



Karolinska
Institutet

Somewhat COUNTER-intuitive?

What we learned re-building our journal evaluation tool in Alma Analytics
& wish we knew the first time around.

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Our project: what did we do?

- Created a new and improved tool for displaying COUNTER journal usage metrics and Alma Acquisitions data.
- To be used for evaluating subscriptions, as well as many transformative agreements currently in place for Karolinska Institutet (KI).
- End users: Acquisitions Team at KI Library (8 ppl).

Background

- Not a "new" tool at KI Library, but a substantial rework of the existing one.
- Rebuild of our tool to better meet the needs of both our end users and maintenance staff.
- Because our previous tool was extensive, it was only implemented for locally negotiated agreements. We wanted to extend it to all agreements, including the consortium agreements.

Objective: Create a *comprehensive*, more *user-friendly* and *reliable* tool with reasonable *maintenance* needs.

Capturing user needs and moving them forward

- Agile development: return to users throughout the process.
- Series of workshops to capture user needs – including one for developers (i.e. ourselves).
- Three-week 'sprints' organized around different clusters of user needs helped focus our work during development.
- Check in with user group at various stages.

Our needs

- Tracking our costs along with COUNTER usage over time
- Ideal: A single entry point for all analysis
- Suitable for different agreement types (transformative, subscription etc.)
- Information is reliable & specific enough for every resource
- Manageable maintenance – "kill your darlings" lest you have to maintain them
- Documentation

Now, let's have a look.

<https://ki.alma.exlibrisgroup.com/ng/>

Avtalsöversikt kostnad
Fund Name: Direktfinansierade e-resurser

PO Line Title	PO Line Reference	Reporting Code Description - 2nd	Reporting Code Description - 3rd	Valuta	Originalvaluta 2024	SEK 2024	% av Direktfinansierade e-resurser 2024	SEK/medladdning 2023
AAAS Science, American Association for the Advancement of Science	POL-928	Enbart läsning	Person handling agreement at KI	USD	Total cost of agreement (original currency)	Total cost of agreement (SEK)		Share of budget as a percentage
AACR American Association for Cancer Research	POL-929	Enbart läsning		USD				
American Chemical Society	POL-895	Transformativa e-resurser		USD				
American Medical Association	POL-1609	Transformativa e-resurser		USD				
American Physiological Society	POL-914	Enbart läsning		USD				
American Society for Microbiology	POL-528	Enbart läsning		USD				
Annual Reviews	POL-4272	Subscribe to Open		USD				
British Medical Journals Read & Publish	POL-894	Transformativa e-resurser		GBP				
Cambridge University Press Journals Read & Publish	POL-900	Transformativa e-resurser		GBP				
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press	POL-2741	Enbart läsning		USD				
Company of Biologists	POL-3937	Transformativa e-resurser		EUR				
Elsevier Cell Press	POL-903	Transformativa e-resurser		EUR				
Elsevier Journals Freedom Collection	POL-920	Transformativa e-resurser		EUR				
Elsevier Journals KIB	POL-3330	Enbart läsning		EUR				
Expert Reviews Taylor & Francis	POL-1179	Enbart läsning		EUR				
Frontiers	POL-5265	Enbart publicering, finansiärsavtal		SEK				
IOP Institute of Physics Science Extra Read & Publish	POL-925	Transformativa e-resurser		GBP				
IOS Press Journals	POL-932	Transformativa e-resurser		EUR				
Jisc Collections Copernicus Open Access Membership 2023-2024	POL-5298	Enbart publicering, finansiärsavtal		SEK				
Karger Read & Publish	POL-3569	Transformativa e-resurser		CHF				
Mark Allen Healthcare Journals 2016-2018	POL-1384	Transformativa e-resurser	GBP					
Mary Ann Liebert Publishers Journals	POL-3570	Enbart läsning	USD					
Microbiology Society	POL-3938	Transformativa e-resurser	GBP					
Nature	POL-923	Enbart läsning	EUR					
Nature Journals Transformative Agreement 2022-2024	POL-3939	Transformativa e-resurser	EUR					
Ovid Total Access Collection	POL-1066	Enbart läsning	USD					
Oxford University Press Journals Read and Publish	POL-918	Transformativa e-resurser	GBP					
Portland Press Electronic Journals	POL-4269	Transformativa e-resurser	EUR					
PsycARTICLES	POL-4008	Enbart läsning	SEK					

Lessons learned

- Every report needs to outweigh the added maintenance; Cost v. benefit approach.
- Simplicity can help users by showing only what's important and make sure evaluation is based on the same parameters by all staff.
- Manageable maintenance leads to reliability; end users can trust the numbers.
- Documentation is an investment in reliability & ease of future maintenance.

Credit & Thanks

Other project team members:

Lina Waltin (project lead), Maria Ahlbäck (development lead)

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Henrik Åkerfelt & Sofia Samuelsson (methods + project consultation & support), KI Library Acquisitions Team.

Questions!

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