

Good Practice in enabling the re-use of Research Data: The University of Oxford

Thursday 15th January, 2015

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Dr James A J Wilson, University of Oxford IT Services
RECODE Conference, 15th-16th January, 2015



Research
Services



The University of Oxford

- Large and diverse research community
 - More than 10,000 researchers
 - 4 Academic Divisions, over 70 departments and faculties, numerous research institutes
- Very decentralized research environment
 - ‘Principle of Subsidiarity’
 - Departments largely responsible for storage and many aspects of data management
 - Many researchers influenced more by disciplinary practice than institutional context



RDM at the University of Oxford

- Work on scoping university RDM requirements began in 2008
- Several JISC-funded projects
- Loose programme of infrastructure development

Opportunistic → Coordinated

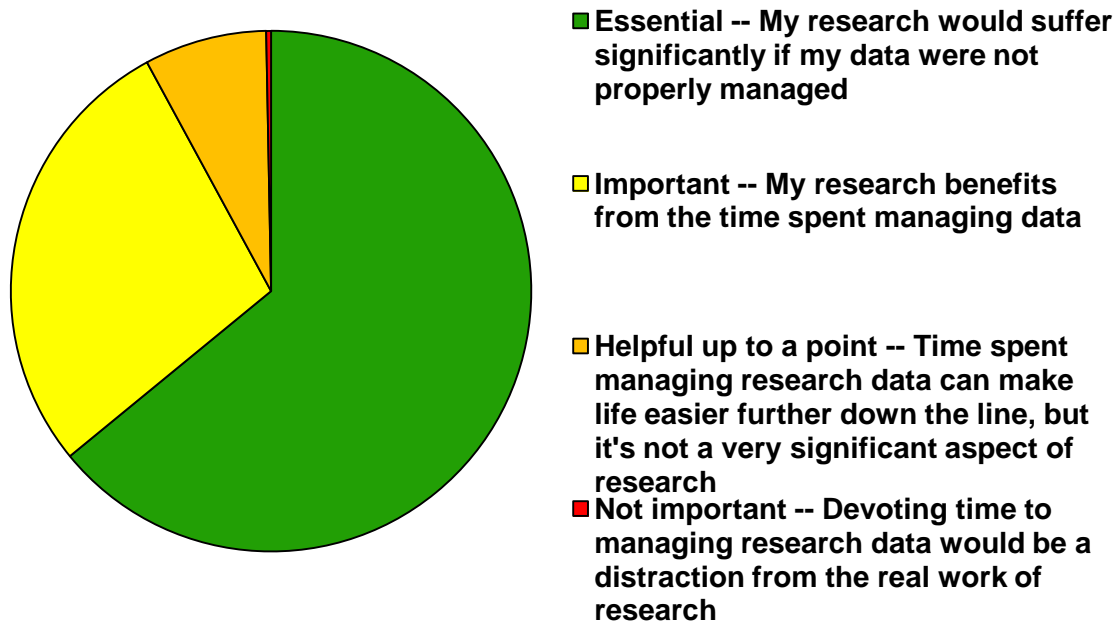
- Principles:
 - researchers need to be at the core of development
 - intra-institutional collaboration amongst service providers
 - Modular infrastructure – separate but interacting tools and services
- University RDM Policy ratified in 2012

