/startside/uit/dbhartikkel?p_document_id=328103

⁴ Munin Institutional Repository available at <http://munin.uit.no/>

-
- Administration [39]
 - Faculty of Health Sciences [2448]
 - Faculty of Law [331]
 - Faculty of Fine Arts [18]
 - Faculty of Biosciences, Fisheries and Economics [1,194]
 - Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education [2,156]
 - Faculty of Science and Technology [875]
 - Finnmark Faculty [40]
 - Tromsø Museum [120]
 - University Library [140]

The content types are distributed as follow:

- Master's theses [3,811]
- Journal articles [2,231]
- Doctoral theses [629]
- Reports [313]
- Various [295]
- Book (book chapters) [139]
- Conference presentations [135]
- Working papers [79]

The theses cannot be evaluated without having been submitted to the submission system, therefore UiT has a “no deposit - no degree” policy. Making theses available in Munin is still a decision for the candidate to make. As the theses are approved, and all the administrative tasks are taken care of, the administrative staff clicks the Done-button. This results in an export of the items from the submission portal's DSpace to the Munin DSpace. After a bibliographic control, the theses are made public in Munin, unless the candidate has chosen

that it should not be made public on the internet. About 75% to 80% of theses (master's and doctoral) are made available in Munin shortly after being evaluated.

In addition to Munin and the submission portal, a third DSpace instance serves as an archive of all submitted theses, in accordance with regulations from The National Archives of Norway. This instance is closed and only available to the central archive of the university plus technical personnel from the library. All items are moved automatically between the three DSpace instances.

The numbers for Green OA includes self-archiving of Gold OA (this means that Gold OA may also be deposited in institutional repository). As will be seen from the numbers, until 2010 self-archiving was around the same level as Gold OA, meaning that some non-OA articles were self-archived, but not all Gold OA articles. A publication fund started operating in 2011, this led to a marked increase in the share of Gold OA articles from UiT, which started to follow-up closely on Gold OA, ensuring that all were self-archived, with few exceptions. At least from 2011, on all Gold articles are included in the Green numbers (Green less Gold showing the actual percentage of Green that are not Gold).

Year	Total no of articles	Gold OA	Gold OA share	Green OA	Green share	Green less Gold share	TA articles
2004	572	31	5,4 %	27	4,7 %	-0,7 %	541
2005	652	49	7,5 %	33	5,1 %	-2,5 %	603
2006	665	47	7,1 %	45	6,8 %	-0,3 %	618
2007	743	59	7,9 %	65	8,7 %	0,8 %	684
2008	874	71	8,1 %	86	9,8 %	1,7 %	803
2009	992	79	8,0 %	84	8,5 %	0,5 %	913
2010	1059	84	7,9 %	108	10,2 %	2,3 %	975
2011	1194	131	11,0 %	242	20,3 %	9,3 %	1063
2012	1285	216	16,8 %	306	23,8 %	7,0 %	1069
2013	1284	209	16,3 %	333	25,9 %	9,7 %	1075
2014	1361	277	20,4 %	432	31,7 %	11,4 %	1084

Tabela 1 – Number of articles 2004-2014

At the same time, Library OA staff started annual activities e-mailing all authors who had authored articles that could be self-archived, informing them of journal, article title and which version could be self-archived. Library OA staff also ensured all Gold OA articles were archived, either by the author or by library staff (if the license permitted). The “Green less Gold share” shows that this has resulted in a marked increase in the number and share of non-Gold articles that have been self-archived by authors.

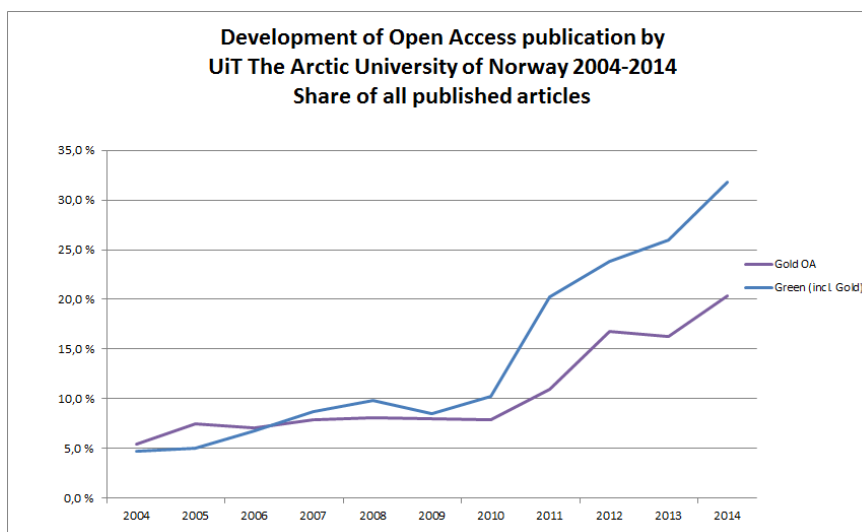


Figure 3 – Development of Open Access publication by UiT The Arctic University of Norway 2004-2014

All self-archiving is done by uploading the relevant full-text to CRISTin, the Norwegian national CRIS. This means the extra work required on the part of authors is extremely small, and that metadata are consistent between the CRIS and Munin. All data and full-text are imported automatically to Munin, but it is not made available until the library has checked for completeness of metadata and that the version uploaded is in accordance with publisher policies.

