You are invited to join a global initiative that places libraries at the center of the shift to open access

Knowledge Unlatched is the first step in creating a sustainable route to open access for Humanities and Social Science (HSS) books. A global community of libraries is combining the power of their book expenditures to secure OA for HSS monographs on a shared cost basis.

Why Now
➢ Humanities and Social Science (HSS) books remain locked behind a paywall as STM journals accelerate the pace to open access.
➢ The Author Pays model is unlikely to work for books since HSS grants are smaller and books much more expensive than journal articles.
➢ No one model is the solution. KU brings librarians and publishers together to explore different models.

What Libraries Can Do
➢ Libraries can support the Pilot for a maximum cost of $1680 which is the amount needed for 200 libraries to ‘unlatch’ 28 books from 13 publishers. The cost per library declines with more than 200 libraries participating by February 28, 2014.
➢ To avoid “double dipping” libraries can count purchases of these 28 titles through other channels towards lowering their cost to participate.
➢ Libraries joining now have the opportunity to help shape the future of KU through a Library Steering and Collections Committee.

Current Partners
➢ Publishers: University Presses at Amsterdam, Cambridge, Duke, Edinburgh, Liverpool, Manchester, Michigan, Purdue, Rutgers, Temple, plus Bloomsbury Academic, Brill and De Gruyter
➢ LYRASIS in North America, Jisc Collections in the UK, Max Planck Society in Germany and founding libraries in Australia.
➢ OCLC is contributing MARC records.
➢ Hosting and preservation on HathiTrust and OAPEN. Also preserved on CLOCKSS and Portico.

Accept Your Invitation
Take a leadership role in making books accessible and join KU now at www.knowledgeunlatched.org.

What librarians are saying about KU
“I think KU is a great fit for liberal arts college libraries, and a very cool project in general.”
Jessica Grim, Collection Development Librarian - Oberlin College

"I’m interested in this project — this is a concept which I think needs a proof-of-concept finished project, and $1,680 is not a bad price for this experiment.”
Gavin Ferriby, University Librarian - Sacred Heart University

“I don’t see any reason why libraries would not support Knowledge Unlatched. It’s a way for libraries to explore and support OA models for books, to prevent them from being left behind as journals accelerate on their path to OA.”
Steve Smith, Head of Collection Development, Boston University