

# International and National Collaboration in the Digital Age

*Meeting boundless challenges together*

Gunnar Sahlin, National Librarian of Sweden  
Aligning National Approaches to Digital Preservation

Tallinn, 24 May 2011



# Meeting boundless challenges together

---

- Building the Digital Library – it is a long way to go
- Collaboration in general – common goals and joint purpose
- National cooperation and the ALM-sector
- International collaboration – organizations and common projects
- Collaboration for development

# A "new" National Library including audiovisual media

---

- the traditional task of the National Library is to collect, preserve, describe, and provide access to Swedish printed and digital materials
- we also collect, preserve, catalogue and provide access to material from radio and TV, films, videos, multimedia, as well as music and other sound recordings
- We are merging two organizations with different culture and users but with a lot in common

# Coordinating the research libraries

---

- LIBRIS, the national online search service and the union catalogue for all Swedish research libraries
- Bibliographical service and interlibrary loans
- Consortium of the Swedish research libraries for licensing e-journals and databases (ICOLC)
- Samsök (search together)
- Open Access and e-publishing
- Swepub and long-term preservation

# Open Access policy for the National Library

---

- *Support open access publishing within universities*
- *Promote support for OA publishing in licensing deals coordinated by NL Sweden*
- *Make non copyright protected digitized material openly accessible*
- *Staff required to make their articles available in open access mode*
- *Publications from the library as a rule open access*
- *Use of Creative Commons licenses whenever applicable*
- *Metadata created or aggregated by the library freely available to use and reuse*

# A new assignment – coordinating all libraries in Sweden

---

- become the central regulatory authority for the entire Swedish library system from January 2011
- develop national goals and strategies for publicly financed libraries
- maintain collective library statistics
- further development of a national catalogue for both research and public libraries
- support development in digital projects
- manage the e-book in libraries
- advisory board - influence and expert groups

# Collaboration with public-sector partners 1

---

- Coordination office for ALM
- Aggregators for Europeana, TEL, Apnet, Athena, EU-screen
- Swedish National Archives and the Swedish National Heritage Board
- Common system for the preservation of digital materials

# Collaboration with public-sector partners 2

---

- In the audiovisual sector our partners are the Swedish Film Institute, Swedish Television and Swedish Radio
- The National Library migrates huge quantities of radio and television programs
- Swedish Television and the National Library have the ambition to build a common audiovisual archive
- A common film-site on the Internet is created together with the Swedish Film Institute



# Collaboration with the private sector

---

- agreements with newspaper publishers, other publishers, but also with other commercial entities
- ongoing negotiations with representatives of right holders, organizations like Swedish Writers' Union
- extended collective licensing

# Experiences from international collaboration

---

- What is good for the whole library sector
- What is good for your own nation or own library
- From exchange of experiences to common projects

# Conclusion

---

In the continuing process towards the digital library, technical development, difficult strategic choices and large investments will be necessary, as well as concrete joint projects, conducted nationally and internationally. It will require significant economic and personal resources in the years to come. The challenges are immense and require that institutions collaborate more closely than ever before.

The pace of development in libraries will not subside and new technical tools, which we today are unable to envisage, will be conceived. We will be facing great challenges in the coming years. In this context it is of the utmost importance not to lose sight of the joint purpose, nationally and internationally.