

# Transformative agreements and their headaches: New roles for librarians



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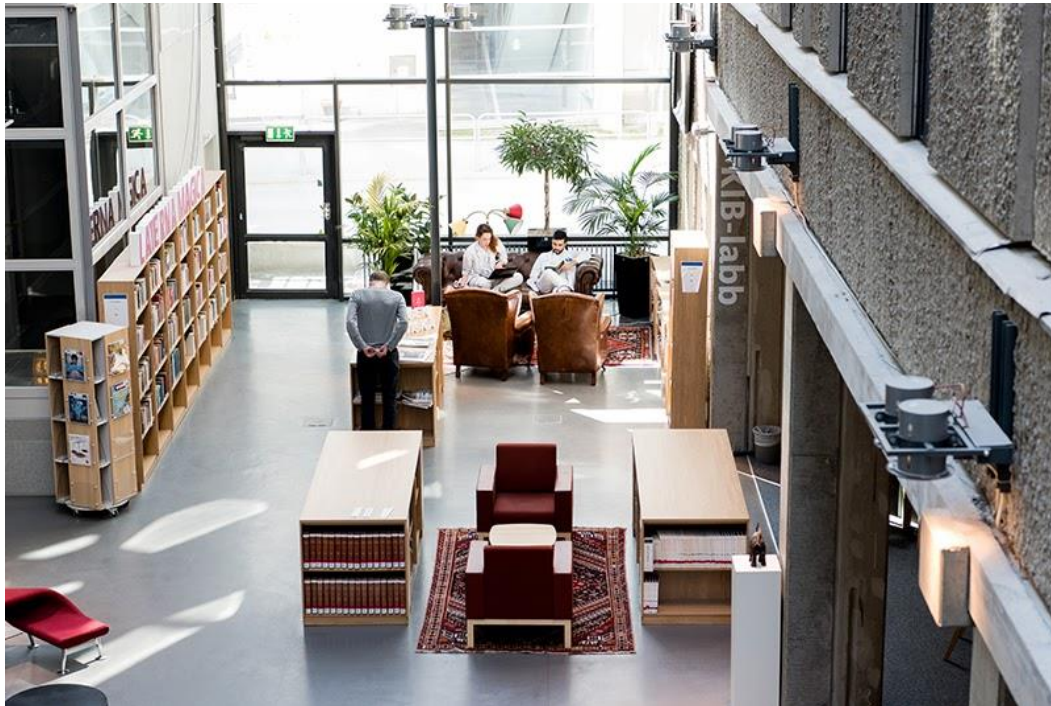
- Founded in 1810
- FTE 5.962
- Employees 4.654
- Researchers 1.700
- Publications in 2019 total 6.810 - whereof 4.768 OA (70% OA)
- Two campuses, north and south of Stockholm
- 22 departments in Medicine and Health Sciences



- Founded in 1996
- FTE 6.448
- Employees 746
- Researchers 489
- Publications in 2019 total 261 – whereof 151 OA (58% OA)
- One campus, south of Stockholm
- 6 departments in Humanities, Social Sciences, Technology, Sciences

# Karolinska University Library

- 110 employees, 5 who work with transformative agreements.
- Media budget 50 million SEK



# Södertörn University Library

- 33 employees, 1 who works with transformative agreements.
- Media budget 9 million SEK



# What is the situation in Sweden?

- Swedish government - publicly funded research open by 2026
- Swedish research funders demand Open Access
- Many new TA:s (transformative agreements) in a short time



**National Library  
of Sweden**



# Transformative agreements via Bibsam

## Karolinska

2018: 3 agreements

2019: 7 agreements

2020: 12 agreements



## Södertörn

2018: 3 agreements

2019: 5 agreements

2020: 10 agreements



# What are transformative agreements?

- “Transformative agreements are transitional in that they seek a pathway for a shift away from payment to read and toward payment to publish.” (The Scholarly Kitchen)
- Most transformative agreements consists both of paying for the reading-part and the publishing-part.
- Different publishers have different solutions to create these agreements.

