The University of Edinburgh

Library Committee

13th April 2011

Agendum 11

Research Publications Service update

Brief description of the paper
One of a monthly series of updates about the progress of the Research Publications Service.

Action requested
For information

Resource implications
The Research Publications Service is a service operated within Information Services, with resources provided by IS

Risk Assessment
None, but this activity is an important activity for the University.

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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1. Overview

This monthly report is being distributed to the Research Policy Group, The RPS Steering Group, College and School research administrators, and appropriate contacts in IS, GaSP and ERI. If you wish to suggest contacts to add to the distribution list, please contact james.toon@ed.ac.uk

Please note: As the work of the research publications service is now so tightly coupled with the PURE implementation, this report will focus for the next few months on providing an update of Research Publications Service activity on this project.

2. PURE update

Implementation progress

The PURE implementation project is moving ahead at pace. We have formally signed off the implementation contracts and work has started on the various technical development required in house to bring together institutional data that will populate the final PURE system.

Publications data preparation for migration to PURE

The RPS team continues to work on the preparation of the publications data for migration into the PURE system. All data has now been extracted from the previous PR system and the long slow task of cleaning and checking is ongoing. We have now sent Atira some early sample files for them to review and are in discussions with them about how we may be able to speed up and improve accuracy of some data elements, such as ISSN/ISBN numbering, publisher names and journal titles which can be queried against external databases. We are also talking about the possibility of using other key elements such as DOI references to further improve our data for transfer.

Publications data from Schools/Colleges

We continue to receive Endnote/Reference manager files from the Schools and are very grateful for support from the relevant administration staff in facilitating this process. The files are being stacked for processing ahead of the system live date.

Publications data from School/College local database systems

Additional to receiving data from individual sources, we have an outstanding task to begin working with local system administrators to extract data for the migration. We plan to start this process off towards the end of April.

Thomson Incites data

No further update on Thomson incites data.
3. Communications and PURE rollout

**PURE Rollout planning**
Since the last report, we have continued to meet with as many School/College administration staff as is practical, as part of the ongoing preparation for roll out of the PURE system. At present these meetings have been specifically based on raising awareness of the PURE project, and to provide as much background as possible to the new system.

The RPS and PURE project team are now working on combining our communications into a more specific plan for the roll out of PURE ahead of 1st August, when the system will be populated and ready for commencing live use.

This communications planning will include the production of support pages on the use of PURE on the University website, as well as the production of training and support materials for wider use.

**PURE user groups**

We have started the process of setting up and running a number of user groups from around the Schools and Colleges and with whom we will work to establish the best working approaches and processes to ensure effective take up of the PURE system. The first of these user groups was held with a team from HSS in late March.

The user groups will be an essential part of the roll out process. In particular we notice that there is little understanding of some of the broader aspects of what the PURE system can offer for management of research information at the local level. The user groups will both educate users and allow Schools to plan for local strategies for how they will approach the systems use.

**NOTE:** The user groups are intended to be a representative sample of system users, and as such we would welcome engagement from the academic community as well as from administrative staff.

**PURE portal and Web Services**

We have also noted the demand for information on how the PURE system will serve information publicly for use in staff and School profile pages. This includes use of the PURE portal system and also access to system data via Atira’s web services API.

The roll out planning will take these specific needs into account, and we have since asked Atira to prepare a web based training session on the use of their web services API which we hope to run towards the end of May.
Migration of metadata only records from the publications repository

Atira have now confirmed with us that we will be able to complete the transfer of metadata only records from PURE into ERA at the system live data on the 1st August. Discussions will now be held internally about how we wish to manage the difference in collection structures between ERA and the PURE system.

ERA Statistics

The problem of creating aggregate statistics from the new version of the Dspace software is ongoing, and we are yet to find an acceptable resolution. The problem is manifested in two key areas;

a.) We are unable to create aggregate statistics for the collection/community level in Dspace, which means we cannot provide school/college level reporting.

b.) We have to provide individual administrative access to each user who wishes to see their item level statistics. This is a frustrating and backwards step for many users who need to contact the RPS team and request access.

If you have any questions or comments to make about this report, please send them to james.toon@ed.ac.uk

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