

UiT

THE ARCTIC
UNIVERSITY
OF NORWAY

How to become top of the class in OA

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Where are we?



A short history

- Tromsø is the major town in Northern Norway
 - Population about 75,000
 - Friendship town: Zagreb!
- UiT The Arctic University of Norway used to be The University of Tromsø
 - Merged with a number of smaller institutions in the counties of Finnmark and Troms, and one in Nordland
 - 5 campuses in 5 cities in 3 counties
 - 11 libraries ...
 - Covers an area of 74,000 km² (Croatia 57,000)
 - Population 240,000 (Croatia 4,465,000)
 - Currently about 16,100 students, about 800 doctoral students
 - Covers all scholarly fields
 - 3,450 employees of which 1,400 researchers and teachers
- Traditionally the smallest and youngest of Norway's 4 classical universities

UiT and OA

1996: Report on printing and publishing activities. Recommendation that all publishing be done on the internet, making the content freely available

1999: Electronic Thesis and Dissertation – Pilot project based on ETD-system from Virginia Tech

2003: Started using Open Journals Systems (OJS)

2006: Institutional Repository Munin – based on Dspace.

The 1st Munin Conference – November 23rd

2008: Mandatory submission of master thesis

2010: Septentrio Academic Publishing – digital publishing of journals and other series

University of Tromsø principles for Open Access publishing – The University board October 14

UiT and OA ctd.

2011: Open access publication fund at UiT

2012: High North Research Documents – a discovery service for high north-relevant open access documents

2013: Mandatory submission of doctoral thesis

2014: TROLLing – The Tromsø Repository of Language and Linguistics – an open access archive of linguistic data and statistical code

2016: UiT Open Research Data – a general open access archive for research data from UiT.

DORA – UiT signs the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment

2017: UiTs principles for management of research data

DataverseNO – a general, Norwegian multi-institutional platform for open access research data archives

It is not done in one sitting – continuous and long-term work is needed.

Is a repository the solution?

- It is a start. No more, no less.
- 1st problem: Getting content into it.
 - Norway has more than 60 repositories
 - Most of them with less than 1000 items
 - At the start, we asked graduates to deposit their thesis there
 - The success rate was about 20 per cent
 - After a lot of work
 - Instituting a «no deposit, no degree» policy increased this
 - Theses cannot be evaluated unless they have been deposited
 - Authors can say «no» to making them available
 - Depending on subject, 70–80 per cent of theses are made available immediately
 - And some per cent at a later stage
 - And we spend no time getting them to deposit
 - Increasingly, the problem is processing the thesis through the system quickly enough

Repository ctd.

- Asking authors to upload their articles to the IR is asking them to do more administrative work
 - Not the way to become popular ...
- We have a national CRIS (Cristin)
 - Mechanisms were developed to allow uploading of full-texts there, after automatic registration of metadata
 - Full-texts and metadata then exported to relevant IRs
 - Little extra work for authors, consistent metadata
 - Still hard work to make them do it
 - Now: A new national policy creates financial incentives to do this
 - That always helps!

Repository ctd.

- 2nd problem: What about readers?
 - No point in content, if it isn't read!
 - Readers did not sit on our doorstep, asking «What's new today?», we discovered
- Make your content easy discoverable
 - OAI-PMH for easy harvesting
 - Norway created (2006?) NORA, a national harvester making all Norwegian IR content available at one point based on OAI-PMH
 - <http://nora.openaccess.no/>
 - This also became the single point of harvesting for national and international services, like DEEP (DART Europe E-thesis Portal) and Oria, the national HE library system
 - Google Scholar – visibility, citations
 - DOIs would also increase visibility – metadata exported to library services through CrossRef
 - «Fat» metadata – good keywords, abstracts etc.

Journal publishing

- The 1996 report pointed to a lot of publishing activities, un-coordinated and not necessarily very successful ...
- Started using OJS in 2003 as a stand-alone project for a linguistics journal
- During 2007–2009 some editors of traditional, paper-based journals contacted the library to get help
 - Journals showing an annual loss
 - Journals facing being closed down
- We established Septentrio Academic Publishing as a general publishing service for journals and series connected to UiT
 - <http://septentrio.uit.no/>
 - Must be OA
 - Today 8 scholarly journals and a handful of internal series
- There was a lot of learning to be done for us
 - Also teaching editors and authors how e-publishing on the internet is different from paper publishing

Journal publishing ctd.