# Different types of transformative agreements

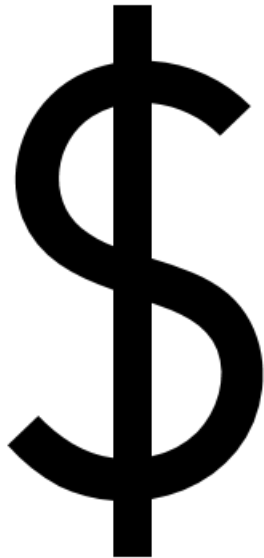
- Hybrid Open Access
- Hybrid and Fully Open Access

“Hybrid open access is only a temporary solution and part of the transition towards full open access publishing.” (Academy of Finland)



# Costs!

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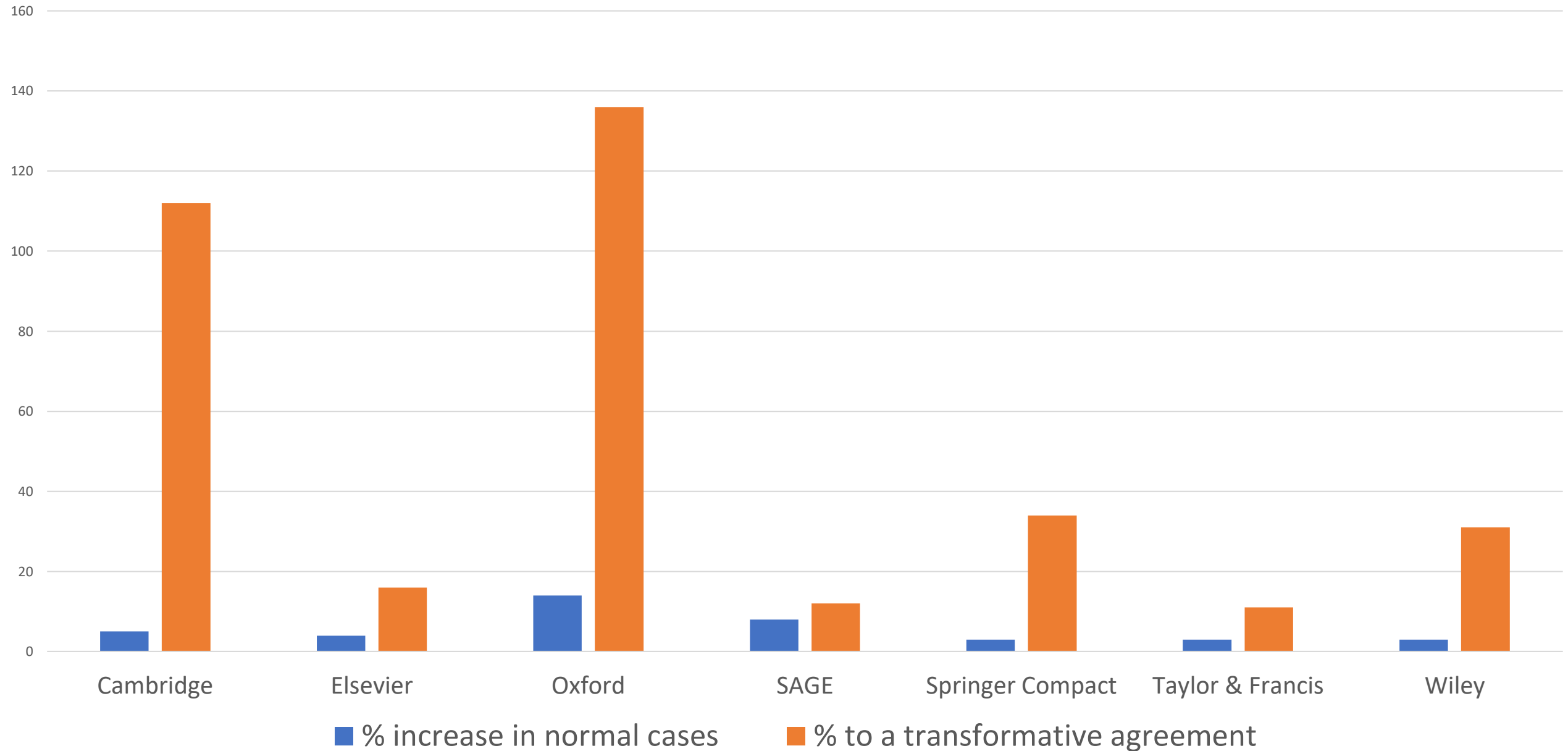
The cost includes

