

UiT

THE ARCTIC  
UNIVERSITY  
OF NORWAY

# On The Norwegian Road to Open Access

COASP 2015

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Jan Erik Frantsvåg

Open Access adviser

Research and Publication Services, The University Library



# Who are we?

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- UiT The Arctic University of Norway
- An all-round university
  - Established by parliament in 1968
  - Started operations in the early 1970's
  - Have merged with two university colleges, about to merge with two more
  - 11 800 students, 2 900 employees
- The world's northernmost university





# The Norwegian OA landscape

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- 8 universities
- 8 specialized university institutions
- 20 university colleges
- 9 private colleges
- 50+ research institutes
- 4 regional health authorities
  
- 40 of the HEIs have an IR
- 7 research institutes have IRs
  
- The Norwegian Research Council has an OA requirement
- Govt. white paper demands OA for all publicly funded research
- An increasing number of institutions have local OA policies



## Paths to OA: Green

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- Research Council and institutional policies do not prefer Gold over Green, they are equally good for satisfying OA requirements
- All institutions with an IR encourage green OA
  - Many have a local policy or mandate
- Low success rate ... (2014 numbers)
  - In the HEI sector, about 11 per cent green OA
- Growing, but (painfully) slowly



# Paths to OA: Gold

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- Supporting local OA publishing
  - Publishing infrastructures at five larger institutions
    - Based on OJS
    - For «local» journals
      - E.g. Septentrio Academic Publishing in Tromsø
  - See a Nordic list  
[http://www.ub.uit.no/wiki/noap/index.php/Nordic\\_Journal\\_Hosting\\_Possibilities](http://www.ub.uit.no/wiki/noap/index.php/Nordic_Journal_Hosting_Possibilities)
- Supporting publishing in OA journals in two ways
  - Teaching researchers to budget for APCs in project budgets
  - Paying for APCs when there is no external funding available
    - > Publication funds

# Norwegian OA publication funds

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- 16 HEIs have OA publication funds (all universities have them)
- The first ones established in 2010
  - UiT established one early in 2011
- Govt. white paper 2013 pointed to the UiT fund and recommended that other HEIs followed the example
  - Most funds established post white paper
- In general similar rules and requirements
  - Corresponding author affiliation
  - Journal registered in DOAJ
  - Journal accredited in the Norwegian HEI financing system



# Accreditation

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- Norwegian HEIs, RPOs and Health Institutions receive part of their funding based on publishing in accredited journals or book series
- Accreditation based on having an acceptable quality assurance system/process in place
- Accreditation or not decided by a committee based in The Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR)
  - A secretariat at Norwegian Social Science Data Services (NSD)
  - Maintain a register of accredited channels (a “white list”)
    - [https://dbh.nsd.uib.no/publiseringskanaler/Forside.action?request\\_locale=en](https://dbh.nsd.uib.no/publiseringskanaler/Forside.action?request_locale=en)
  - Currently 23,000+ journals accredited
  - Top-level journals accredited at level 2 (ordinary at level 1)
    - More funding for publishing in level 2 journals – factor 3
- Structural problem:
  - High impact journals (“level 2”) that are to be targeted are only 1 per cent of OA journals, but 10 per cent of TA journals

# A new journal?

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“Perhaps the worst plight of a vessel is to be caught in a gale on a lee shore. In this connection the following ... rules should be observed:

Never allow your vessel to be found in such a predicament.”

LF Callingham: Seamanship: Jottings for the Young Sailor

- The same goes for OA journals. First steps with a new OA journal:
  - (Get an ISSN)
  - Apply for DOAJ listing
  - Apply for accreditation in the Norwegian system
- OA journals which miss one of these two signs of quality, will not receive any Norwegian manuscripts or APC income
- A surprising lack of awareness about this, also among major publishers



# Norwegian Research Council (NRC) and OA

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- Contract clause requiring OA
- Sharpened policy: Can withhold project funds if OA requirements haven't been met
  - Expresses stronger willingness to take off the silk gloves
  - Increased their capability to follow-up
- APCs have been allowed costs
- STIM OA: New APC funding scheme 2014–2019
  - 8 mill NOK (≈900 000 EUR) was set aside to refund up to 50 per cent of institutions' APC costs
  - Not tied to NRC projects
  - Journals must be accredited in the financing system, and registered in DOAJ – no hybrids!
  - HEIs will only get a refund if they have an OA fund! (No fund, no refund)
  - Sufficient funds to cover 50 per cent will be set aside for the duration of the scheme