- Finding readers the challenge for us at the library
 - (Finding content a challenge for editors)
- Again: Standards!
 - OAI-PMH
 - Giving DOIs to anything that could be read
 - Ensuring distribution of metadata to library services
 - Especially important for journals/series not accepted by DOAJ
 - Indexing by Google Scholar
 - Listing in DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)
 - Depositing article level metadata in DOAJ also ensures distribution of metadata to library services
 - OA-friendly licenses – CC-licenses mandatory for our content, CC BY recommended
 - An informative and correct listing in SHERPA/RoMEO
- Data from Google Analytics indicates readers coming through library services stay longer and read more than other readers, especially those coming from Google.

Journal publishing ctd.

- DOAJ re-application process
 - A horrible task!
 - But also an opportunity
 - We worked with all editors to improve journals
 - All but one went for CC BY-licenses, the last for CC BY-NC
 - We ensured long-term archiving via PKP
 - We had DOIs, now also iThenticate through CrossRef
- All 7 journals were re-accredited
 - Septentrio also has a number of series not listed in DOAJ for various reasons
- All got the DOAJ Seal
 - A sign of technically good OA
 - Only 1 other Norwegian journal in DOAJ with DOAJ Seal

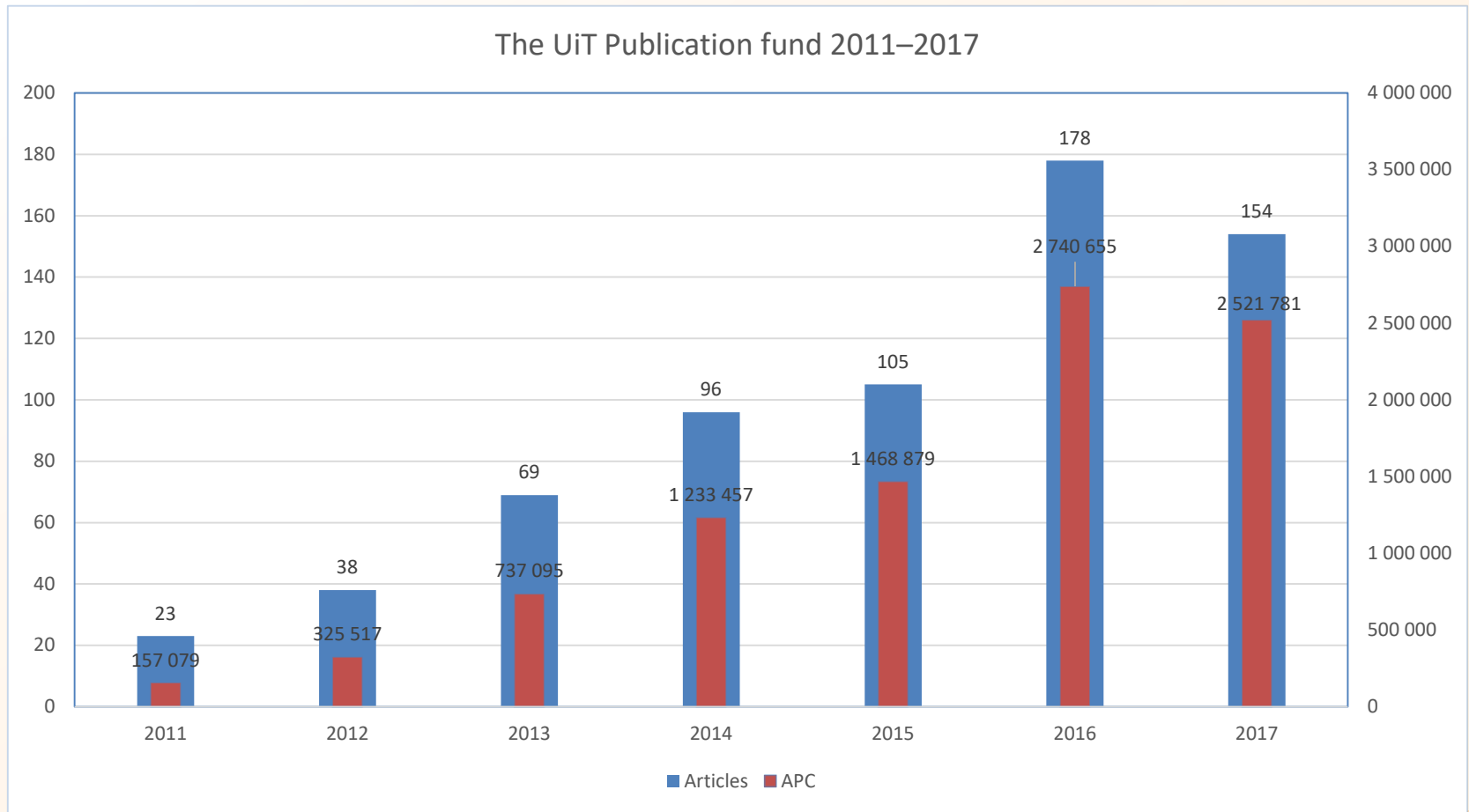
Open Data

- Linguists came to us in 2013 wanting a service where they could deposit and publish data and R scripts
 - For sharing and citing
