Why a Scholarly Communication Working Group?
Why Scholarly Communication Seminars?

Because of

- the journal prices crisis
- the constrains to the accessibility of scientific publication produced by the universities
- the university libraries are under a continuous adaptation process in order the support the learning and research function within a continuously changing environment
- Survival is not mandatory, neither given nor guaranteed
The journal prices crisis

Serials Expenditures

+374%

Monograph Expenditures

+86%
Has the situation been changed?

- According to LISU the increase in median journal prices for **12 scholarly journal publishers 2000-2004** varied from
  - 27% (Cambridge University Press)
  - 94% (Sage)

- The same period the inflation rate was, on average
  - 2.5%
The aims of Scholarly Communication seminars

- to put in common our experiences in a new professional framework
- to acknowledge the enormous effects that the new economic and scholarly communication management models have for our institutions
- to outline concrete proposals which will be able to solve these new problems
- The recommendations and the conclusions of the seminars have been sent to the
  - European Commission,
  - scientific and political authorities
  - UNICA members.
6 biennial seminars in 6 European Capitals

1st seminar – Madrid 2002, Universidad Complutense de Madrid
"The Future of Scholarly Communication"

2nd seminar – Vienna 2004, Universität Wien
"F@ir Publishing & F@ir Reading"

3rd seminar – Helsinki 2006, University of Helsinki
"Trends in Education and Research: Developing Skills & Communication across Europe"

4th seminar – Prague 2008, Charles University
"Partnership in Academic Excellence"

5th Seminar: Lisbon 2010, Universidade Nova de Lisboa
“Find it, Get it, Use it, Store it”
6th UNICA Scholarly Communication Seminar
Brussels
26-27 November 2012

“Libraries As Drivers for Change”

The Seminar has reached its limit of number of participants. The registration is now closed and there is no waiting list.
University teaching and learning practices as well as information technologies shape the evolution of libraries regarding their services, spaces and contents.

The seminar will address visions of the university library from different points of view:

- what is the academic leadership vision of the library?
- what is the ideal library seen by students?
- which services are expected by researchers?
- how are professors using library collections and spaces as learning support and teaching environment?
Based on these **different visions**, the seminar will look at how libraries design their services to meet the users’ **changing needs** and how to reconcile the different visions exploring ways of

- redefining library **contents**
- developing **collections** in times of change
- dealing with **open linked data** and sustaining **open access publications**
- identifying the **skills** required both from users and of librarians to fit in the library of the future
- rethinking library **spaces**, from refurbishing an old library, through preparing, building and opening a new one
Serials crisis and Scholarly communication

Any progress in EC level?

• Contract Clause 39 FP7 and ERC: papers originated from EC funded research have to be open accessible via Open Access repositories
• Projects: DRIVER, OPENAIRE, OPENAIRE plus
• Studies on the publication market in Europe
• Green papers on open access...
To support broader innovations, such as social innovation.

However, the introduction of new ideas and solutions to the communities, including the academic community, elicits reflection on the issues of accessibility.

UNICA recommends that the EU funding tools take account of libraries and learning centres as driving forces in the elimination of the scientific information gaps and contributing to the full exploitation of the collective potential of European research.

In this context, UNICA is willing to bring its considerable experience from its Scholarly Communication Working Group and the UNICA Scholarly Communication Seminars, organised biennially since 2002.
Statistics show that

- there are approximately 800 publishing houses in Europe that publish almost half of the world's research articles.
- European researchers publish roughly 43% of the research papers produced across the globe.
- The Open Access pilot will ensure open access to a significant amount of scientific articles resulting from research funded under FP7.

[Link to EU website]
Study on the economic and technical evolution of the scientific publication markets in Europe
Online survey on scientific information in the digital age
With regard to dissemination through research publications, open access shall apply under the terms and conditions laid down in the grant agreement.

With regard to dissemination of other results, including research data, the grant agreement may lay down the terms and conditions under which open access to such results must be provided, in particular in ERC frontier research or any other appropriate areas.

The UNICA Contribution to the formation of the European Libraries future