Improving and Supporting Scholarly Communication: the University of Patras digital publishing and archiving initiatives

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University of Patras

- Founded in 1966
- Four schools: engineering, natural sciences, humanities & social sciences, health sciences
- 22 departments, ≈ 20,000 students
- 756 faculty members
- 700 employees
- Ranked 3rd in size among Greek universities
Library & Information Center (LIC)

• Founded in 1966
• Library building of $\approx 9,000m^2$
• Medium size collection (130,000 items)
• Fully automated services
• Member of HEAL-Link (Hellenic Academic Libraries- Link) consortium
• Member of LIBER & IATUL
• Leading role in Open Access in Greece
Context: national level (1)

- 33 academic and 15 research institutes
- Publications: Huge increase last 10 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Articles / Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SOCIAL SCIENCES</strong></td>
<td>946 1.159 1.097 1.076 970 827 826 714 667 624</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ARTS &amp; HUMANITIES</strong></td>
<td>113 127 117 112 77 89 94 92 101 89</td>
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<td><strong>Source: Scopus, 27/4/2010</strong></td>
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5th UNICA Scholarly Communication Seminar, 7-9 November 2010, Lisbon
Mainly published in international journal titles

Publishing in Greek language and titles:
- language limitations, audience & market size
- until recently focus on social & political sciences, economy, literature, arts & culture
- Now days it’s a bit more attractive for researchers to publish in Greek e-publications (can communicate their works to a wider audience)

The last 5 years: significant increase in e-publishing activity which followed up the fast development and success of Institutional Repositories

Books: Exclusively print format

At the end of 2009 only 3 publishers with initiatives on e-books were reported - On May 2010 this number raised to 16!
### Greek scientific journals overview 2009-2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Total titles</th>
<th>Peer review titles</th>
<th>Titles in Digital format (full text)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>121</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Humanities</strong></td>
<td>207</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>78</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>328</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>163</td>
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Context: national level (4) – Open Access

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<tr>
<td>STM</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
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</table>

- 21 journals in DOAJ (April 2010) – *14 titles on March 2009*
- 21 Intitutional Repositories (17 OAI-PMH)
- More than 200 active digital resources

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Context: national level (5) – Who’s publishing Open Access?

- Current major players in Digital Scholarly Communication & OA: societies and academic institutions
- Academic Institutions were pioneers in OA with IRs and Digital Collections
- Academics also lead the way in OA publishing: ≈ 30% of OA e-journals – Know-how & content!
- Private publishers still not in the game of e-publishing (few exceptions in medicine and law) - OA: It’s not an issue for them yet!
- Main funding sources for OA: public funding and sponsoring
  - Secondary sources: membership and ads for societies
- On the other hand subscriptions for Scholarly Journals is not a considerable income (maybe with the exception of some medicine and law titles)
University of Patras publications 2004-08 (In ISI indexed Journals)

Source: Greek scientific publications 1993-2008, National Documentation Center, Athens, 2010. (Data from Thomson Reuters, NCR Greece)

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University of Patras publications’ distribution/subject 2004-08
(In ISI indexed Journals)

- Social Sciences
- Agricultural Sciences
- Medical & Health Sciences
- Engineering & Technology
- Natural Sciences

Source: Greek scientific publications 1993-2008, National Documentation Center, Athens, 2010. (Data from Thomson Reuters, NCR Greece)
• Humanities & social sciences faculty needs
  – Important gaps & obstacles in Social Sciences & Humanities publishing & scholarly communication
  – Lack of publishing platforms
  – Need for support, resources and CONTENT!

• University’s wider interests
  – (re)establish publishing activities
  – Scholarly Communication Support Service
  – Promote/support OA (Berlin Declaration, BioMedCentral membership, SCOAP³)
• University’s wider interests (continued)
  – Intergrated and fully automated services
  – Systematic indexing and management of faculty’s research output + Dissemination & Analysis tools and services (CRIS, Repository, Historical Archive, etc)
  – Strengthen relations with local communities & organizations

• LIC strategic interests
  – Increase & Preserve digital content
  – Promote OA/Provide e-publishing services
Our approach: some principles

• Collaboration with content holders and know-how
• Use open standards and technologies
• Use and support of open source software
• Open Access to the content.
• National + International Partnerships
• Dissemination of the university’s research output to the community
• Long-term preservation
Action Areas

• Policies & administrative support & services

• Communal activities & collaborations

• Publishing & archiving
OA policies & support (1)

• Thesis Mandate policy (2005)

• OA recommendation policy on archiving staff’s publications in IR (June 2009)

• Berlin Declaration signatory 2009

• BioMed Central supporter member since 2009 (50% discount in article Processing charges) – 61 articles until 2009, 25 articles in the last year!

• Member of SCOAP³ consortium
OA policies & support (2)

- Alhambra Declaration on Open Access,
  - A communication and cooperation network between OA stakeholders (administration, universities, libraries, scholars, publishers) in Southern Europe countries (France, Greece, Spain, Italy, Portugal and Turkey) for the advancement of common OA policies in every country. A initiative of Southern European Libraries Link-SELL and Fundacion Espanola para la Ciencia y la Tecnologia - FECYT

Communal activities

- Directory of Greek Digital Resources
  - Monitoring of scholarly communication and OA in Greece - Annual reports
      [http://nemertes.lis.upatras.gr/dspace/handle/123456789/2637](http://nemertes.lis.upatras.gr/dspace/handle/123456789/2637)
    - Pilot operation since 2008! Further funding for upgrade to full operational conditions is about to approved!

- OJS/OCS Greek translation services & support

- Greek Dspace Users Wiki

- Opening «Pasithee» platform to the community for hosting and publishing support for Greek scientific OA journals.

