

## **Long-term preservation of Open Access Journals secured**

The Directory of Open Access Journal (DOAJ) - Lund University Libraries and the e-Depot of the National Library of the Netherlands (KB) today announced the start of a cooperation in order to secure long-term preservation of open access journals. The Swedish Library Association is generously acting as sponsor.

Long-term preservation of scholarly publications is of major importance for the research community. New formats of scholarly publications, new business models and new ways of dissemination are constantly being developed. To secure permanent access to scientific output for the future, focussed on the preservation of articles published in open access journals, a cooperation between Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ - [www.doaj.org](http://www.doaj.org)), developed and operated by Lund University Libraries and the e-Depot of the National Library of the Netherlands ([www.kb.nl/e-Depot](http://www.kb.nl/e-Depot)) has been initiated.

The composition of the DOAJ collection (currently 4000 journals) is characterized by a very large number of publishers (2.000+), each publishing a very small number of journals on different platforms, in different formats and in more than 50 different languages. Many of these publishers are – with a number of exceptions – fragile when it comes to financial, technical and administrative sustainability.

At present DOAJ and KB carry out a pilot project aimed at setting up a workflow for processing open access journals listed with DOAJ. In the pilot a limited number of open access journals will be subject to long term preservation. These activities will be scaled up shortly and long term archiving of the journals listed in the DOAJ at KB's e-Depot will become an integral part of the service provided by the DOAJ.

### **Directory of Open Access Journals**

Directory of Open Access Journals is developed and maintained by Lund University Libraries, Head Office since 2003. The service aims to give users a one-stop-shop to quality controlled, scientific open access journals in full text. DOAJ is the authoritative source for open access journals with over 8 million monthly hits, up to 4000 journals published in almost 100 countries. "We are very proud of engaging in these activities, that will add more value to Open Access journals and we appreciate a lot the cooperativeness of the National Library of the Netherlands with regard to the e-Depot, the most experienced and qualified partner we imagine in this regard" says Lars Björnshauge, Director of Libraries at Lund University, Sweden, "and of course we are very thankful that the Swedish Library Association graciously has decided to fund these activities".

## **The e-Depot**

The e-Depot of the National Library of the Netherlands is a digital archiving environment that ensures long-term access to digital objects which would otherwise be threatened by rapidly evolving software and hardware platforms as well as media decay. It is the dedicated archiving environment for the KB's national electronic deposit collection. In addition, it will include the Dutch web archive and digitised master images. In line with the international nature of information provision, the KB has extended its e-Depot services to international publishers worldwide (now 12 million objects). The e-Depot is supported by sustained research and development efforts geared towards maintaining the integrity of stored digital objects. "The content of the DOAJ collection contains many new, specific aspects to overcome. We are sure that we can rise to the challenge, working together for the benefit of present and future generations", says Marcel Ras, Manager e-Depot.

## **The Swedish Library Association**

"The Swedish Library Association is very happy to support this project. This is a very specific manifestation of the Association's engagement in supporting long term access to publicly funded research publications", says Britta Lejon, chairman of the Swedish Library Association.

The Association works actively for an implementation of a national policy for libraries and library services in Sweden. In its program for a national policy the Association has among other policy areas included intensified activities in securing Open Access to research publications.