- Subscription fees
- Publishing fees

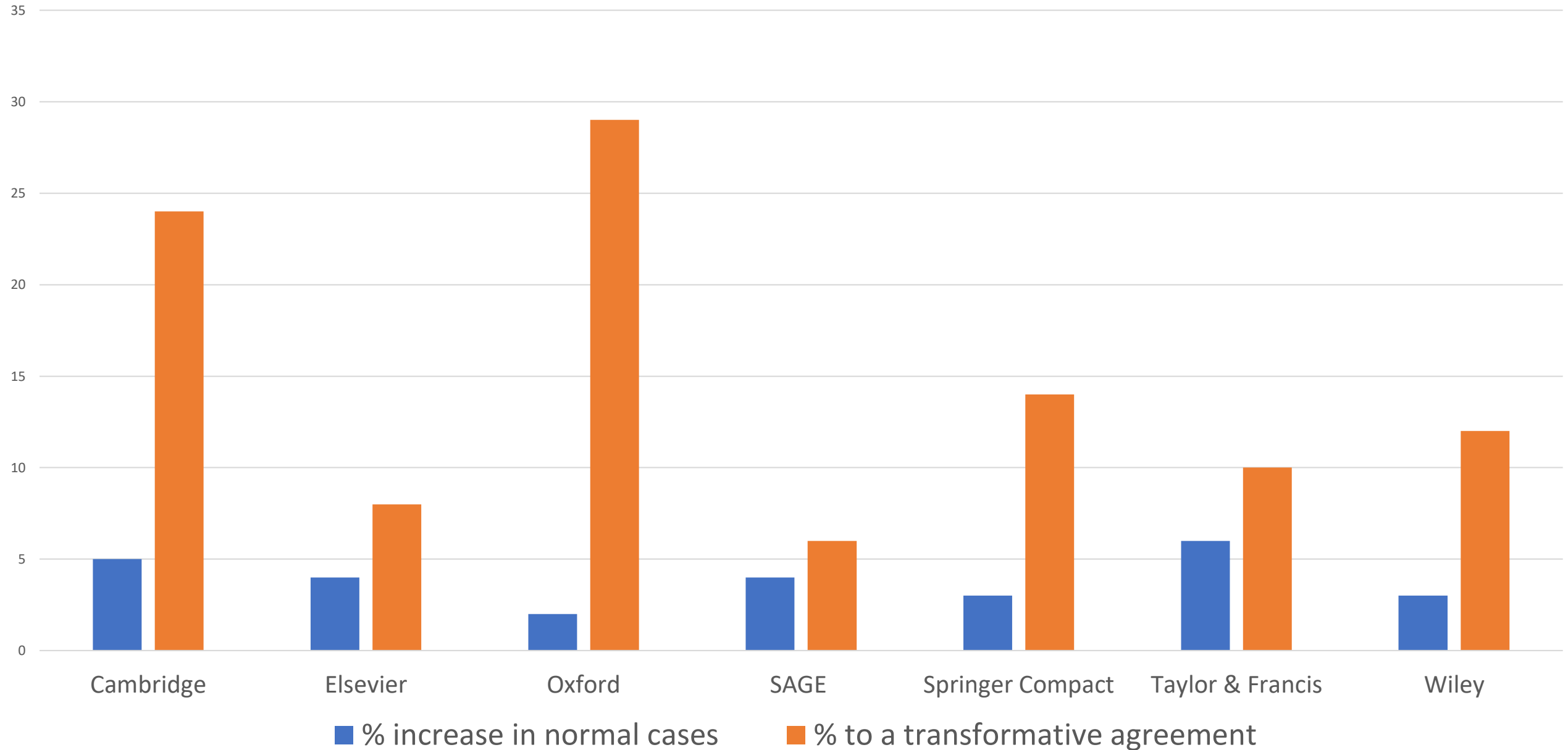
National level

- Model to allocate the costs
- Goal: APC:s (Article Processing Charges) fully covered by the agreement

# Karolinska institutet price increase as % from ordinary to transformative agreements



# Södertörn University price increase as % from ordinary to transformative agreements



# New role 1: “Approval Managers”

**SPRINGER NATURE**

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## Article Approval Service

New article available for verification

Dear Approval Manager,

The below article is currently awaiting verification from 'Karolinska Institute'

- Verify the author
- Type of publication

# Approval managers- how?

Each publisher has their own workflow:

- Dashboards
- Excel files
- Emails from the Bibsam Consortium
- Codes via email

## Södertörn University - Bidsam

*Please note: your consortium can view activity on this account including approvals, declines, and transactions*

### Accepted Articles

Search by Author Name, Article Title, Journal, Email, ORCID, DOI



[DOWNLOAD AS CSV](#)

Article Type: All

OA Profile: All

Funder: All

▼ EXPAND ALL

Surrogacy Relationships: A Critical Interpretative Review

Author	Journal Title	Article Type	OA Profile	Price	
	Upsala Journal of Medical Sciences	Review Article	Open Access	\$0.00	<a href="#">Approve</a> <a href="#">Decline</a>

## Pending Requests (0)

You have no pending requests

show all request history



## Approved Requests (38)

	Request Date	Request Status	Author Name	Journal	Amount	Journal Revenue Model	Publication Status
<a href="#">View</a>	11 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Acta Paediatrica	€2,125	Online Open	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	09 Dec 2019	Approved	[REDACTED]	BJS Open	€1,379	Open Access	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	05 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Clinical Case Reports	€539	Open Access	Under Review
