

Cost Monitoring @ University of Oldenburg

The systematic recording, evaluation and management of publication costs is becoming increasingly important in the context of increasingly complex open access transformation processes. At the University of Oldenburg, a central publication cost monitoring system and consolidated licence recording in Ex Libris Alma have been established for this purpose. The poster presents the structure, implementation and initial experiences of this integrated workflow.

The focus is on the mapping and use of attributes of the open-cost metadata schema within Alma. The model-based anchoring of relevant metadata –such as cost types, funding sources, OA typologies or transformation contracts –enables a granular analysis of publication-related expenses. Structured recording in Alma forms the basis for transparent, reproducible and institution-wide consistent cost monitoring.

A central component of the project is the organisational bundling of all procurement and billing processes for publication-related costs in the media processing department of the Oldenburg University Library. APCs, BPCs, costs from transformation agreements, membership fees and other publication-related (services) are recorded there in a standardised manner. This centralisation not only improves internal process reliability and efficiency, but also creates valid data sets for strategic management decisions and reporting.

The poster shows how the technical and procedural integration was implemented in Alma, which metadata fields and workflows were adapted or newly introduced, and which challenges arose in the interaction between system logic, financial management and metadata standardisation. Finally, prospects for further development are outlined.

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Technical and organizational workflows for dealing with publication costs

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