Making Sense of the Confusing World of Research Information Management

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Because what is known must be shared.℠
Introductions
A global network of libraries

As of 31 March 2017

Americas
10,817 members in 27 countries

EMEA
3,734 members in 69 countries

Asia Pacific
1,580 members in 24 countries
See OCLC’s Fifty Years of Sharing Knowledge
oc.lc/fifty
• Devoted to challenges facing libraries and archives since 1978
• Community resource for shared Research and Development (R&D)
• Engagement with OCLC members and the community around shared concerns
• oc.lc/research
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It has been interesting watching Research Information Management or RIM emerge as a new service category in the last couple of years. RIM is supported by a particular system category, the Research Information Management System (RIMs), sometimes referred to by an earlier name, the CRIS (Current Research Information System).
OCLC Research Library Partnership (RLP)

- ~150 research libraries worldwide
- Facilitates collaboration, research, & sharing across member institutions & with OCLC Research
  - Working groups
  - Research reports
  - Webinars
  - Consultations & events
- [www.oclc.org/research/partnership.html](http://www.oclc.org/research/partnership.html)
OCLC Research Library Partnership: RIM working group

- Rebecca Bryant, OCLC Research
- Anna Clements, University of St Andrews
- Carol Feltes, Rockefeller University
- David Groenewegen, Monash University
- Simon Huggard, La Trobe University
- Holly Mercer, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- Roxanne Missingham, Australian National University
- Maliaca Oxnam, University of Arizona
- Anne Rauh, Syracuse University
- John Wright, University of Calgary

GOALS

- Facilitate international conversations & sharing around RIM practice
- Provide an international framework for understanding RIM practices
- Synthesize key talking points for how libraries are valued partners in institutional RIM activities
What is Research Information Management?

Nomenclature
Two models:
• Metadata
• Uses
What is Research Information Management (RIM)?

The aggregation, curation, & utilization of metadata about research activities

Overlapping terms:
- CRIS (Current Research Information System)
- RIS (Research Information System)
- RNS (Research Networking System)
- RPS (Research Profiling System)
- FAR (Faculty Activity Reporting)

- RIMs ≠ social networking platforms like ResearchGate or Academia.edu
- RIM ≠ Research Data Management (RDM)
Why call it Research Information Management?

• An ecosystem, not a single system or platform
• Increasingly more than the most “current” information

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Research information

- Instructional history
- Activities, service, awards
- Researchers, affiliations, collaborators
- Media reports
- Statements of impact
- Grants & projects
- Equipment
- Research outputs (Patents)
Understanding the academic beyond citation data

Pure has always served as a data warehouse, where universities can store and link information about researchers, their publications and the grants used to fund those publications and projects. However, Pure contains much more than just citation data.

Research Information

SYMPLECTIC

A single point of truth for all research at an institution
RIM uses
VTechWorks Institutional repository

EFARS academic reviews

Research repositories

Research information

CollabVT academic profiles (campus only)

Research Analytics

Annual academic progress reviews

Reuse Faculty web pages, Biosketches/CVx

Internal reports
Who?

Enterprise-wide collaboration
The role of the library
Doing more. Together.

• Opportunities to leverage through collaborations to address other institutional challenges
• Opportunities to better address local goals by understanding the problems others at the institution are trying to solve.
  – Provost & institutional research
  – Research Office
  – Campus communications
  – Library
  – Researchers!
Libraries in research information management

- Publications & scholarship expertise
- Training & support
- Discoverability, access & reputational support
- Stewardship of the institutional record
Next steps

- OCLC Research Report, October 2017
- Supporting slides, templates for library adaptation
Why?
What’s driving RIM activity?

Drivers of RIM adoption

- Global competition & rankings
- Increasingly networked research information
- External mandates
RIM practices

• Varies according to local, regional, & national drivers & incentives
• Stronger mandates $\rightarrow$ higher RIM activity
• Also influences what TYPE of RIM activity is prioritized
Research Project: Adoption & Integration of Persistent Identifiers in Research Information Management

- Investigate RIM practices in 3 national contexts:
  - Finland
  - Germany
  - Netherlands
- Examining the nexus of RIM with integration of persistent identifiers
  - Focus on person and organizational identifiers
- Objective:
  - Gain useful insights on emerging practices and challenges in research management at different levels of scale
- Research report expected late Fall 2017
Project team

OCLC Research
- Rebecca Bryant
- Annette Dortmund
- Constance Malpas

in collaboration with LIBER
- Kristiina Hormia-Poutanen (National Library Finland)
- Birgit Schmidt (State and University Library Göttingen)
- Esa-Pekka Keskitalo (National Library Finland)
Conducted interviews with ~15 research universities, ICT organizations, and PID providers

- **Netherlands**: Leiden University, VU Amsterdam, University of Amsterdam, Radboud University / euroCRIS, SURF
- **Germany**: University of Münster, University of Kassel, FAU (Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg), BASE Bielefeld, German National Library
- **Finland**: Aalto University, University of Eastern Finland, University of Jyväskylä, University of Helsinki, CSC
- **PID organizations**: ORCID & ISNI
Finland
Germany
Germany

BASE (Repository)
United States
Survey on Research Information Management Practices
International Survey of Research Information Management Practices

• ORLP in collaboration with EuroCRIS
• Beta testing in late summer
• Launch live survey in fall
• Report findings in 2018

• Rebecca Bryant, OCLC Research
• Pablo de Castro, University of Strathclyde & EuroCRIS
• Anna Clements, University of St. Andrews & EuroCRIS
• Jan Fransen, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
• Julie Griffin, Virginia Tech
• Constance Malpas, OCLC Research
• Michele Mennielli, DuraSpace & EuroCRIS
• Rachael Samberg, University of California, Berkeley
Get involved

• Follow OCLC Research
  – Hangingtogether.org blog
  – #OCLCResearch
  – oc.lc/rim

• Promote & participate in the upcoming Survey on Research Information Management Practices
Discussion

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