Oxford RDM Policy

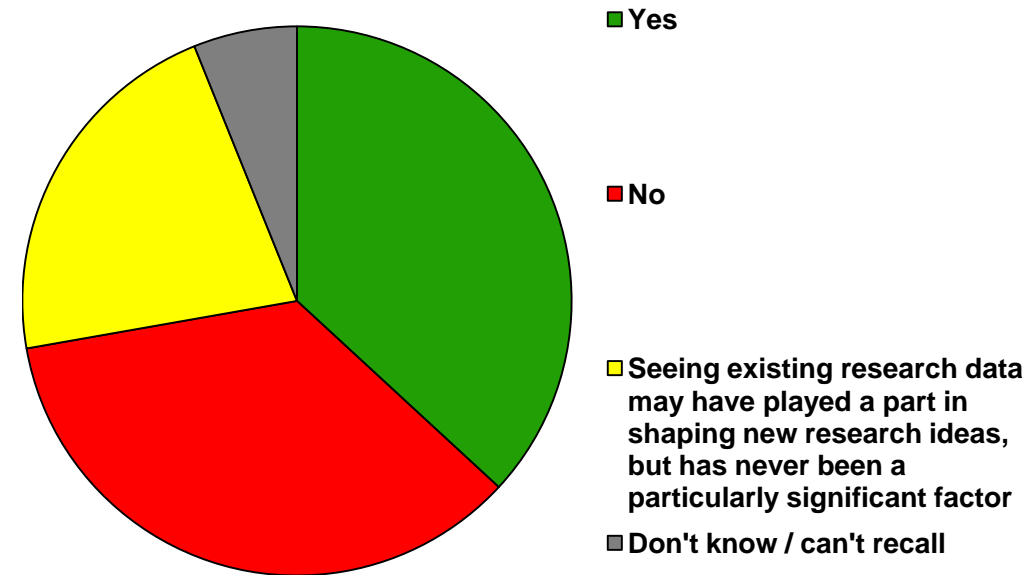
- Indicates value of research data
- Sets minimum of 3 years retention period for data after publication or public release of the work of the research (but must meet funder requirements if longer)
- Researchers responsible for documenting procedures for collection, storage, use, re-use, access, retention and destruction of research data and records
- University responsible for:
 - Providing access to services and facilities for the storage, backup, deposit and retention of research data and records that allow researchers to meet their requirements under this policy and those of the funders of their research
 - Providing researchers with access to training, support and advice in research data and records management
 - Providing the necessary resources to those operational units charged with the provision of these services, facilities and training

Researcher Attitudes toward RDM

Importance of RDM

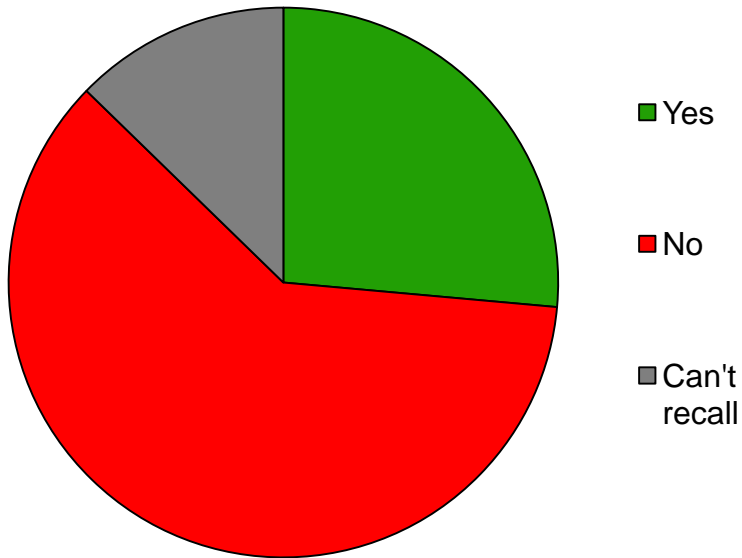


Ever been inspired to undertake new research after looking at past shared data?