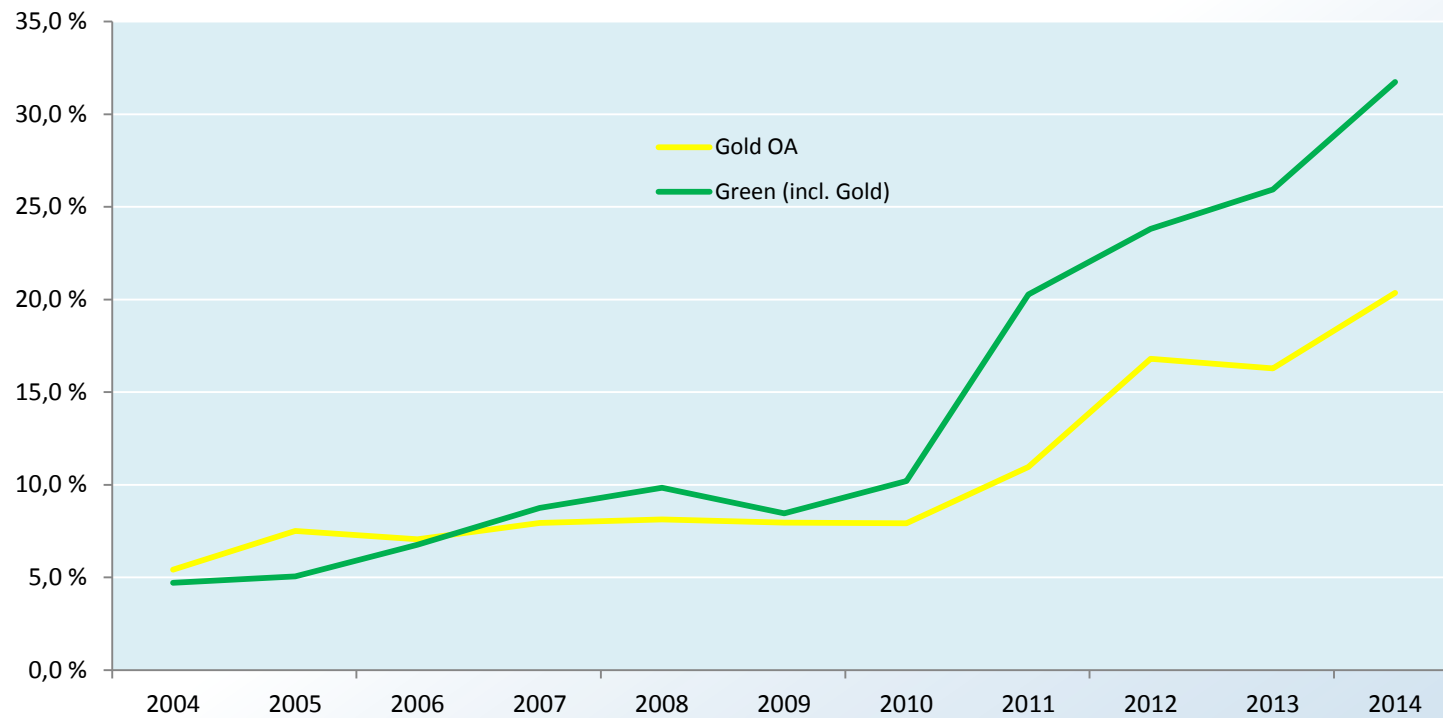
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- Institutions received about 3 mill NOK for 2014
    - Indicates spending of NOK 6 mill
    - Strong growth expected
      - Funds are new
      - New funds expected, and existing ones will cover larger parts of the sector
      - Growth in use of gold OA
  - OA costs expected to be included in overheads from 2020 on, as subscriptions are today
    - The NRC scheme to help transitioning to Gold OA
  - NRC will continue to support both green and gold OA, without having a preference for the one or the other
    - But no hybrids!



