Open Access progress in the Nordic Countries

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- Denmark (DK)
- Finland (SF)
- Norway (N)
- Sweden (S)

Denmark

Denmark

- Denmarks Electronic Research Library (DEF)
  - Supported by the Ministry of Research, the Ministry of Education & The Ministry of Cultural Affairs
  - Special programme area 2004-2005:
    e-publishing

The Vision

- return science to the scientists –
  - Contribute to creating organisational, economic and technological frames for internationally orientated scholarly communication, so that universities and public sector research institutions and not commercial publishers are primarily considered

- To contribute to open access to Danish research results to he greatest possible extent
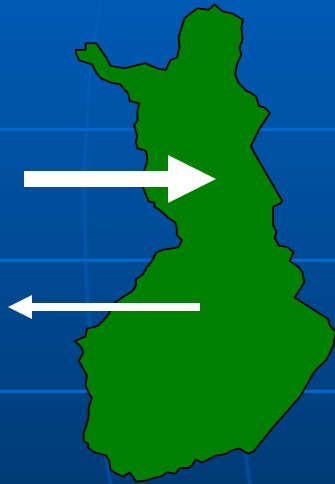
Action lines

- Standardisation, rights issues, communication with scholars, decision makers and authorities
- Storage of e-published information (preservation)
- Institutional Repositories
- Scientific Journals
- Preprints, reports etc.
- The Danish National Research Database
- Research Portal

Finland

Slides prepared Prof. Bo-Christer Björk

chairman of the FinnOA working group

The Finnish situation

- Inflow of publications from abroad
  - Making OA material more visible in the portals of Academic libraries
- Publications by Finnish academics
  - Supporting the creation of Finnish institutional repositories
  - Populating them with output by Finnish academics
- OA-journals published in Finland
  - Creating an infrastructure so that journals can go electronic using OA business models

FinnOA working group (2003)

- Main achievements of FinnOA
  - National seminar on OA in January 2004 with 230 attendents, good press coverage
  - Managed to persuade the Ministry of Education to establish formal OA committee
  - Seminar on Institutional repositories in January 2005
  - http://www.lib.helsinki.fi/finnoa/

Finland: Institutional repositories

- A couple of already functioning IRs
- A lot of interest in establishing
- Discussions about co-operation starting

Finland: OA journals

- Around 70 peer reviewed journals published in Finland
- Many receive subsidies from the Academy of Finland
- Of the journals 9 are OA

"National policy situation"

- High level ministry work group appointed in September 2004 by the Minister of Education

- Has completed its work in February 2005

Ministry OA work group members

- Top ranking civil servant in charge of Finnish Science policy as chairman
- Head of the Academy of Finland (biggest funding agency of basic science in Finland)
- Chairman of the council of University vice-chancellors
- Vice-chancellor of the University of Helsinki
- Etc.

Ministry OA work group results

- 30 concrete recommendations to
  - Research funders
  - Universities and public research institutes
  - Individual researchers
  - Scientific journals and societies
  - Libraries
  - The ministry of education

Recommendations in a nut-shell

- Both OA journals and posting in OA repositories recommended
- <u>No absolute mandating, only recommendations</u>
- Recommends that the Academy and the universities collectively sign the Berlin declaration
- Costs for author charges to OA-journals will be allowable costs
- Funding is likely to be made available for setting up IRs and for converting scientific Journals to OA

Norway

Norwegian Council for Higher Education
- recommendations for the membership institutions 1:

- Research results should be made publicly accessible

- Publishing in Open Access Journals should be exploited

- Authors should retain rights for parallel publishing

- Funding should be made available for publication charges – should be considered as an integral part of research

Norwegian Council for Higher Education
- recommendations for the membership institutions 2:

- Develop guidelines for payment of publication charges
- Parallel publishing in IR or other OA-solutions should be mandatory
- Universities should work together in developing publishing facilities

IR at Norwegian Universities

- Oslo, Trondheim & Bergen – in operation - different technical solutions
- Tromsö – under development
- 20 University Colleges – a number of developments are underway – often in cooperation

- National cooperation concerning metadata/standards

- Univ. Of Bergen has signed the Berlin Declaration

- National agreement with BMC in place

Sweden

Association of Swedish Higher Education (SUHF) -

- Recommends the membership institutions to establish conditions for creating professional, publishing services within universities and university colleges

SUHF will

- Draft and implement new intellectual property rights agreements, securing that researchers can publish, disseminate and archive publications on university servers (institutional repositories)

- Investigate and evaluate current research assessment and merit systems

- Promote alternative approaches based on university publishing and other initiatives for open access publishing (BOAI 1 & 2)

SUHF

- Task force decided
- Intellectual property rights agreements out for hearing
- Common format for publication databases out for hearing
- Initiate discussions with research councils/funders about issues related to OA

SUHF

- Has signed the Berlin Declaration (Oct. 2004)
- Has raised the issues of scholarly communication and open access for the Swedish Research Council

The SVEP-project

- a Swedish national project aiming at coordinating and supporting e-publishing activities at universities and university colleges in Sweden.

- collaboration between a number of Swedish university and university college libraries and coordinated by the Royal Library.

The SVEP-project

- The main areas of work:
  - interoperability, preservation, dissemination and advice as to which software to use for institutional repositories.

Creating Awareness:

- Swedish Resource Center for Scholarly Communication
  - A cooperative network of librarians, researchers, decision makers operated by Lund University Libraries funded by the National Library
  - Arranging seminars, initiating discussions
  - www.sciecom.org/
  - On-line journal: Sciecom Info

General observations as to OA in the Nordic Countries 1

- Awareness on Government level:
  - SF (DK , S)
- Research councils aware:
  - SF (S)
- Researchers & university decisions makers aware:
  - Increasingly so in all countries – but still lots to do!
- Standardization – linking National Research Databases with IR´s:
  - DK, N & S

General observations 2

- **Migrating journals to OA:**
  - SF (DK)
- **Development of IR´s**
  - All countries
- **Content (filling the IRs):**
  - Primarily dissertations
  - Thesis – Sweden, distributed solution with integrated search interface
  - Preprints etc. – very slow

Read more

- Sciecom info – www.sciecom.org/sciecominfo - november 2004 - special issue on Nordic developments in e-publishing

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