

# Scholarly Societies and Open Access Publishing

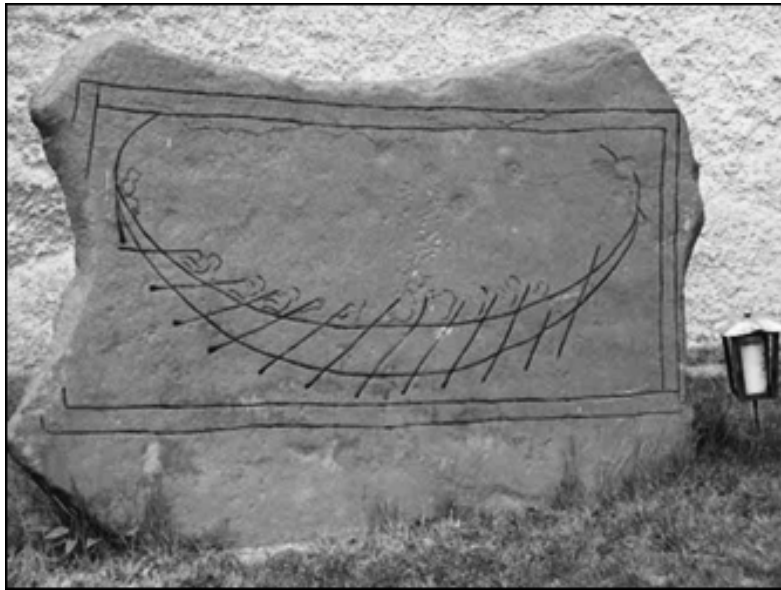
## International & Nordic Experiences

*Presentation based on an ongoing project carried out by  
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# Why study scholarly societies?



- Scholarly societies have an important historical role in publishing
- Very little available information on the actual experiences of societies who have launched OA journals or transitioned journals to OA
- ALPSP study from 2005 main information available, but now outdated in addition to some limitations

# The Study

Phase 1 is to make a comprehensive list of scholarly societies worldwide that support gold OA for their own journals. The journals might be full OA or hybrid OA, and a society's relationship to the journals might be that of owner, publisher, or partner with the publisher. ([www.coaction.net/projects/OAsocieties](http://www.coaction.net/projects/OAsocieties)).

Phase 2 will survey the societies identified in Phase 1 in order to learn details about their transition to OA, their business models, and the financial and academic consequences of their OA policies.

# Goals

## 3 Goals:

1. To test the widespread Impression that learned societies feel threatened by OA;
2. To learn details from the societies with Gold OA experience that might help those without;
3. To help societies find similarly situated, OA-friendly societies to engage in dialogue with.

Statistics per 17.04.2008  
Focusing on Full OA Journals

# Total Number of Journals

Full Open Access journals: 517

Hybrid Open Access journals: 76

A total of 593 society journals published in English are linked to Open Access!

An additional minimum of 139 journals can be added to the full OA list if we extend to other languages (Portuguese – 72, Spanish – 63, German – 3, French – 1, Norwegian – 1)

# Total Number of Societies

- 469 societies publish 517 full OA journals
- In some cases societies co-operate on journals; there are examples of 3, 5 and even 9 societies involved with one journal
- 11 societies publish the 76 hybrid OA journals
- 3 societies publish both types of journal
- The total number of societies involved in OA publishing is **477**

# Countries & Regions



USA	100	Croatia	10
India	88	Korea	9
Japan	85	Australia	7
International	40	Brazil	7
Europe	32	China	5
Canada	19	Finland	5
UK	13	Poland	5