<a href="#">View</a>	07 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Acta Paediatrica	€2,125	Online Open	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	07 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Paediatric and Perinatal Epidemiology	€2,975	Online Open	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	06 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Diagnostic Cytopathology	€2,054.45	Online Open	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	06 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Acta Paediatrica	€2,125	Online Open	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	05 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Acta Anaesthesiologica Scandinavica	€2,691.95	Online Open	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	05 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Pediatric Obesity	€2,975	Online Open	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	05 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	The FASEB Journal	€1,770.55	Online Open	In Production
<a href="#">View</a>	03 Feb 2020	Approved	[REDACTED]	Developmental Dynamics	€2,337.50	Online Open	Published in Early View

Account Summary as of:  
12 Feb 2020 11:32:42

- [?](#) Total Spent: €81,185.50
- [?](#) Pending Approval: €0
- [?](#) Under Review: €13,188
- [?](#) In Process: €0

### Request Statuses

- [?](#) Approved
- [?](#) Denied
- [?](#) Cancelled

### Publication Statuses

- [?](#) Under Review
- [?](#) Accepted
- [?](#) Rejected
- [?](#) Withdrawn
- [?](#) In Production
- [?](#) Published Online
- [?](#) Published in Issue

# Article Approval Service

Logged in as  
sara.parmhed@sh.se

0 Open

21 Approved

0 Rejected

Reporting

Sort By

Newest first



Hybrid

2020-01-18

Södertörn University

Migration as climate adaptation? Exploring discourses amongst development actors in the Pacific Island Region