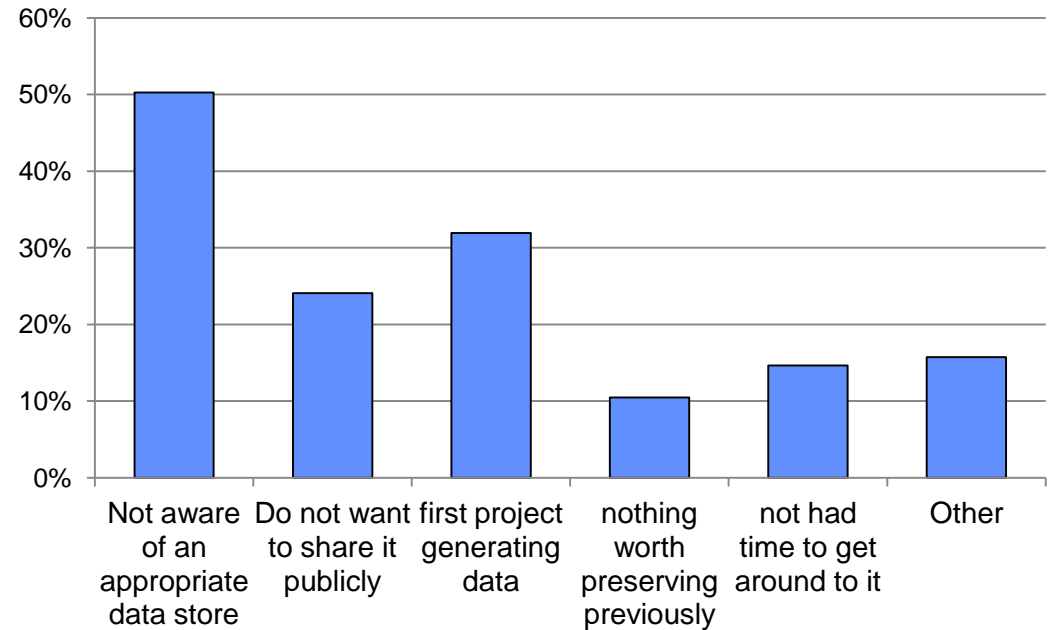


Data Sharing in Practice

Have you (or has your research team) ever deposited your research data in a dedicated repository or data store?



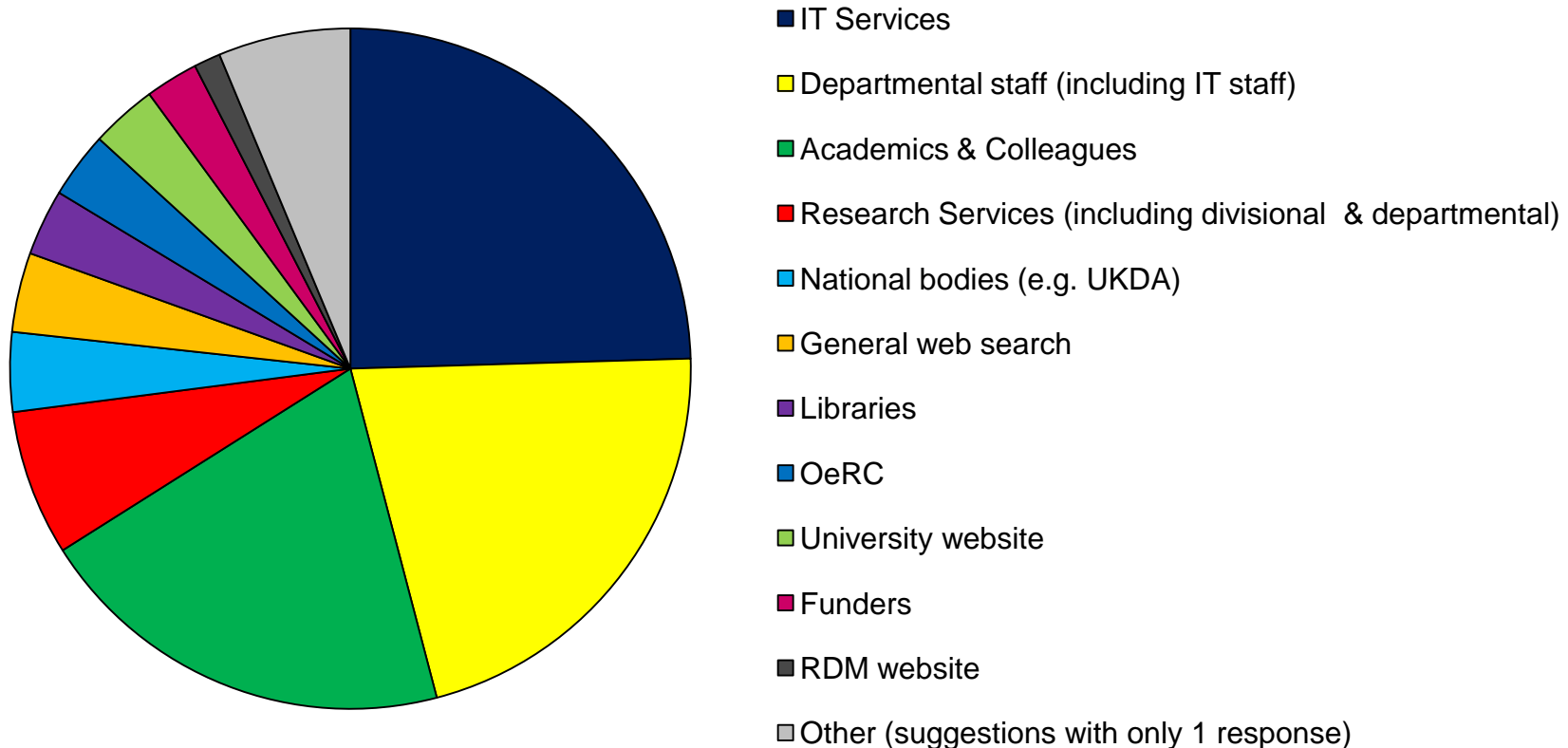
If 'no', why not?