# Do OA publication funds work?

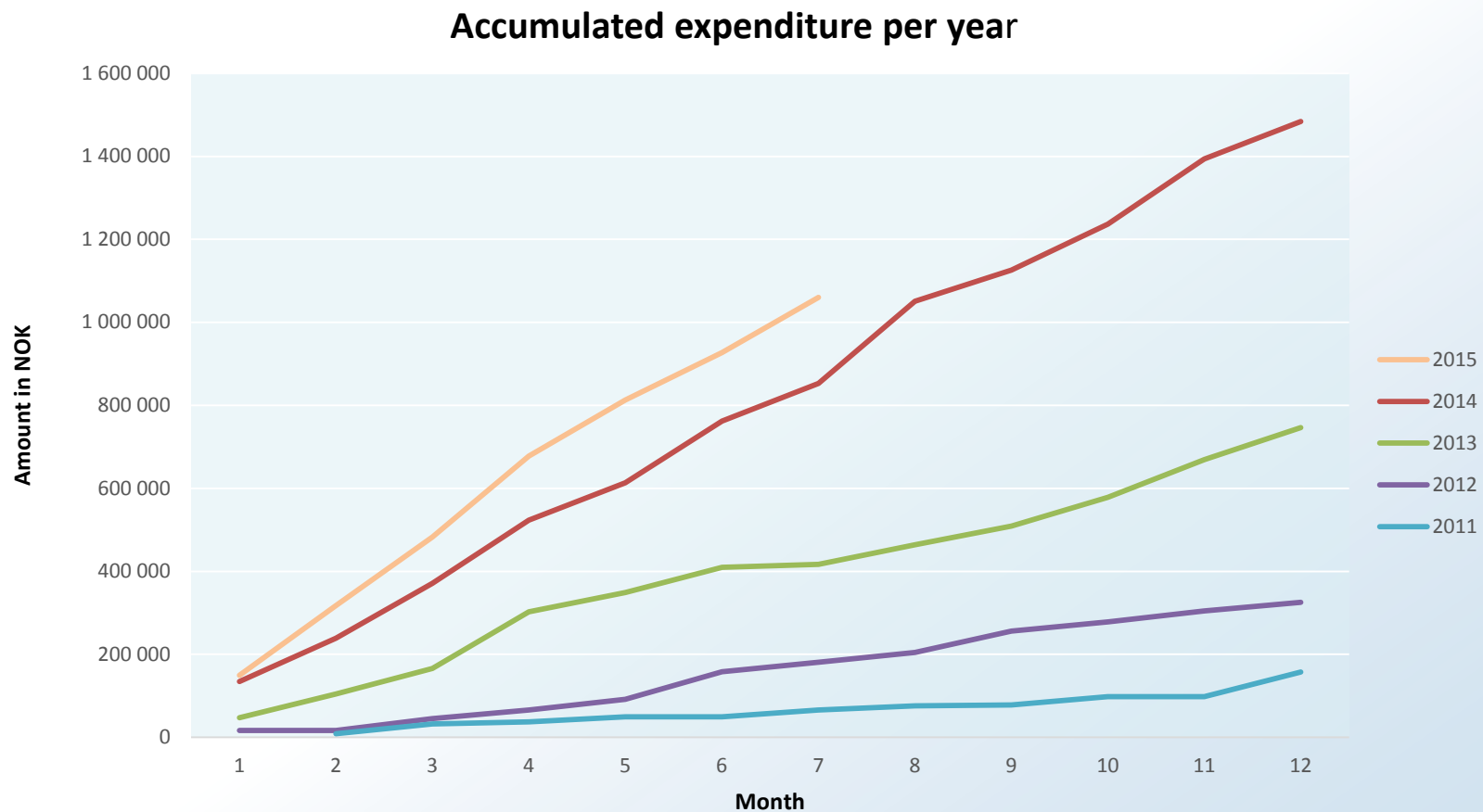
## The UiT fund started 2011 ...

Development of Open Access publication by  
UiT The Arctic University of Norway 2004–2014  
Share of all published articles





# The development of the UiT fund



# More about Open Access:

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- The 10<sup>th</sup> Munin conference
  - <http://site.uit.no/muninconf/>
  - 30<sup>th</sup> November–1<sup>st</sup> December 2015 at UiT campus
- The annual conference on scholarly publishing at the University Library of Tromsø – usually with an OA angle
- In English
- This year's keynotes:
  - Randy Schekman, a Nobel Prize-winner in Physiology or Medicine 2013
  - Stuart M. Shieber, the faculty director of the Harvard Office for Scholarly Communication
  - Sabine Hossenfelder, assistant professor for high energy physics at Nordita in Stockholm
  - Peter Suber, Director of the Harvard Office for Scholarly Communication, Director of the Harvard Open Access Project
- <https://www.facebook.com/TheMuninConference>
- @MuninConf

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**If you have questions,  
you will often find the answer in the library.**

**So, feel free to contact us!**

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Leif Longva [leif.longva@uit.no](mailto:leif.longva@uit.no) +47 77 64 62 55

Jan Erik Frantsvåg [jan.e.frantsvag@uit.no](mailto:jan.e.frantsvag@uit.no) +47 77 64 49 50

Stein Høydalsvik [stein.hoydalsvik@uit.no](mailto:stein.hoydalsvik@uit.no) +47 77 64 63 46

Aysa Ekanger [aysa.ekanger@uit.no](mailto:aysa.ekanger@uit.no) +47 77 64 41 40