**A total of 59 countries and regions are represented among FULL OA journals**

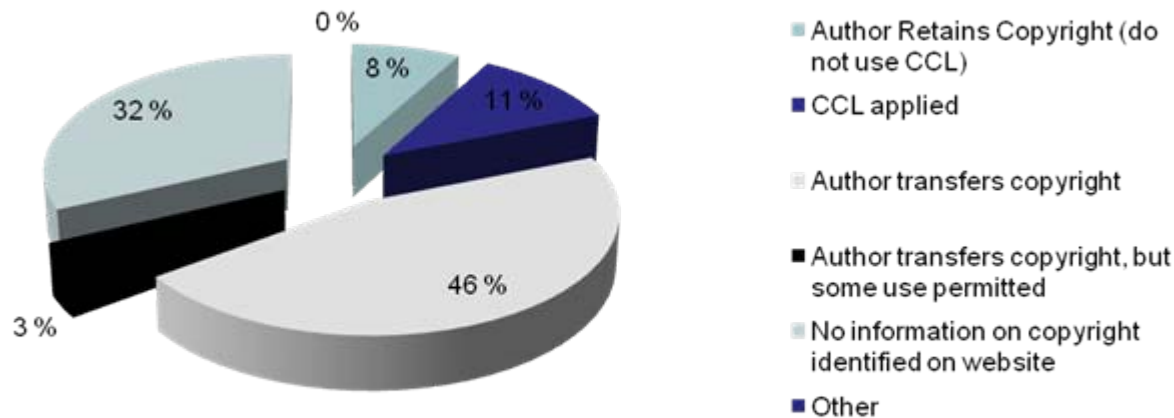
**Only 6 countries are represented among hybrid OA journals with the US and UK accounting for 93% of these journals.**

# Professional Publishing Partners- Full OA

**145 (24%) of the full OA journals are published by professional publishers (staff employed full-time, dedicated to publishing activities)\***

Medknow	60
BioMed Central	23
Copernicus	15
Hindawi	10
PLoS	1
Co-Action	1

# Copyright – Full OA



Of the 55 journals that use a CCL, 50 are published by the professional publishers: BMC, Hindawi, Copernicus, PLoS, Co-Action Publishing

# Fees

Submission Fees Only	4
Publication fee/APC only*	100
Both Publ and Sub fee	7
Other	3
Total charging fees	114 (18%)

\*Of these, 41 (36%) are published by professional publishers;  
43 (38%) are based in Japan

Among UK journals, only 1 journal operates with fees, and these are voluntary. Of the 100 USA journals, only 11 charge fees.

# Subscription Revenues

202 (39%) full OA journals also sell a print edition

Of these, 40 journals also charge some kind of fees

# Fields Represented

## FULL OA JOURNAL

STM	428	83%
Social Sciences	51	
Humanities	33	
Multi-Disc	9	
Arts	6	

## HYBRID OA JOURNALS

STM	74	97%
Social Sciences	2	
Humanities	0	
Multi-Disc	0	
Arts	0	

# A Few Questions

- How are societies funding OA? There appear to be various models.
- Are there financial motivations behind the society journals on this list? That is, is the journal a means to generate income for other activities or do other activities generate income for the journal?
- How do societies approach copyright? The actual list contains nearly 300 different varieties of copyright/licensing. Are many societies naive about the issue? Japan and India are leading the way with OA, but Japan demands transfer of copyright across the board, while India largely provides no information.
- Do cultural influences matter as OA moves forward? The cases of Japan and India raise questions, as do the level of full OA in the UK vs. Hybrid.

# Nordic Statistics and Observations

# Nordic Statistics

Denmark	2
Finland	5
Norway	1
Sweden	4

**The list includes 12 full OA journals from the Nordic region**

- There are approx. 150 societies in the Nordic region (Scholarly Society Project, 2003)
- At least 75 societies own or are associated with journals
- In many fields there are national associations that belong to a Nordic umbrella organization
- Often the national association publishes a journal in the local language and the Nordic organization publishes an international journal in English

# Nordic Fields With OA

- 7 journals in STM,
- 1 SS
- 3 HUM
- 1 ARTS
  
- Broad range of topics

TOPICS	
Business economics	Law
Medicine	Linguistics
Anthropology	Ecology
Forestry	Veterinary Science
History	Food Science
Computer Science	Geology

# Other Statistics

- Copyright – 10 give no information, 1 demands transfer, 1 use a CCL.
- Print edition - 5 offer a print edition in addition to electronic
- 2 charge a publ fee (only one of these also offers a print edition)

# Hybrid in Scandinavia

- Only 1 identified
- Medicine, STM
- Provides different pay rates based on sliding OA window that moves from immediate to 6 month delay.
- Copyright appears to be transferred even if author pays the OA fee.

THANK YOU!