Institutional research data management services: progress and challenges in the JISC Managing Research Data Programme

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Aim to improve the capacity of UK universities to manage and curate research data.

Drivers include:

- Best practice conduct of research, addressing major research challenges
- Funder and journal policies.
- **Alignment with university missions.**

Pre-2009 ‘Understanding the Problem’: important reports and a number of significant projects

DCC funded by Jisc since 2005.


Encouraged to reuse outputs from first programme and elsewhere. Mix of pilot projects and embedding projects. Holistic institutional approach to RDM.

Ownership: High level ownership of the problem, senior manager on steering.

Sustainability: Large institutional contributions. Develop business cases to sustain work.

Components of research data management support services

- RDM Policy and Roadmap
- Data Management Planning
- Data Repositories/Catalogues
- Deposit Tools
- Processes for selection and retention
- Managing Active Data
- Guidance, Training and Support
- Business Plan and Sustainability
Areas of significant progress and real challenges…

- Development and approval of institutional policies and strategies.
- Presentation of business cases for ongoing service.
- Development, adaptation, piloting and (in most cases) embedding of training and support services.
- Piloting of RDM systems: managing active data, deposit, repositories.
- Join-up of institutional systems: exchange of information between e.g. research administration systems, CRIS, repository etc.
Challenge 1: Pulling it all together

Components of research data management support services

RDM Policy and Roadmap → Business Plan and Sustainability

Data Management

DCC How to Guide on ‘Setting up an institutional RDM support service’
Supported by range of case studies.

Clear summary of outputs and findings from the MRD programme.

Work towards an information toolkit for universities.

Jisc Managing Research Data Programme Conference, 25-6 March, Birmingham, UK
Challenges 2: Sustainability and Costs

Most Jisc MRD projects preparing a business case to sustain the RDM service in the institution.

Some putting together tools for planning costs and comparing internal and external services: e.g. KAPTUR http://www.slideshare.net/kaptur_mrd/kaptur-it-costs-public ; https://kaptur.wordpress.com/

Requirements for RDM storage workshop, 25 February
Challenges 3: National infrastructure for discovery

- Project between DCC and Jisc to develop pilot UK Research Data Discovery Service.
- Trialling ANDS software in UK context.
- Partner data centres and other key stakeholders.
- Pilots in a number of UK institutions.
- Watch this space…
Challenge 4: Providing Robust Evidence of Benefits

Jisc MRD Evidence Gathering Work
Thank You

- Jisc MRD Programme List: [https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=JISCMRD](https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=JISCMRD)
- RESEARCH-DATAMAN Discussion List: [https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=RESEARCH-DATAMAN](https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=RESEARCH-DATAMAN)
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