

UW Press and UW Libraries

P2L2 presentation notes; Nicole Mitchell

UW Press began formal reporting to the UW libraries on March 1, 2018. See press release: <https://uwpressblog.com/2018/02/21/uw-press-joins-uw-libraries/>. Previously, the press had been reporting to the Dean of the Graduate School for many, many decades.

In 2014, the Provost suggested that it might be useful for me to meet regularly with the Dean of the Libraries and the Dean of the Graduate School, an informal joint reporting of sorts. At that time Larin McLaughlin, our Editor in Chief, and I joined the libraries' Scholarly Communications committee. Tom Helleberg, our CFO, joined the Faculty Committee on University Libraries as a representative of the Professional Staff Organization. Larin later joined the OER committee, and now she, Beth, and I now serve on the libraries' new (as of 2018) Scholarly Communications Outreach and Education Team. Press staff have been welcomed as publishing advisors on all of the libraries' committees and we are part of the conversation about how best to support digital scholarship on campus.

As noted in the press release, the press and the libraries have collaborated on a number of co-publications over the past few years. This fall we will be collaborating on the publication of a new edition of *Concrete Mama: Prison Profiles from Walla Walla*. <http://www.washington.edu/uwpress/search/books/HOFCON.html>

Information about our modest OA series project with the libraries is attached.

Other connections: The head of Special Collections serves on our faculty Press Committee (editorial board) and on the Advisory Board for our Mellon-funded digital publishing project for indigenous studies led by UBC Press.

**Open Access Publishing Pilot Project:
OA Publication of the Book Series Studies on Ethnic Groups in China**

Background: The UW Press launched the Studies on Ethnic Groups in China series in 1995 to publish scholarship on Chinese ethnic groups and ethnic relations. The series includes twenty-one books to date, with one new book a year projected in the pipeline. It is edited by Stevan Harrell, UW professor emeritus of anthropology, in collaboration with Lorri Hagman, the press's Asian studies editor. The series was selected for this pilot project because of the quality and relevance of the scholarship and its centrality to the press's strong lists in Asian studies and anthropology. Equally important, the series editor and most of the authors support the prospect of OA publication, often enthusiastically so. Access is currently restricted with print and ebook editions of the books available for purchase or on loan from research libraries.

Goals: The immediate goals of this OA pilot project include making the important scholarship published through this series more widely available. The project will enable us to gather information about the costs and impact of OA publication, looking especially at its impact on the audiences for these books and the business model that currently supports their publication. It will serve as a catalyst for a new form of collaboration between the press and library, and as a vehicle through which we can begin to build an infrastructure for OA publishing. Over the longer term, the information gathered and work carried out will support efforts to expand sustainable OA publishing on campus.

Plan: We propose making most of the twenty-one books published in the series available OA with a CC-BY-NC-ND license (giving authors the opportunity to opt out), and making new books available after an embargo period of up to two years. We will create an appealing, user-friendly site for the collection, with a new introduction from the series editor and links to the OA editions of the books. Ideally, the books will be presented through an EPUB reader that allows easy navigation through the text and some customization of the reading experience. We could potentially use platforms that would enable students and scholars to carry out conversations through annotations and/or provide access to related multimedia materials. To increase discoverability, we will also deposit the books in leading OA repositories. We will promote the series through our usual channels: in print and digital publicity, at professional conferences, via social media, and through public engagement strategies such as a launch event. To assess impact, we will track usage metrics and accompanying print sales and compare the results for this series to those for similar series. We plan to launch the site by the end of 2018.

Costs: Direct costs include designing and developing the site for the collection; hosting fees for OA repositories and EPUB readers; the cost of advertising the project and hosting a launch event; potentially the cost of services that provide data on usage and metrics; and for new books, a portion of their editorial and production costs. Costs also include lost revenue from sales. Funding sources include \$15,000/year for an initial period of six years from the Allen Endowment. We will also seek additional funding for individual volumes and the series as a whole.