- ✓ Selected - Södertörn University
- ✓ Email - Södertörn University

More details

Approved on 2020-01-22

Hybrid

2020-01-06

Södertörn University

Personal is Not Political? The Sexual Self in Russian Talk Shows of the 1990s

- ✓ Selected - Södertörn University
- ✓ Email - Södertörn University

More details

Approved on 2020-01-10

Hybrid

2020-01-06

Södertörn University

Post-Socialist Revolutions of Intimacy. Introduction

- ✓ Selected - Södertörn University
- ✓ Email - Södertörn University

More details

Approved on 2020-01-10



# Article Approval Service

Logged in as  
**publications@ki.se**

0 Open

672 Approved

42 Rejected

Reporting

Sort By

Newest first



Fully Open Access 2020-02-10

**Karolinska Institute**

Single-cell analysis of human ovarian cortex identifies distinct cell populations but no oogonial stem cells

✓ **Selected** - Karolinska Institute

✓ **Email** - Karolinska Institute

✓ **IP** - Karolinska Institute

More details

Approved on 2020-02-10

Fully Open Access 2020-02-08

**Karolinska Institute**

Genetic diversity of the intimin gene (eae) in non-O157 Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli strains in China

✗ **Selected** - State Key Laboratory of...

✓ **Email** - Karolinska Institute

More details

Approved on 2020-02-10

Fully Open Access 2020-02-10

**Karolinska Institute**

Increases in life expectancy are not limited to the healthy: A nationwide register-based study on the life expectancy development in subpopulations with a history of common diseases

✓ **Selected** - Karolinska Institute

✓ **Email** - Karolinska Institute

✓ **IP** - Karolinska Institute

More details

Approved on 2020-02-10

# New role 2: part of the publishing process



- Early in the publication process
- When submitting, when accepted
- Support the researcher without "interfering."

# New role 3: communicators about TA

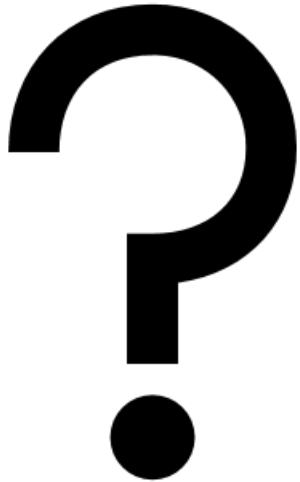
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- Create and update web pages describing the different agreements.
- Communicating about the transformative agreements in all sorts of forums.
- TA-support – questions about the agreements (and there are many...)
- Webinars: "publish open access without fees"

# Some of the questions we get

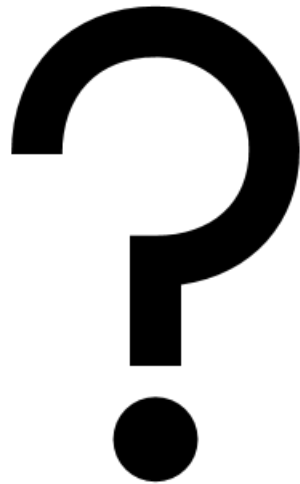
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- Double checking: “...if I use my KI email address when submitting (and am the corresponding author) me and my co-authors won’t have to pay the APC? It almost sounds too good to be true :-) So I just want to double check.”
- What if we are two corresponding authors? One from KI and one from another university?
- Why hasn’t my article been approved?

# Some of the questions we get

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- Can students take part in these agreements?
- Can I be guaranteed that the APC will be paid?
- Is this journal part of an open access deal or not?

# The OA search box at KI

**Search for journals where you can publish open access without fees**

A screenshot of a search interface. It features a large orange rectangular background. Inside this background is a white search bar with the placeholder text "Search title" in a light blue font. To the right of the search bar is an orange button with the word "SHOW" in white capital letters.

In this search box you can search for a specific journal title to see if it is included in an open access agreement with prepaid publishing fees. If a journal is included you will find a link to more information about the agreement and author instructions.

