Licensing and open access: FinELib’s experiences

Terhi Manninen and Anu Alaterä
The National Library of Finland/FinELib
14.6.2018
FinELib

- is a **consortium** comprising Finnish universities, universities of applied sciences, public libraries and a number of research institutes and special libraries

- is a part of the services of the National Library of Finland for the Finnish library network

- acquires both Finnish and international electronic resources for the needs of research, education, and learning

- negotiates license agreements centrally on behalf of its member organisations
Consortium principles and framework

Licensing principles

Steering group

Service agreements

FinELib strategy

Licence agreements on behalf of consortium members with publishers

Publishers, service providers

Other consortia

Researchers

Funders

International organizations
Goals for negotiations:

- Affordable Pricing
- Access to large collections of scholarly journals
- Terms of use appropriate and easy to understand
- Transition to Open Access without extra costs
Challenging goals - new approaches

- Open access an important goal since 2016
  - Support needed from the Finnish and international scientific community
- More communication about the negotiations
  - News, tweets
  - Presentations
  - Articles
- Alternative Access plan
- Data and results
Working together as scientific community

THE COST OF SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS MUST NOT GET OUT OF HAND

[UPDATE 2016-12-21] Elsevier and Finland's higher education and research institutes have agreed on one year's extension to negotiations on electronic journals. Similar extensions have been agreed on with Wiley and American Chemical Society. More time is needed in order to find a solution for advancing open access. Deals covering

NO TO ELSEVIER'S UNFAIR DEALS
Current agreements with Open Access elements

- Sage:
  - 80% discount on hybrid APCs

- Taylor & Francis:
  - 60% discount on hybrid APCs

- Elsevier:
  - 50% discount on hybrid and gold APCs

- LWW:
  - a set number of free vouchers

- Emerald:
  - a set number of free vouchers
Work outside the negotiation table

- OA workflow
  - Should be easy
  - Should be as automatic as possible
    - For researchers and libraries
  - Should provide clear data
- Data
  - From publishers
  - From research systems
  - From organizations accounting systems
- Transparency
Transparency

- Act on the Openness of Government Activities
  - Trade secrets/confidential information may not be divulged
- Researchers demand transparency of agreements
  - Court case 2015
  - 2 FOIs regarding agreements in 2018
- Ministry of Education and Culture collects yearly data on the costs paid to scientific publishers ([2016 dataset](http://tiedonhinta.fi/en/2018/04/04/finnish-researchers-are-calling-for-improved-transparency-in-academic-journal-pricing/))
- FinELib and other Nordic endorse LIBER’s principles and aim to meet them in publisher negotiations
News + tweet

Evaluate
- Court ruling (price), public info, standard statements=>not secret
- Use expert
- Communicate with publisher

Inform members

Publish
- Redact as necessary

Contact publisher
- Total price per member
- Agreement text

No objections

Objections

Contact members
- Permission reg. price

No objections

Obligations
No objections

Obligations

Contact publisher
- Total price per member
- Agreement text
Way forward

- Work continuing on OA policy and goals on national level in Finland: [UNIFI Open Science and data project](#)
- International collaboration needed on different questions and levels
More information:

- Website: [http://finelib.fi/](http://finelib.fi/)
- Twitter: [@finelibpalvelu](http://twitter.com/finelibpalvelu)
Thank you