- We decided to develop a dedicated service using Dataverse from Harvard
 - TROLLing: The Tromsø Repository of Language and Linguistics opened 2014
 - <https://dataverse.no/dataverse/trolling>
 - An international service for the linguistic community
 - Putting some of our library linguists to the task of curating data
 - Reasonably successful
- Changed into an institution-wide service 2016, as we met demands from authors for such a service
- We were the first to actually establish such a service, others made plans and documents ...
 - More institutions are now looking at using our service instead of creating their own
 - University of Agder have started to use our service for their authors

Publication fund

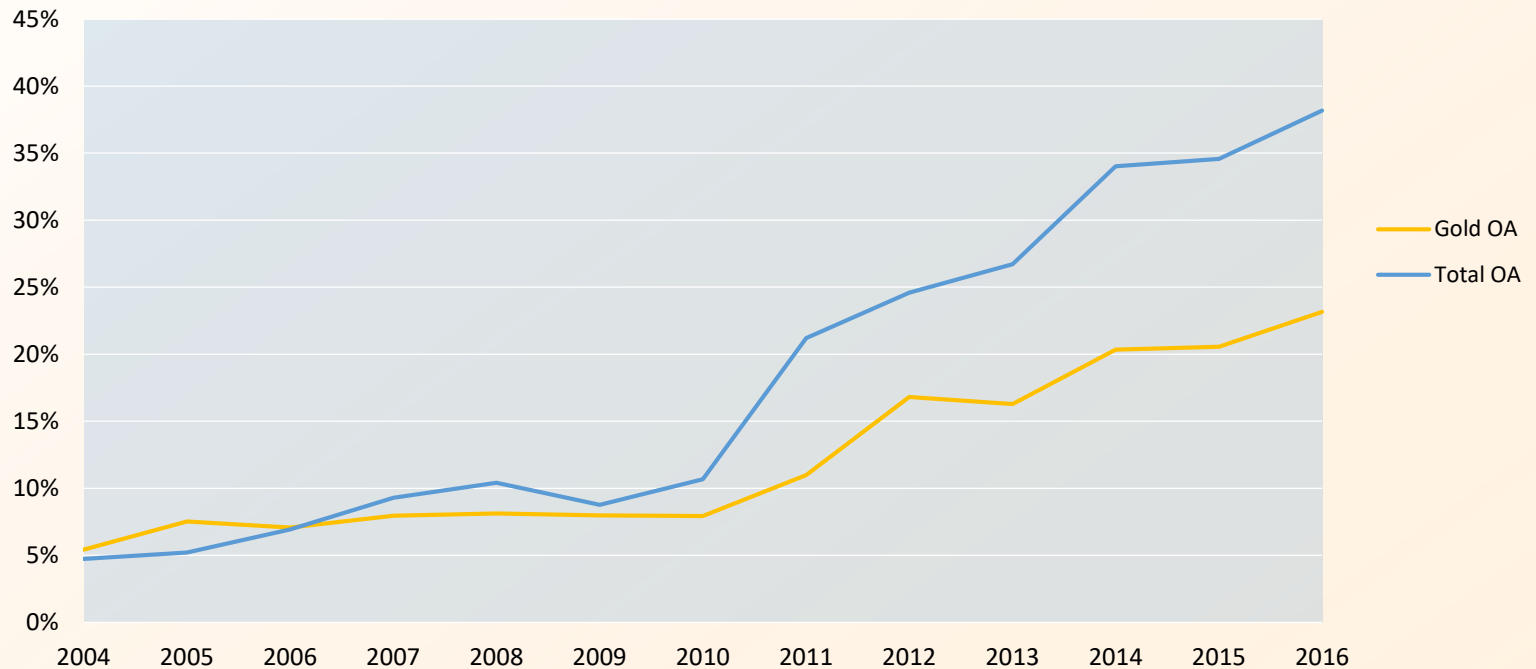
- Established to enable authors to meet demands for APCs, to enable more OA publishing
 - Only in OA journals, no hybrids
 - Eligible journals must be listed in DOAJ to ensure real OA
 - And in the Norwegian Register for Scientific Journals, Series and Publishers to ensure editorial quality
- Started out with a budget of NOK 300,000 (HRK 240,000) from the University Board, only half of it used, in 2011
- 2017 budget is NOK 1,400,000 (HRK 1,120,000) supplemented with about NOK 800,000 (HRK 640,000) from the Research Council
 - And it will probably not be enough ...
- Financing about 75–100 gold OA articles published in 2017
 - This is only part of all OA publishing at UiT (1/5 ?)
 - Rest paid by local or external funding, or published in free-to-publish OA journals – or paid by other institutions, having the corr.author

