Library as publisher: who takes the lead?
A valued disruption

Jill Claassen
Introduction

‘Library as a publisher’ = social justice imperatives
What is a social justice service?

Breaking down barriers of unfair practices and inequalities (Lara-Alecio, 2016: 1)
Transformation in publishing service

- Social justice advances:
  - Diversity
  - Inclusivity
  - Equitable access

Academic libraries should be drivers of social-justice-driven publishing models
Role of higher education in knowledge production

- Participation of higher education in development

The university must become a primary tool for Africa’s development in the new century.
Challenges for new African knowledge

- Access to knowledge paramount for new knowledge
- African publishing landscape challenges:
  - Poor internet
  - Electricity outages
  - Exorbitant subscriptions
  - High APCs
Alternate publishing for African scholarship

- A leading research-intensive university on the continent
- Sharing its scholarship due to moral obligation & social responsiveness, with the continent
Alternate publishing for African scholarship (continued)
UCT Libraries’ publishing service

- Practices DIAMOND Open Access:
  - free to the reader
  - author does not pay publishing fees
  - openly accessible for everyone
  - academic rigour is ensured by UCT’s senior researchers
- **BUT**: does not conform to global north standards, DOAJ or DOAB
UCT Libraries’ monographs and textbooks: African content accessible to Africans; globally

Solutions implemented by UCT Libraries: Inclusiveness
Establishment of partnerships

Partner with project, DOT4D, to support content development & publishing of OA textbooks at the university

Capacity building for institutions: having an Ubuntu spirit of sharing skills and know-how
Conclusion

- UCT Libraries publishes African scholarship by practicing ‘denorthernisation’ guidelines
- Social justice is the driver for this disruption of publishing landscape
- Publishes content for upliftment of African society
- Develops good African science for African development