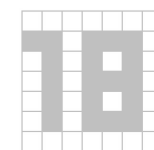


# **the Future of University Presses and University Libraries: an 'Open Access in European Networks' (OAPEN) approach**

**18th Hellenic Academic Library Conference**  
November 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> 2009

**Saskia C.J. de Vries**  
Amsterdam University Press



## Academic BOOK publishing in a digital age

- Academic books as result of academic research
- Mostly in the Humanities and Social Sciences: 60-80% of all output in those areas
  - Obvious need for those research results to also become available as widely as possible so why not in Open Access
  - Academic monograph is already in danger because of the so called “serials crisis”: since the 1970 s, libraries have had to dedicate most of their (too small!) resources towards journal publications in STM
- So let s make sure that the transition of academic publishing into OA doesn't further harm the monograph - and with it academics in the Humanities and Social Sciences-, as long as the monograph is the mostly used method of dessionimation in HSS

## Outline presentation:

- the value of University Presses
- academic publishing in a digital age
- Open Access Publishing in European Networks  
([www.oapen.org](http://www.oapen.org))
- the situation in the Netherlands
- pilot Open Access Monograph Publishing
- what is the role of University Libraries in this?

## The Value of University Presses

- University Presses make available the full range and value of research generated by university faculty.
- University Presses sponsor work in specialized and emerging areas of scholarship that do not have the broad levels of readership needed to attract commercial publishers.
- University Presses, through the peer review process, test the validity and soundness of scholarship and thus maintain high standards for academic publication.
- University Presses add value to scholarly work through rigorous editorial development; professional copyediting and design; and worldwide dissemination.

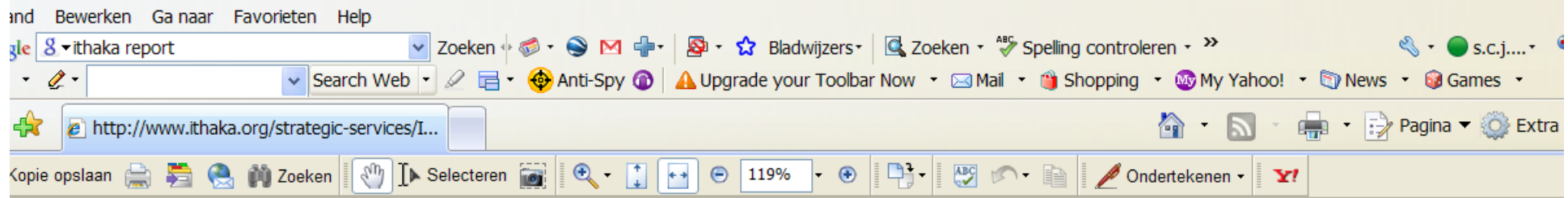
From the website of the Association of American University Presses: [www.aaupnet.org](http://www.aaupnet.org)

# University Presses have always been a service to the academic world

- Mostly in Humanities and Social Sciences HSS
- Mostly in Book publishing
- Because in these fields, the market was too small for commercial publishers
- but the results of high quality research in the HSS still had to be disseminated in a professional way

# Open Access Publications

- Offer a very important new way of dissemination of research results, so that is why University Presses are automatically involved in it **but**
- even more important: OA publications give academics new possibilities for doing their research



ITHAKA REPORT

# University Publishing In A Digital Age

July 26, 2007

Authors:

*Laura Brown, Rebecca Griffiths, Matthew Rascoff*

## Ithaka Report: University Publishing in a Digital Age

The Ithaka Report argues that a renewed commitment to publishing in its broadest sense can enable universities to more fully realize the potential global impact of their academic programs, enhance the reputations of their institutions, maintain a strong voice in determining what constitutes important scholarship, and in some cases reduce costs.





The EU project Open Access Publishing in European Networks is a direct result of two developments:

- universities worldwide that start treating the publishing function as an important, mission-centric endeavor (again!)

- and the possibilities the world wide web creates for a new way of ‘book’ publishing in Open Access



## Main Goal

**OAPEN will create an Open Access publication network for publishers and other stakeholders involved in academic publishing within research in Humanities and Social Sciences.**



## The Consortium

- Seven university presses  
Amsterdam UP, Leiden UP, Firenze UP, Manchester UP,  
Gottingen UP, Kopenhagen UP, Lyon UP
- Six countries (Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain,  
Italy and the Netherlands)
- Two universities, as technology and research partner  
University of Amsterdam,  
University of Leiden
- Aimed at academic publishers in Humanities and Social  
Sciences
- Building a network around OA publishing for stakeholders  
within the academic community

## The network



Association of American University Presses - AAUP Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition - SPARC Europe - IMISCOE - International Migration Integration Social Cohesion - Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Universitätsverlage - Purdue University Press - Atlantis Press - Institute of Economic Analysis & Prospective Studies at Al Akhawayn university - Igitur, Utrecht Publishing & Archiving Services - Université Libre de Bruxelles - Editions de l'Université de Bruxelles - Verlag der Österreichischen Akademie der Wissenschaften - PolimetricaLedizioni - Ledipublishing - Forlaeggerforeningen - Danish Publishers Association - Open Humanities Press - Academia Press Unipub - Oslo Academic PressAkademie Verlag - Brill Publishers - IOS Press - KITLV Press - Universitat de Valencia - National Documentation Centre (EKT), National Hellenic Research Foundation (NHRF) - Open Book Publishers - Aksant - SPARC - Oxford University Press - Athabasca University Press - University of Calgary Press - Pickering & Chatto Publishers - JISC collections



