Group licensing in Germany: The case of the Bavarian Consortium ... and beyond

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Bavaria

12.5 million inhabitants
70,550 km²
30 Universities and Universities of Applied Sciences
Consortia in Germany

- Mainly organised along the lines of the political borders in the federal system or existing regional library networks
  - Six major regional consortia
  - Consortia of research organisations, e.g. Max-Planck Digital Library

- Cooperation within GASCO (German, Austrian, Swiss Consortia Organisation)
  - Leads to cross-regional licence agreements for some products
  - Joint discussions with publishers about significant changes of their business models

- Mainly funded at the institutional level with some central funding available in some of the German states („Länder“)

- Variety of different organisational models
Regional library networks and consortia in Germany

- Common Library Network (GBV) (Göttingen) of Lower Saxony, Saxony-Anhalt, Thuringia, Hamburg, Bremen, Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Schleswig-Holstein and the respective regional consortia
- Cooperative Library Network of Berlin-Brandenburg (KOBV) (Berlin) and FAK-Consortium
- Library Network and Consortium of North Rhine-Westphalia (HBZ) (Cologne)
- Hessian Library Information System and Consortium (HEBIS) (Frankfurt/Main)
- South-West German Library Network (SWB) Baden-Württemberg, Saarland, Saxony, Rhineland-Palatinate (partly), (Konstanz) and the respective regional consortia
- Bavarian Library Network (BVB) and Bavarian Consortium (Munich)
The Bavarian Consortium: Organisational structure (1)

- **Founded** towards the end of the 1990s
  - First journals consortium (Academic Press) in 1999

- **Bavarian State Library** commissioned by the University Libraries to coordinate licence negotiations for electronic resources
  - No formal organisational or legal structure, but part of the cooperative library strategy in Bavaria
  - Built upon the role of the Bavarian State Library as the central regional and archival library of Bavaria
  - No formal board, but regular meetings of the consortium members
The Bavarian Consortium: Organisational structure (2)

- Potential participants in Bavaria
  » 11 university libraries
  » Bavarian State Library
  » 19 universities of applied sciences
  » 9 regional state libraries

- Consortium Head Office in the Department for Serials and E-Resources of the Bavarian State Library
  » Fully integrated into the routine workflows of the library
  » Approx. staff time: 2 FTE (5 members of staff)
  » No staff members work exclusively for the Bavarian Consortium
The Bavarian Consortium: Organisational structure (3)

• Funding structure
  » Since 2000 some central funding from the Bavarian government for data procurement, but not for staff
    - Allocated to the members according to a fixed distribution key
  » Generally no cost allocation of publisher prices (apart from pooled cancellation rates)

• Access to approx. 4000 electronic journals, 65 databases, 30 e-book deals
  » Partly participation in other regional consortia

Das Bayern-Konsortium arbeitet auch mit außerbayerischen Bibliotheken zusammen und ist über die Bayerische Staatsbibliothek in der überregionalen Arbeitsgemeinschaft Konsorten (GASCO = German Austrian Swiss Consortia Organisation) vertreten.

Die Bayerische Staatsbibliothek administriert für die bayerischen Konsortialteilnehmer zentral die elektronischen Zeitschriften aus den Konsortialverträgen in der Elektronischen Zeitschriften-Bibliothek (EZB).
Electronic Resource Management for the Bavarian Consortium

• Key question: Home-grown system vs. commercial product
  » Commerical products were evaluated, but not supported
  » First home-grown system (based on Microsoft Access) for internal use only

• Current development of web-based solution
  » Software development outsourced
  » Will be launched early in 2011
  » Can be accessed by consortium members (reading rights only)
Cataloguing and metadata service

• Cataloguing of electronic resources purchased by the consortium centrally coordinated by the Consortium Head Office

• Administration of electronic journals in the Electronic Journals Library (EZB)

• Cataloguing of databases in the Database Information System (DBIS)

• Cooperative cataloguing of e-books in the Catalogue of the Bavarian Library Network
  » Shared manual cataloguing where metadata quality is not sufficient yet
  » Automatic loading of metadata in close cooperation with the Head Office of the Bavarian Library Network
Bavaria and beyond

- Representation of the Bavarian Consortium in GASCO
- Bavarian State Library as one of the negotiating libraries within the framework of DFG-funded national licences / consortia
  » Integrated into the organisational infrastructure of the Head Office of the Bavarian Consortium
  » Current responsibility for about 45 products
- International cooperation
  » GASCO
  » Knowledge Exchange
  » ICOLC: International Coalition of Library Consortia
National licensing in Germany – current strands

• German national licensing programme, funded by DFG
  » National licences for completed collections (ends 2010)
  » Nationwide consortia for current e-journal content

• Priority Initiative „Digital Information“ of the Alliance of German Science Organisations
  http://www.allianzinitiative.de/en/start/

• Knowledge Exchange multinational licences (2009-2011)
Alliance licences: key principles

- **Guidelines** for the Purchase of Licences within the Framework of the Alliance Initiative „Digital Information“ (adopted in 2010)
  - [Link](http://www.dfg.de/download/programme/wissenschaftliche_literaturversorgung_informationssysteme/antragstellung/12_18_e/12_18e.pdf)

- **Key features**
  - Aim to eliminate pricing based on historic print expenditures
  - Opt-in models (no full funding any more)
  - Archives successively built up to become available after an embargo period as a national licence („moving wall“)
  - Open Access
    - Authors of authorised institutions and the institutions to which they belong can store their articles generally in the form published in a repository
Perspectives for licensing in Germany

• Infrastructure
  » Regional consortia will continue to exist alongside the national licensing initiative, but probably more licensing at the nationwide level
    - Opt-in models via the Alliance Initiative
  » More cooperation and clearer division of labour between existing structures in the future
  » Current infrastructure discussion within the GWK (Gemeinsame Wissenschaftskonferenz: Joint Conference of the Ministers of Finance and Research/HE at the federal and state levels)

• Funding
  » Local and regional funds will remain the basis of literature supply
  » DFG funding can only support, but not replace this structure
  » GWK development?
Thank you!

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