

Open Access Scholarly Publishing  
in the Humanities and Social Sciences  
– a Scandinavian approach

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[www.mtp.dk](http://www.mtp.dk)

# The Scandinavian situation

Five countries (approx. 25 mill. inhabitants)

Five main languages

Many scholarly publishers (approx. 10 in Denmark plus  
publications from learned societies)

Publishing areas: Mainly Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS)

Publishing genres: Mainly monographs/anthologies

# Problems in Scandinavian Scholarly Publishing

## Two problems for scholarly publishers in Scandinavia

- small language area → small sales for books in national languages
- high international distributors' discounts for books in international languages → low revenue for international titles

# Museum Tusulanum Press / Museum Tusulanums Forlag



## Traditional Scholarly Publishing (International and Danish)

- Founded 1975 as an independent scholarly press
- Located at the University of Copenhagen
- Main subject areas: Humanities, Social Sciences, and Theology
- Publishing genres: monographs, anthologies, series, journals, dissertations, text editions and translations of historical texts
- Approx. 50 new peer reviewed monographs and anthologies pro anno (of which several are two and three volume books) and 10 journals
- Has published in more than 15 languages – on average approx. 60% in Danish, 30% in English
- Backlist of 1300+ titles
- 12 employees on salary (some full time, some part time) + volunteers

# Museum Tusculanum ePress

## E-publishing

- Pioneer in digital publishing in Scandinavia since 2002
- Established an online bookshop for e-books and printed books (2004)
- First to develop DRM for e-books based on FileOpen/Adobe (used by British Library today)
- First in Denmark to join international aggregators' collections (2004)
- First to join Google Book Search in Scandinavia (2005)
- First to sell e-Licences (of e-monographs and e-journals) to Danish research libraries (2007)
- Has participated in several international digital pilot projects

# Financing Structure of Museum Tusulanum Press



Commercially Operating Foundation

Book production is primarily based on foundational grants  
(mainly from private foundations)

A three-year-term-at-a-time agreement with the University of  
Copenhagen since 2005 → rent paid + minor financial  
contribution

Sales of books, e-books, and services locally and internationally

Financial contributions from project partnerships

# Participation in international Open Access projects



NOAP – Aiding Scientific Journals towards Open Access  
Publishing

OAPEN – Open Access Publishing in European Networks

H-prints – e-print archive for Nordic arts and humanities

# NOAP

Nordic Open Access Publishing



## Aiding Scientific Journals Towards Open Access Publishing

Consortium Partners:

Lund University Library, Linköping University Press, University of Tromsø, CoAction Publishing, University of Oslo, University of Helsinki, Federation of Finnish Learned Societies, Copenhagen Business School Library, Museum Tusulanum Press

Supported by Nordbib (Nordic Council)

Duration: 2007-2009

[www.ub.uit.no/wiki/noap](http://www.ub.uit.no/wiki/noap)

The logo for NOAP, consisting of the lowercase letters "noap" in a bold, green, sans-serif font.

Nordic Open  
Access Publishing



# OAPEN

Open Access Publishing in European Networks



OA monographs in the Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS)

Consortium Partners:

Amsterdam University Press, Göttingen University Press, Manchester University Press, Presses Universitaires de Lyon, University of Amsterdam, Leiden University, Firenze University Press, Muse

Supported by the EU

Duration: 2008-2011

[www.oapen.org](http://www.oapen.org)



# Hprints

Hprints is an Open Access repository aiming at scholarly documents from the Arts and Humanities and Social Sciences

Partners: Copenhagen University Library (The Royal Library) (Denmark), University of Copenhagen (Faculty of Humanities) (Denmark), Lund University Library (Sweden), University of Oslo (Norway),

Funded by Nordbib (Nordic Council)

[www.hprints.org](http://www.hprints.org)



# Conclusion

Scandinavian academic presses publish mostly monographs in HSS (hardly any STM journal publishers)

Publishers are still needed in scholarly communication

- some as service providers
- some as e-publishers
- some as full range book publishers (printed books/POD, e-books, open access books)

OA publishing is not cheaper than traditional publishing

Publishing in small language areas is particularly expensive

- for vernacular languages due to small consumer market
- for foreign languages due to high translation costs and distributor discounts

OA publishing demands re-distribution of funds in the scholarly community

OA publishing is democratic and just

Museum Tusculanum Press is ready for negotiating OA co-operation and production models

Link to paper

“Open Access Scholarly Publishing  
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by

Marianne Alenius

Full text version of paper given at the IARU Workshop, January 2010

<http://www.mtp.hum.ku.dk/details.asp?eln=202970>

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Thank you for your attention!