## Key Objectives

- To create and aggregate freely available peer reviewed HSS publications from across borders within an Online Library
- To improve the accessibility and impact of European research in HSS through the promotion of OA for primary publications
- To engage stakeholders in the publication process
- To develop common funding models
- To adopt common standards and metadata to improve retrievability and visibility of HSS publications

# Focused Studies



- Study on User Needs  
Identify specific needs in HSS publishing. Overview of attitudes and needs of stakeholders, survey among specific target audiences including a synthesis of existing studies on the subject. Study based on interviews with representatives of users in different countries and disciplines, meeting with ESG
- Study on OA Models for books  
Basic inventory of initiatives and attitudes towards OA book publishing. Desk research, interviews with stakeholders and experts, meeting with ESG

# The situation in the Netherland

The Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO) announced **last week** that it wants academic publications to be in Open Access on the internet, freely available for everybody. The organisation that finances Dutch research with 500 million euro's a year, has decided to allocate 5 million euro for 2010 to pay for the costs of OA publications –

It is considered a true break-through in the Netherlands!

## European Pilot for Open Access Publishing of academic books in the Humanities and Social Sciences

- New initiative alongside OAPEN:
- Main goal: establish a framework for OA monograph publishing in various European countries, thereby promoting OA for academic books in the areas of HSS and helping these areas catch up with OA developments in other areas, in particular journal articles and STM



## European Pilot for Open Access Publishing of academic books in the Humanities and Social Sciences

- In order to test under market conditions, the pilot will be complemented by an OA publication fund open to publishers in a number of European countries
- Any country can join in with approx. 100.000 euro for 3 years for authors and publishers in their own country, in order to help academic monograph publishers experiment with OA bookpublishing ...
- Maybe Greece should join the pilot? More information on it with Eelco Ferwerda:  
[e.ferwerda@aup.nl](mailto:e.ferwerda@aup.nl)

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## The Library in the New Age

By [Robert Darnton](#)

1.

Information is exploding so furiously around us and information technology is changing at such bewildering speed that we face a fundamental problem: How to orient ourselves in the new landscape? What, for example, will become of research libraries in the face of technological marvels such as Google?

How to make sense of it all? I have no answer to that problem, but I can suggest an approach to it: look at the history of the ways information has been communicated. Simplifying things radically, you could say that there have been four fundamental changes in information technology since humans learned to speak.

Somewhere, around 4000 BC, humans learned to write. Egyptian hieroglyphs go back to about 3200 BC, alphabetical writing to 1000 BC. According to scholars like Jack Goody, the invention of writing was the most important technological breakthrough in the history of humanity. It transformed mankind's relation to the past and opened a way for the emergence of the book as a force in history.

The history of books led to a second technological shift when the codex replaced the scroll sometime soon after the beginning of the Christian era. By the third century AD, the codex—that is, books with pages that you turn as opposed to scrolls that you roll—became crucial to the spread of Christianity. It

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## Robert Darnton on the role of the University Library in a digital age

Meanwhile, I say: shore up the library. Stock it with printed matter. Reinforce its reading rooms. But don't think of it as a warehouse or a museum. While dispensing books, most research libraries operate as nerve centers for transmitting electronic impulses. They acquire data sets, maintain digital repositories, provide access to e-journals, and orchestrate information systems that reach deep into laboratories as well as studies. Many of them are sharing their intellectual wealth with the rest of the world by permitting Google to digitize their printed collections. Therefore, I also say: long live Google, but don't count on it living long enough to replace that venerable building with the Corinthian columns. As a citadel of learning and as a platform for adventure on the Internet, the research library still deserves to stand at the center of the campus, preserving the past and accumulating energy for the future.

# One last new initiative: Association of European University Presses


- Forty academic presses from twelve European countries came together in Frankfurt three weeks ago to discuss the foundation of the Association of European University Presses.
- At that meeting it became obvious that there is a new kind of University Press being set up from within Libraries. We think this is due to the fact that in addition to the *digital* content that the Libraries are disseminating through their repositories, there is a need for *printed* versions as well.

## Conclusion

With the renewed interest from academia itself to be involved in Open Access dissemination, University Libraries and University Presses have a whole new role to play, and preferably together!

- If you are interested to become a network partner of OAPEN, to receive more information on our Pilot for OA monograph publishing or to know more about the European University Press Association that is being set up, look at [www.oapen.org](http://www.oapen.org) or contact me at [s.c.j.devries@aup.nl](mailto:s.c.j.devries@aup.nl) or Eelco Ferwerda at [e.ferwerda@aup.nl](mailto:e.ferwerda@aup.nl)

# Thank you for your time!



**open**  
Open Access  
Publishing in European Networks

**Open Access Publishing in European Networks**

OAPEN is a project in Open Access publishing for humanities and social sciences monographs. The Open Access movement has developed rapidly in the sciences and in journal publishing. The consortium of University-based academic publishers who make up OAPEN believe that the time is ripe to fully explore the possibilities of Open Access for the humanities and social sciences.

The OAPEN partners all currently have some involvement in the Open Access movement, and you are encouraged to view their pages on this site and on their own sites.

It is expected that this project will find useful, exciting and beneficial ways of publishing scholarly work in Open Access, enhancing access to important peer reviewed research from across Europe.

The partners:

- [Amsterdam University Press](#)
- [Georg-August Universität Göttingen](#)
- [Museum Tusulanum Press](#)
- [Manchester University Press](#)
- [Presses Universitaires de Lyon](#)
- [Firenze University Press](#)
- [University of Amsterdam](#)
- [Leiden University](#)

View a PowerPoint demonstration about the OAPEN eContentplus project [View now](#).

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