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Putting the ‘Service’ into Research Data Management

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Aim:

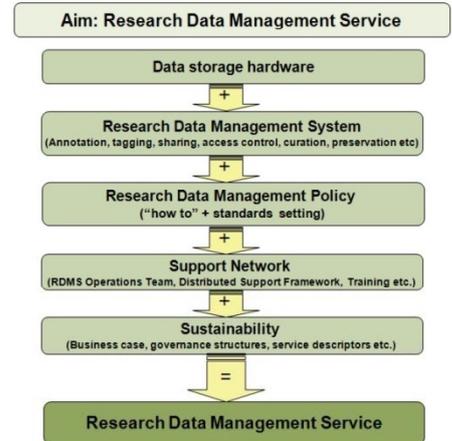
The JISC funded MISS Project aims to deliver a Research Data Management (RDM) Service at the University of Manchester (UoM) which covers the whole of the Research Data Lifecycle. The Service will include an RDM Policy, an RDM System and the necessary support network required to cater for the RDM needs across the institution.

Background

- The RDM Service aligns with the UoM 2020 Strategic Plan:

“We will provide innovative ways to facilitate the pursuit, quality and impact of the University’s research through a range of services relating to trends in scholarly publishing, bibliometrics and the storage, management and preservation of research outputs. We will develop a sustained research data management infrastructure supporting the whole data life cycle according to researchers’ needs as part of a wider strategy for e-Infrastructure.”

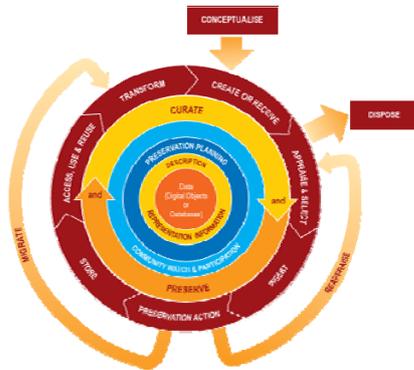
- Collaboration & consultation with UoM stakeholders including Library, IT Services, Faculty IT and Research Support Services



Research Data Management Service

The RDM Service is being developed through a phased approach which includes in-depth consultation with academics across all disciplines. The first phase involves the launch of a basic *RDM Service* in January 2013, which will evolve towards the *full RDM Service* over the year – this will include:

- A single point of contact for RDM enquiries.
- A website to provide a single location for RDM information and resources.
- Support materials and resources for Data Management Planning, such as templates and examples of good data sharing statements to align with what funding bodies are demanding – developed in consultation with researchers.
- Support staff who can give advice and training on RDM.
- Procedures & guidance on the RDM policy – what researchers need to do and when.



DCC Research Data Lifecycle

Institutional Research Data Management Policy

UoM has ratified a high level RDM policy in May 2012. The policy sets out the UoM’s response:

“The University recognises its responsibility to promote high standards of research data management practice, the need for transparency, and the desirability of making research data openly available...”

It also defines the principles around research data management, publication, sharing and preservation etc; as well as clearly outlining responsibilities. Putting the policy into practice involves a wide support network, and key to this is senior stakeholder buy-in.

RDM Support Network

University of Manchester Library

- Digital Technologies team – providing technical input into the MISS Project.
- Research Services team - the RDM ‘front of house’ for researchers to gain advice, guidance & training.
- Academic Engagement team to raise awareness and engage with researchers via Faculty/subject specific communication channels

IT Services

- RDM core IT infrastructure support.
- Faculty IT support for more specific needs.

Research Support Services (RSS)

- Across all Faculties and for the core RDM support.

The support network have been trained in RDM by the Digital Curation Centre (DCC).



Research Data Management System

The RDM System will be developed within the UoM’s IT Service development framework, to ensure sustainability of the RDM infrastructure in the future.

User Communities & Engagement

- To ensure that the RDM Service is capable of meeting the needs of all UoM researchers, user case groups, consisting of key researchers and core facilities have been recruited from each faculty, with requirements across the full Research Data Lifecycle.
- To cover broader user needs across UoM we are continually raising awareness, meeting with stakeholders (researchers, support staff etc) and will be conducting a series of focus groups and training events in the build up to the full service.

Funded by:

