The University of Edinburgh

Library Committee

12th October 2011

Agendum 13

Research Publications Service update

Brief description of the paper
This paper gives an update on the PURE project.

Action requested
For information

Resource implications
None

Risk Assessment
None

Equality and Diversity
Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? No

Freedom of Information
Can this paper be included in open business? Yes

Originator of the paper
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Research Publications Service Manager
October 2011
Update on Research Publications Service – 3rd October 2011

1. Work in the last 9 months has focused almost exclusively on the planning, preparation and implementation of the PURE research information management system. Our attentions will start to shift in the next few months now that the publications repository element has gone live, and will commence with the development of a revised service catalogue for the RPS team.

PURE Update

2. The PURE system has been implemented as ‘live’ and we are now using PURE as our golden copy source for publications data. We have decided to focus during the initial stages on data that is of value/use for the REF 2014 submissions.

3. To date, a total of 61 administrative users from across the 3 Colleges have now received training in how to use the system, and have been working through a number of tasks primarily related to checking data and ensuring that staff details are correctly passed from the HR system as part of the nightly synchronisation.

4. Engagement from Schools has been very encouraging. Since the go live date at the end of August, circa 1300 new articles have been added to the system – representing a growth of around 25% from the initial imported data.

5. Encouragingly, we are seeing data being imported in from a variety of online sources, such as through Web of Science and Pubmed that have been traditionally viewed as a complicated process. We are adding access to Worldcat as an online source from the beginning of October, providing a valuable route in for non-science based subjects.

6. We have also seen a fair amount of creativity from users in gathering data from a variety of external sources not connected to PURE directly, such as from Google Scholar and Google books and then importing this in via Reference Manager and Bibtex files.

7. The next stage of the roll out process will see the introduction of funding/project data in from Edinburgh Financials. This is expected to happen during November, at which point we will start to work directly with the Schools to train and encourage research and academic staff to engage directly with the system.

8. The team is now providing day to day support for users of PURE, and we continue to provide training and development across the Colleges. The RPS will remain actively involved in the remaining phases of the project.

Improvements to ERA.

9. We continue to see steady growth for content in ERA. In the last 6 months we have seen an increase in content by over a 700 items. This content is a combination of Thesis and Dissertation plus a significant intake for the BRE Centre for Fire Safety Engineering who have been running a project to digitise and record content relevant to their needs.

10. Work has continued on the implementation of a vastly improved statistics capability using Google Analytics. We have extended the previous code to provide a number of chart and graph options. More work still needs to be done to capture and make available aggregated statistics for communities and collections.
11. The latest 1.8 version of Dspace (the software that ERA is based on) will be released in October and we are now planning for the upgrade to this latest release. We will also be moving shortly to a virtual environment rather than hosting on a virtual server.

Research Publications Service – future planning

12. As we have now gone live with the PURE system for publications data we are starting to work on the development of a new service catalogue for the RPS team. This will also see us starting to set up the successor to the Research Publications Steering group. The new group will be chaired by Alan Bundy from the School of Informatics, and will be a smaller strategic panel looking at how we can develop services with a more direct academic value.

13. In addition to this, we have started working on a number of activities looking forward to the REF exercise, and hope to provide a proposal for how RPS can support the Schools and Colleges over the next few years. Related to this we have started to speak with the School of Arts, Culture and the Environment and Edinburgh College of Art about how we can better represent the no-textual output requirements of their research

Use of Thomson Reuters Incites

14. Now PURE has gone live, the RPS has started to take another look at how we can use the publications data available from Thomson Reuters. We are also in the process of setting up access to the Incites Citation Analysis tools via University IP ranges, and are looking into improving the address capture in use by Incites, which involves mapping addresses under the umbrella of the University of Edinburgh and which should as a result increase the number of citations (as data) captured for the institution

Research Support Web Pages

15. The RPS team have also joined a cross institution working party looking at how the University can improve its information provision in research support for staff and students. This should provide a strong opportunity for us to re-invigorate support for the Research Publications Policy, and any new services that are developed.

James Toon
Research Publications Service Manager
October 2011