Based on content in BASE (Bielefeld Academic Search Engine) UiT has developed the search service High North Research Documents.⁵ Based on various criteria, this presents a subset of BASE only containing documents pertaining to the High North.

Based on the open source software Dataverse, UiT has started a data depositing and publishing service for a global linguistic community, TROLLing.⁶ Work is in progress to make this a general Open Research Data service for UiT researchers. A sharp increase of OA publications since 2010 is evident, both Gold and Green.

Summary of main points:

- The institutional repository policy is included in ROARMAP⁷
- The Munin collection at the moment has 7,361 items. As Munin is only used for contents with OA full text (with minor exceptions), it is estimated that nearly 100% of this collection are OA
- A sharp increase of OA publications since 2010 is evident.

⁵ High North Research Documents is available at <http://highnorth.uit.no/>

⁶ The Tromsø Repository of Language and Linguistics <http://opendata.uit.no/dvn/dv/trolling>

⁷ ROARMAP registry <http://roarmap.eprints.org/252/>

3. Policy

The goal of the policy is to make all scientific publications from the university available either in an Open Access journal or in an institutional repository. The policy is available in Norwegian and English.⁸

The policy is based on 3 principles:

1. Self-archiving: the authors from UiT should self-archive their publications in Munin, through which the publications are made available within the limits of possible legal constraints, e.g. publisher policies.
2. Choice of publishing venue: the authors are encouraged to choose publishing venues that provide the freest access to the publications (both Green OA and Gold OA).
3. The University as a publisher: aims at making all UiT published publications (journals, series etc.) OA publications, as well as permitting and encouraging self-archiving.

The UiT principles for Open Access publishing were approved by the Board of the UiT on October 14th 2010, aiming to make the research from the university as accessible and reused as possible.

The institutional policy mandated depositing of Master's theses and was implemented fully. Policy of mandated depositing of Doctoral theses has also been implemented. Articles and other types of documents are archived based on voluntary depositing.

The institutional repository Munin, which was launched in 2006 to replace an older ETD archive and to enable self-archiving of other material than theses, has been used heavily to implement the OA policy since 2010. Now the deposition of manuscripts, theses, dissertations, books, book sections, etc. to Munin is required, however the deposit can be waived. The item that should be deposited must be the author's final peer-reviewed version. It is requested that the deposited item would be OA. The author retains key rights. The date of deposit depends on the permits of publishers. The open licensing conditions require that material not published elsewhere currently demands acceptance of a CC-BY-NC license, otherwise self-archived content published elsewhere follows the licensing of the publisher.

UiT is also a founder member of the national search engine NORA and offers Septentrio Academic Publishing, a publishing infrastructure for scientific and scholarly journals/serials. A publication fund has been established as well to cover APCs for research without sufficient external funding.

Summary of main points:

- The goal of the 2010 OA policy adopted by UiT is to make available all scientific publications from the university

⁸ OA policy <https://uit.no/Content/375533/OA%20policy%20UiT%20141010.pdf>

- The policy encourages self-archiving through institutional repository Munin, fosters Green self-archiving and recommends Gold OA publishing option as an alternative
- A publication fund has been established to cover APCs for research without sufficient external funding.

4. Policy support

The University Library of Tromsø has the responsibility for investigating and ensuring compliance with publishers' policies and other questions regarding intellectual property rights.

There are three Open Access advisers working full-time on various Open Access activities and projects as well as taking part in the development of Munin support activities towards students and researchers and content gathering and managing the UiT's OA publication fund.

The University Library also hosts information service 'openaccess.no'. The UiT has a fund that can cover author-side payments in Open Access journals.⁹ The Board of the UiT, which adopted the OA policy and funds the publication fund over the UiT general budget. The UiT board has also awarded the library a PhD position to study Open Access (operative from February 2015). From 2014 the national search engine harvesting all Norwegian institutional archives (NORA), is integrated fully in the CRISin system.

Summary of main points:

- The University Library of Tromsø has the main responsibility to support the OA policy
- Three Open Access advisers working full-time at UiT coordinate all OA related activities and are of great help for authors

5. Policy monitoring

While no exact figures for OA targets have been set, the policy has an implicit goal of 100% Open Access both for self-archiving and for theses being made available in the IR. Green OA reached a level of nearly 32% for 2014, this includes self-archiving of gold OA and hybrid OA articles. While 32% isn't overwhelmingly impressive, it is up from 10% in 2010 when the policy was adopted – and the effect of the policy was seen in an immediate raise to 20% in 2011 (see Table 1 and Figure 3). Compliance rates are measured against numbers from the national CRIS as published in the Database for Statistics on Higher Education (DBH). Accessibility of theses seems to have become stable at around 75%. There seems to be good reasons (anonymized information, data to be used for formal publishing later, commercial publishing interest, among others) for not making the major fraction of the remaining 25% available, though some of this may be made available at a later date. Compliance

⁹ The publication fund at the University of Tromsø: https://uit.no/ub/publisering/art?p_document_id=225287

rates are measured against numbers for awarded master's degrees and doctoral degrees from Database for Statistics on Higher Education (DBH).

Acknowledgment

This case study was revised by Jan Erik Frantsvåg, Open Access adviser at University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway. PASTEUR4OA would like to express a sincere gratitude for his contribution.