Open Access Electronic Publishing Services in Academic Libraries
The case study of University of Patras

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IFLA Satellite Pre-Conference, Open Access to Science Information, Trends, Models and Strategies for Libraries
The Change of the Library

- Crossroads
  - Economic crisis and social challenges.
  - Pressure and responsibilities.
- New media, new services and new contexts forward library transformation.
- Libraries traditionally managed journals, but can they publish them?
The Library as Publisher: Successful Examples

- Examples:
  - Cornell University Library, DPubS
    - An instance: Project Euclid (with Duke University Press)
  - University of Michigan Library, Scholarly Publishing Office
    - An instance: Journal of Electronic Publishing
  - Open Humanities Press (partnership with UML, SPO)
    - An instance: Parrhesia
- Solid endeavors with varied business plans.
- Instances are different in continent and country.
Focus of the Presentation

- Our presentation focuses on a case study of e-publishing by an academic library.
- We present a lightweight and viable program of e-publishing and e-journals archiving
  - to forward Greek scholarly resources,
  - to disseminate scholarly research,
  - with an underlying task to increase OA awareness.
E-Publishing in Greece

- ‘Weak’ activity
  - Numbers:
    - ~300 scientific journals / 100 online / 80 OA
    - ~160 peer reviewed / 86 online / 70 OA
- Mainly by societies and academia
- Rare cases of commercial publishers
E-Publishing in Greece

- **Channels**
  - Websites (custom/propriety applications used)
  - Institutional repositories
- **The former provide limited services:**
  - Static websites
  - Incompliant with OA standards and technologies
  - Limited range of services for the users
  - Undefined or non-transparent business models
  - Unspecified preservation policies and practices
Context of E-Publishing Project

- University of Patras:
  - Absence of Digitization Center
  - Absence of University Publishing House

- Library and Information Center, University of Patras:
  - Berlin Declaration Signatory.
  - SCOAP3 Initiative Supporter.
  - BIOMED Central Supporter.

- LIC’s Infrastructure and Expertise gained through EU Funded R&D project Telephaessa.
Aim and Scope

- The aim of our e-publishing program is to support institutional scholars to publish their journals and to preserve their content.
- We extended the program to cover the ‘back-files’ of important scientific journals.
Process

- We called interested parties to engage in discussions.
- No strings attached (almost)
  - OA
  - Editorial work and peer review
Outputs

- “Pasithee”
- E-publishing platform
  - Three journals
    - Society and Theory
    - Electra
    - Patras Working Papers in Linguistics
  - Published by University Research Units and Teams
  - Link: xantho.lis.upatras.gr/pasithee/
Outputs

- “Dexamene”
- Digital archive for Greek scholarly journals
  - Two journals
    - Axiologika (1990-2002)
  - Link: xantho.lis.upatras.gr/dexameni/
Business Plan

- LIC provides expertise and infrastructures to interested parties.
  - To do’s: Digitize, provide and guarantee access, provide infrastructures, preserve, instruct.
  - Possible to do (if asked): Consult, marketing.
  - To not do’s: Review, copyedit, parallel print and distribute, manage subscriptions.
Business Plan in Detail

For “Pasithee”:
- Contacts and negotiates with the Editorial Board and analyzed user requirements.
- Sets up the system and the editorial processes.
- Instructs and supports the Editorial Boards.
- Administrates and maintains the platform.
- Preserves the content.

For “Dexameni”:
- Contacted and negotiated with the Editorial Board or the Copyright holder.
- Set up the system and the indexing processes.
- Digitized the content (when needed).
- Inserted metadata and indexed resources.
- Administrates and maintains the platform.
- Preserves the content.
System

- Open Journal Systems, OJS
  - Well known journal management system.
  - A wide range of services.
  - Translated and configured by LIC.
  - Used in all OA platforms with periodicals.
Conclusions

- A lightweight publishing program that can disseminate and preserve digital scholarly resources.
- A learning process that opens many avenues for cooperation.
- In the UoPatras context:
  - Institutional interventions are needed.
  - Strengthen the role of the library.
  - Explore new/alternative business models.
  - Evaluate the effect of publications.
- We believe this example shows that R & D programs in libraries can capitalize.
- Challenges and Problems.
  - Limited resources
Thank you

- Questions?