- Planned:
  - Collaboration with DOAJ for the initial screening of Greek OA journals [as Hellenic Academic Libraries Link (HEAL-Link) representative]
  - Co-ordinator of national academic CRIS services project (through HEAL-Link).

5th UNICA Scholarly Communication Seminar, 7-9 November 2010, Lisbon
Preservation & Dissemination of UPatras research output

- “Nemertes” Institutional Repository
  - http://nemertes.lis.upatras.gr/
  - MSc & PhD theses, technical reports, articles, etc.
  - DSpace
  - 3,577 full text records so far (September 2010)

- Future plans/projects
  - Integration with CRIS (planned for 2012)
  - Massive indexing and import of faculty’s publications (planned to start on 2011 depending on available resources…)
  - Digitization & indexing of UPatras Historical Archive
Digital Archives: creating & delivering content (1)

• First efforts back in 2004 (Kosmopolis)
  – Digitization & indexing of 14 historical Greek literature journals (19th and beginnings of 20th century)
  – First OAI-PMH collection in Greece (with custom software!)
  – Implemented in collaboration with UPatras’ Dpt. of Philology and Greek Literature & Historical Archive (ELIA), a not-for profit organization.
  – Indexing on article/item (icons, photos, advertisements etc) level
  – Covered the need of philologists for unrestricted access to valuable content + Search and retrieval services
Digital Archives: creating & delivering content (2)

• Kosmopolis re-launched on 2007
  – on an OJS (Open Journals System) platform
  – A PKP standard-ised open source application supported by a global users community
  – About 50,000 items – Project completed in 2006
  – The first Greek collection to Europeana!
Pleias is the continuation of Kosmopolis project in a wider content/subject context.

- 36 various 19th and early 20th century journals
  - Most of them come again for the collection of Greek Literature & Historical Archive (ELIA)
  - Currently about 66,000 items
- An on-going project – Archive keeps updated with new content on a project basis model through various collaborations with content holders
  - http://xantho.lis.upatras.gr/pleias/
- Also on OJS platform
• Daniilida
  – Old journals published in the area of Patras
  – A collaboration with Municipal Library of Patras (Content holder)
  – Currently only 488 items
  – On-going project (further funding is needed!)
  – http://xantho.lis.upatras.gr/daniilida/
  – OJS too…
Dexameni: Greek Journals Storage (1)

• Digital archive for Greek scholarly journals
  – A pilot project to implement JSTOR practice for Greek titles
  – http://xantho.lis.upatras.gr/dexameni/
  – Currently two (philosophy) journals
    • Axiologika (1990-2002) and Deukalion (1970-1995)

• Operational model:
  – Contacts & negotiations with the Editorial Board/Copyright holder/Publisher for setting up the system, processes & moving wall for content web (OA) delivery
  – LIC role: digitization (if needed), indexing, administration & maintenance of the platform, content preservation
Results so far:

- Titles only from humanities (as initially planned)
- Board members are getting enthusiastic with the idea of going digital and the potential of a wider dissemination of their work/content
- but,
  - Time demanding procedures – especially at the negotiation level
  - Difficulties to get a clear picture of the whole idea and the processes (e.g. moving wall)
  - Complications with commercial publishers (when involved)
  - Difficulties to meet deadlines for content updates
- Satisfactory acceptance and usage so far, but there are serious considerations for transforming to fully e-titles → Pasithee
e-publishing (1): Pasithee platform

• Based on OJS
  – SaS model
  – Three journals so far:

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<tr>
<td>Society &amp; Theory</td>
<td><a href="http://societyandtheory.lis.upatras.gr/">http://societyandtheory.lis.upatras.gr/</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

  – Two more are on the way…
  – All titles so far published by University Research Units & Teams but service is available for any scholar title
  – http://xantho.lis.upatras.gr/pasithee
e-publishing (2) : Pasithee platform

• LIC provides expertise and infrastructures

• To do’s:
  – Digitize, provide and guarantee access, provide infrastructures, preserve, instruct

• Possible to do (if asked):
  – Marketing, dissemination of content (harvesters, aggregators)

• To NOT do’s:
  – Review, copyedit, parallel print and distribute, financial management,
e-publishing (3) : Pasithee platform

• LIC also:
  – Contacts and negotiates with the Editorial Board and analyzes requirements and expectations
  – Sets up the system and the editorial processes
  – Instructs and supports the Editorial Boards
  – Administrates and maintains the platform
  – Preserves the content

• Business model:
  – LIC share covered by LIC budget
  – Second thoughts for alternative business model for “external” journals
• Greek Academic libraries have already gained a key role in OA as well as in scholarly communication issues (and publishing!)
  – Scholars although more and more enthusiastic on OA, are still doubtful and certainly not leading the way!

• Wide dissemination of our content (OAISTER, BASE, Europeana, Scientific Commons, etc)

• More to do on OA advocacy and education on institutional and national level

• Find and adopt ways to promote the self-archiving idea between faculty in institutional and national level as mandates seem rather unlikely to be adopted or being successful,
  – e.g. changes in faculty evaluation procedure, selective dissemination and publicity for OA publications, integration of CRIS with IRs
Discussion (2)

- Funding/Supporting Gold OA publications
- Need for more private publishers involvement in digitization and indexing of back files and e-publishing
- Need for more automation and standardization in e-publishing procedures
  - OJS is used widely as well as other custom applications. More use, investment and development on OJS is expected in the short term
- More work on policies issues
- Budget re-allocation towards OA (e.g. OA author fees)
- Need to apply sustainable business models
Thank you