Journal.fi

Building infrastructure for open access journals in Finland

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The Federation of Finnish Learned Societies
Outline

• Journal.fi in a nutshell
• Building Journal.fi
• Technical infrastructure
• Future plans
Journal.fi (https://journal.fi)

• A platform for Finnish online journals maintained by the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies launched in January 2017
• Mostly small journals with limited resources, published by member societies
• Not officially a national platform

• Based on Open Journal Systems 3 (https://pkp.sfu.ca/)
• Both a platform for publishing journal articles and a tool for editorial work
  • around 30-40% of journals use the editorial workflow
Journal.fi

• Allows 12 month embargoes, but most journals are open access

• Support includes:
  • A shared platform and system upgrades
  • Online technical support (mostly OJS questions)
  • Workshops
  • Written guides
How many journals in Journal.fi?

- April 2017: 33 journals
- April 2018: 61 journals
- April 2019: 82 journals
- April 2020: 95 journals

- Currently ca. 55 OA journals; 20 with embargo
Kotilava project (2015-2017)

• *Journal.fi* is a result of the *Kotilava* project
  • The National Library of Finland & the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies
• *Kotilava* project aimed to make the Finnish academic journals open in a sustainable way and to guarantee that their articles have a wide visibility and impact = *make journals flip to OA*

• Two subprojects:
  • 1) **The tech**: the development of a platform for cutting the cost of publishing
  • 2) **The money**: funding model for Finnish OA journals
Starting point: Scientific Journals Online

Agricultural and Food Science

AURAICA. Scripta a Societate Porthan edita

Entomologica Fennica

Entomologia Fennica is a journal publishing original research reports and reviews on all aspects of insects and other terrestrial arthropods in the
Starting point: Scientific Journals Online

- Old platform based on Open Journal Systems 2, launched in 2006
- Around 20-30 journals
- Journals not happy with the appearance of the platform or the system itself
  - “not in par with international standards”
Four areas of development

**Technical infrastructure**
- Support for central OA standards like DOI, ORCID, DOAJ, CC, JATS etc.

**Appearance**
- New brand: site name, logo, domain name
- Responsive and better looking layouts

**System development**
- Upgrading to OJS 3.0
- New Finnish translation for OJS
- Solving reported system deficiencies and bugs
- Creating new features to OJS

**Maintenance**
- Written agreements with journals
- Internal documentation for maintenance, updates and technical support
- Finnish instructions for OJS 3.0
Four areas of development

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**Technical infrastructure**
- Support for central OA standards like DOI, ORCID, DOAJ, CC, JATS etc.

**Appearance**
- New brand: site name, logo, domain name
- Responsive and better looking layouts

**System development**
- 2015: Solving reported system deficiencies and creating new features to OJS 2
- 2016: *Upgrading to Open Journal Systems 3.0*
- New Finnish translation for OJS 3

**Maintenance**
- Written agreements with journals
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### Four areas of development

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Technical infrastructure

- Implementing key Open Access and publishing standards
- Some already available in OJS3 (like DOI support, OAI-PMH), some needed work
• Better ORCID support for OJS3 (with PKP)
• Currently developed further in Germany
• Sponsoring Membership with CrossRef
• Free DOIs for all journals published by learned societies
• OJS3 plugin for collecting article funding data (with PKP)
• Using Crossref Funder Registry: project ID & funder ID pairs
- **DOAJ** (Directory of Open Access Journals) API integration for OJS3 (with PKP)
- Allows DOAJ members using OJS to automatically submit article metadata to DOAJ database
- OpenAIRE plugin for OJS3 (with OpenAIRE)
- JATS XML based OAI-PMH feed for OpenAIRE harvesting
- National services and standards
  - Vocabulary integration (Finto) with a plugin
  - Pushing content to a national article database
  - OJS3 plugin for a national peer-review label
  - Long-term preservation (harvested)
But tech is not enough

• Problem: How to make journals implement all features?

• Our journals are independent actors
  • we can not force them to register with DOAJ, use DOIs or collect funding data

• Most journals are based on voluntary work
  • New standards = more work

• Many journals lack technical expertise
But tech is not enough: solutions

• Creating clear technical **instructions**
  • Like registering with Sherpa/Romeo and DOAJ etc.

• Arranging **workshops**: an opportunity to explain the benefits and teach new techniques
  • Like using DOIs and ORCIDs, moving to JATS XML etc.
  • Still some solutions, like JATS XML, are too difficult or too expensive for small journals to adapt

• External pressure: changes in **funders’ policies**, changes in **other journals**
Future plans at the Federation of Finnish Learned Societies

• A platform for publishing and editing open monographs
  • Currently a small pilot project with five publishers
  • Launch in late 2019
  • Using Open Monograph Press (PKP)
  • (name suggestions wellcome)

• With Journal.fi, continue participating in OJS development in cooperation with PKP
Thank you!

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