# The OA search box at SH



The agreements are valid for Södertörn University and only apply when you are Corresponding Author.  
You must use your SH email address when submitting your article.  
When the APC for the journal is discounted, the cost is not covered by the library.  
In case of questions, please contact [publications@sh.se](mailto:publications@sh.se).

Search for Journals...



Search for journals with  
open access publishing

# Headache 1 - The money!

- Agreements may not cover all publications.
- Upset researchers
- Happy researchers





# Headache 2 - Communication

- Differences in the agreements.
- No guarantees.
- Keep the information updated.



# Headache 3 - Differences in the agreements

- Submittance date or acceptance date?
- Publication types?
- Verify or not?
- Routines for invoicing?
- Different deadlines



# Headache 4 - Lack of national guidelines

- Example 1: A researcher has written an article when working at my university. When the article has been accepted the researcher has stopped working at the university. Should I verify or not?
- Example 2: The researcher is not the corresponding author but wants to be, to take advantage of the university's agreement.



# Researchers' view

What do researchers think about these agreements?



# Survey at Karolinska about OA agreements

Short survey sent to 61 researchers in September 2019, 42 answered (69%).

“Hello,

You have received this email because you have had one or more article processing fees paid by the KI University Library so that you've been able to publish your article open access with the publisher X.

The library would really appreciate if you could answer this short [survey](#) to give us a better understanding of your experience. This will help us in future work with potential new agreements.

Participating is of course optional and all answers will be treated as strictly confidential.”

# Would you have chosen to publish open access even if the publishing fee had not been paid by the library?

**Yes: 20 (48%)**

**No: 5 (12%)**

**Maybe: 17 (40%)**

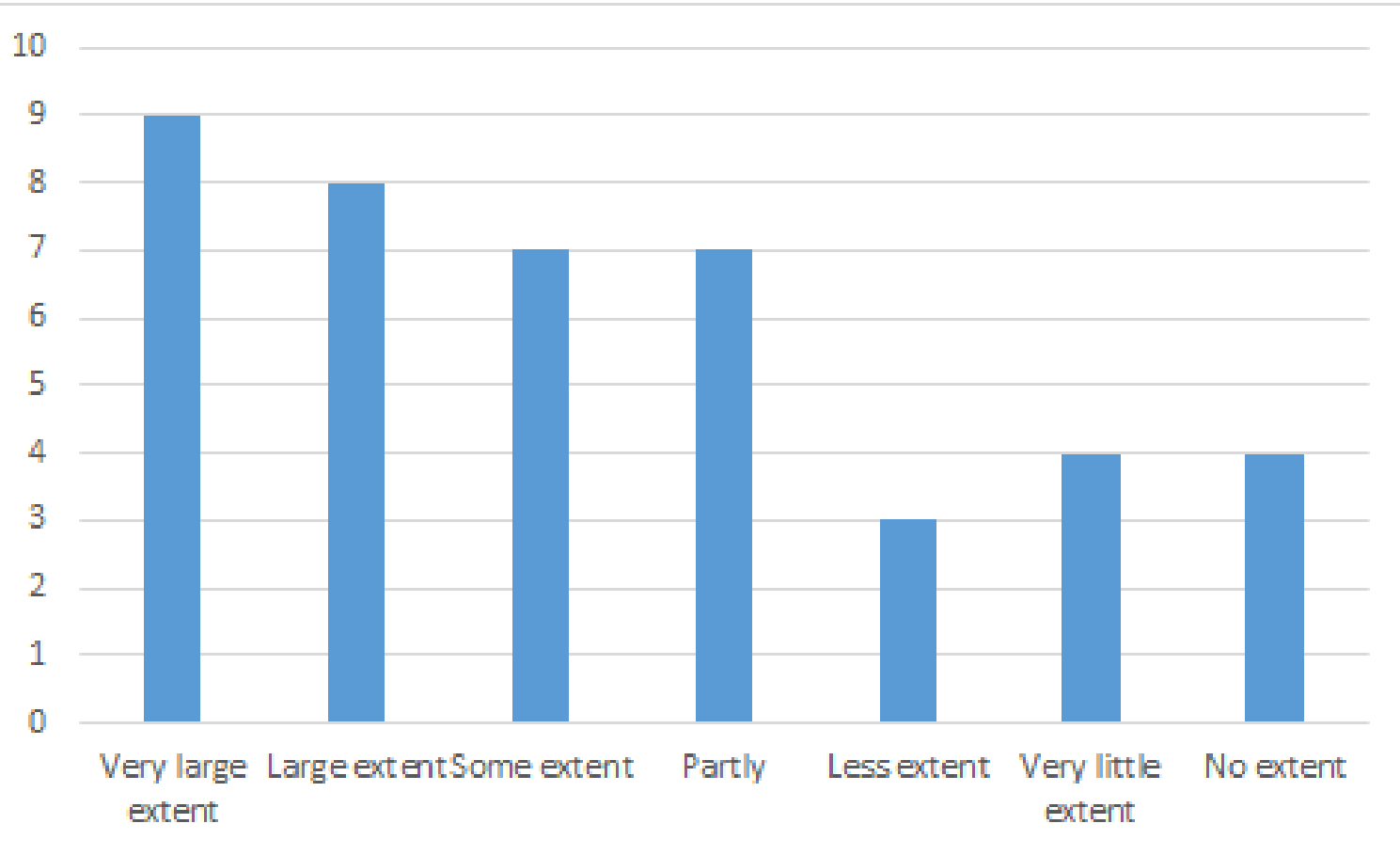
“In general NO but YES if the grant holder requests that. Ideally the answer would be YES but the prices are too high and these costs should not be on the researchers economy. I share this frustration with many colleagues that are obliged to publish in not-Open Access because of lack of funding”

