The Dutch Roquade project.

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Overview

- Roquade: an infrastructure for academic publishing.
- The organisation model of Roquade.
- A European community of practice: Signal Hill.
ROQUADE

Infrastructure for electronic publishing. Point of departure: author’s interests. Directed towards all disciplines.

Not a publisher, in the traditional sense of the word, but an assistance to scientists, research groups, institutes to become publishers themselves.
Mission and features of Roquade

• Enhancing scholarly communication in its full diversity
• Supplying knowledge, tools and people in the publishing area
• Not profit driven
• Community of practice
Philosophy behind Roquade

• Scientific knowledge thrives on the symbiosis of creation & communication.
• Organising both processes is the rationale of a university.
• Outsourcing scholarly communication has seriously damaged (‘elseviered’) universities.
Roquade: the project

Setting up the infrastructure:
• the organisation; the production process.

The development phase:
• infrastructure is tested in pilots and adapted if necessary.

The result:
• a viable organisation with a good reputation.
Roquade publishing services

- moderated pre-print service
- traditional electronic publishing
- Publication site with peer review

technical and organisational infrastructure
Critical Success Factors

• Variety of options; from classical to vanguard
• Get-at-able infrastructure enabling academics and academic organisations to become publishers
• Copyright remains with author
• Decentralised structure
• Non-profit: fair prices for publication and subscription
Structure of Roquade

- **Steering group** (Royal Academy, Universities of Delft and Utrecht)
- **Back office** (co-ordinator + pool of specialists in Delft, Utrecht, Amsterdam for maintenance and upgrade of self publishing and administrative tools and know how books)
- **Front offices** = franchisees of the Roquade brand (Delft, Utrecht, Amsterdam, new front offices + central contact and help-desk)
- **Satellites** (autonomous publishing initiatives and projects) = clients of front offices
Infrastructure

Helpdesk

Frontoffices

client

client

client
Current Roquade satellites

- **Journals**
  - International Journal of Integrated Care
  - International shipbuilding progress
  - European Journal of Transport and Infrastructure Research
  - Kronos - Journal of Cape History
  - Veterinary Sciences Tomorrow
  - The Veterinary Quarterly
  - Ars Disputandi
  - Studies in Mycology
  - Ancient Narrative
  - Neerlandistiek.nl
  - Cahiers voor Geschiedenis en Informatica

- **Journals in co-publishing**
  - Pedagogiek
  - Tijdschrift voor Hoger onderwijs

- **Publication sites**
  - Design Research Internet Magazine
  - Interactive Publication: European Journal of Transport and Infrastructure Research
  - Syntactic Microvarition

- **Grey Literature**
  - Newsletter Historia & Informatica
  - Unitwin Series for Namibia
European partnership on academic publishing

Network of initiatives on electronic academic publishing for organisations with the following features:

- part of (an organisation) within the academic community itself;
- concentrating on electronic publishing;
- non-profit (fair prices, possibly free of charge);
- copyright remains with the authors.
European partnership on academic publishing

Objectives:

- creating awareness for innovative ways of academic publishing;
- sharing experience in new ways of (supporting) academic publishing;
- sharing software for the support of electronic publishing;
- sharing publications;
- presenting linking facilities;
- setting up a network for printing on demand.
Signal Hill

E-Publishing Facilitators

- Highwire
- E-presses
- Preprint servers
- Roquade
- Projects
- .......

Academic community

- Authors
- Group of authors
- Editorial boards
- Prof. organisations
- Acad. institutions
- Meta-organisations

SPARC
Planned activities

• Website (first half of March 2001).
• Intranet for participating organisations (April 2001).
• Active search for new partners.
• European conference to stimulate the aims of the partnership (February 2002, Utrecht).
• Investigation of new business models.
When everything is under control, you are going too slowly.

Mario Andretti.
For more information:

www.roquade.nl

www.signal-hill.org