Publication fund



OA publishing at UiT

**Development of Open Access publication by
UiT The Arctic University of Norway 2004–2016**
Share of all published articles



Other things we did

- Engaged in debates on OA on campus, nationally and internationally
 - Self-archiving
 - Publishing
 - Research evaluation
- Prevailed on institutes and faculties to get a chance to talk to groups of researchers
 - But also ensnaring them as single «victims» over a cup of coffee
- Worked with others
 - Many important things started with other Norwegian institutions, esp. NORA which we headed 2008–2010
- Ensured we were visible and trustworthy
- Some of our activities were initiated by the users, knowing us as a source of competence
 - Very little has been «pushed» on users
- We have tried to learn
 - We realize we never will know enough

Results

- We are one of the leading Norwegian institutions (no. 2 of 9) when it comes to the percentage of content available as OA
 - Both regarding scholarly articles and theses
 - But others want to battle with us for position ...
- We have a well-functioning publication fund that we think has inspired others
 - All state HE institutions now have a fund
- Our publication service has transformed a number of journals
 - Some of which would have been discontinued without us
 - Have made them more professional regarding publishing
 - Some also transformed from internal series to scholarly journals
- Our Data Repository has also become popular with our researchers

Some reflections

- Open Access success is not very much about putting content on the internet
- Open Access success is all about embedding content in an OA infrastructure, connecting content to other services
 - Making content findable and (re-)usable to users, where users look for content
 - They won't come looking to you, so don't spend too much time on fancy website design. It is more important to be indexed by Google Scholar ...
- You need top-level support to do this job
 - We had support from the Library Director and from the Rectorates over many years – and still have
 - More than 3 FTEs working on OA
- You cannot expect results overnight
 - We have used 20 years so far

Future work?

- Offsetting deals
 - Will probably make a major change in the OA landscape
 - Need deals with OA publishers, too
 - OA will start cannibalizing the literature budget ...
- Research(er) evaluation
 - Current practices a major obstacle to a switch to OA
- Green OA still needs a lot of (hard) work
- Open data just started
- Depositing article references as data to CrossRef, and making authors deposit references as separate data files will be important in the future
- Creating mechanisms to advise readers and authors on which journals are good, will be increasingly important
- You will never be able to do (good) enough work on your publishing activities
 - Journals always could become better and more beautiful and reach out better
- We haven't started on Open Educational Resources yet ...

More information?

- The 12th Munin conference
 - <http://site.uit.no/muninconf/>
- 22nd–23rd November 2017
- The annual conference on scholarly publishing at the University Library of Tromsø – usually with an OA angle
- An international conference, all in English
- This year's keynotes:
 - Sarah de Rijcke**, Leiden University.
 - Martin Paul Eve**, University of London and the Open Library of Humanities.
 - Timothy Gowers**, University of Cambridge.
- Flier available – just ask! 😊

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Thank you!

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