“Open access is my preference, but it would depend on the fee amount.”

“I will choose open access if the research funders request it.”

“2000 USD...no way!”

# To what degree has the chance of having the publishing fee paid affected your choice of journal?



"The quality of the journal has a higher priority"

"Importantly, this has also affected the choice of the journal many times and it should not be like that."

"Due to publication costs, I may have selected a cheaper and less influential journal."

What do you think about the process of having the publishing fee paid?

“To be honest, it was the smoothest procedure I have experienced since in principle I did nothing more than just specifying on the online manuscript submission system that the work belongs to KI.”

“It was smooth, rapid and excellent!”

“Simplified my publishing process a lot.”



Do you think that the library should continue making these kinds of agreements?

93 % said Yes (39 of 42)

3 respondents said “Don’t know / Can’t answer the question”

- “Absolutely, especially since KIB can make a much better deal with the publisher than individual researchers”
- “Maximizes the impact of research from KI.”
- “It makes things more fair between those with a lot of funding and those with a little.”
- “This is a great support to many researchers at KI, and it should definitely be expanded. Many thanks for this support!”

# Seminars at Södertörn University

Increased interest from researchers.

Two teams working with OA:

- Information Resources Team
- Publishing and Open Science Team

Arrange seminars.

# Seminars at Södertörn University

How can we get the researchers to the seminar?

Offer them lunch wraps!

Online quiz about APC:s.

Lecture about APC:s and transformative agreements.

# Some questions from the researchers

- How do I know which agreements we have access to?
- Can I publish open access without any charges?
- Does the library have any funding for open access publishing?
- What do the different Creative Commons licenses mean?
- If you are not a permanent employee, is the cost covered anyway?
- Can you help me postpone the publishing process so the article will be covered by the agreement?

# Conclusions

- For librarians: more work, new tasks, many new things to learn, no vacation ;-)
- For researchers: less administration, some uncertainty, but positive
- For the universities: redirect the money to the library
- For the library: budget issues
- For all: positive with more OA

# Questions?



Thank you!

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