'Other's included confidentiality agreements, security concerns, copyright, and 'will do so shortly'

Where do researchers turn for help?

“Do you know where you would go for help if you needed help writing a data management plan?”
(results of 2012 survey)



Need for cross-departmental collaboration for researcher support

- Many people within the University have expertise in aspects of research data management, although none are experts in *every* aspect of research data management

IT Services staff know about: software, storage, infrastructure, back-up, databases, XML, etc.

Libraries staff know about: metadata standards, repositories, data discovery, long-term preservation and curation, specialist software, etc.

Research Services staff know about: research administration, proposals, grants, funder mandates, legal requirements, etc.

Academic staff know about: community practices and expectations, research processes, data analysis and visualization, and, of course, the problems they face

Researcher support and coordination

- Website – www.researchdata.ox.ac.uk
- Single point of contact for researchers – researchdata@ox.ac.uk
- Awareness of who are the ‘experts’, via a ‘directory of expertise’
 - We’re using a list in a shared Google Doc consisting of: name, email address, department, area(s) of expertise
- Staff mailing list for discussing issues
- RT queue for handling enquiries, visible to everyone in the support group
 - Tickets taken by the person best positioned to help (or available)



Data Support Services for Researchers



About RDM
An introduction to research data management, including policy expectations from some of Oxford's main funders.



Working with data
Guidance and links to tools and resources to help you manage your data day-to-day and at the project planning stage.



Sharing data
General guidance on sharing data - what to take into account, licensing, citing and depositing your data.



Tools, services and training
Find out about Oxford tools to help with data management and sharing as well as training on offer.

Useful Links

- Ask a question - [Contact Us](#)
- University RDM policy - [download or view](#)
- Find out what funders expect - [see the funder policies page](#)
- Latest news - [Read the Oxford Research Data blog](#)

Please help us improve this site

Name

Email

Message

Research Data Blog

- [New RDM course listing page](#)
- [Feb 04, 2014](#)
- [Planning, Appraising, Ingesting and Documenting Data: UK Data Archive Training Workshop](#)

Home About » Working with data » Preservation Sharing data » Tools, services, training Contact us

Contact Us

Get help / Ask a question

If you are looking for help with managing your research data then please fill in the form and a member of the RDM enquiries team will respond, or email researchdata@ox.ac.uk. The RDM Enquiries team comprises representatives from the Bodleian Libraries, e-Research Centre, IT Services and Research Services.

Name *

Email *

Message *

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- Ask a question - [Contact Us](#)
- University RDM policy - [download or view](#)
- Find out what funders expect - [see the funder policies page](#)
- Latest news - [Read the Oxford Research Data blog](#)

RDM Directory of Expertise

University of Oxford

last updated: 12/03/2014

Name	Department	Skills and Areas of Expertise
James A J Wilson james.wilson@it.ox.ac.uk	IT Services - Research Support Group	General RDM issues and background Researcher requirements & behaviours Data management planning Organizing data RDM projects Tools and software for RDM ORDS DataFinder Advising researchers
Meriel Patrick meriel.patrick@it.ox.ac.uk	IT Services - Research Support Group	RDM training Advising researchers Sources of guidance and advice Humanities research Researcher requirements & behaviours Organizing data Tools and software for RDM RDM projects ORDS

Ticket #10454

The Database

Status: open
Priority: 0
Device: researchdata

Requester: James A J Wilson
samrah.ahmed@it.ox.ac.uk

Message about email alert:
Comments about this user:
No comment entered about this user
This user has not sent a note.

- 201409: (body) Database [new]
- 201406: (body) Database [new]

Groups this user belongs to:

- Everyone
- Unprivileged

History

Mon Apr 14 10:43:31 2014: samrah.ahmed - Ticket created
Subject: database
Date: Mon, 14 Apr 2014 09:43:28 +0000
To: "researchdata@ox.ac.uk" <researchdata@ox.ac.uk>
From: Samrah Ahmed <samrah.ahmed@it.ox.ac.uk>

Dear Colleagues,

Would you be able to advise on how to improve and secure a research database we have created in-house. It has been built in Access. While it is functional, we have reached our capacity in terms of being able to modify it to our needs. Would you be able to assist?

Best wishes

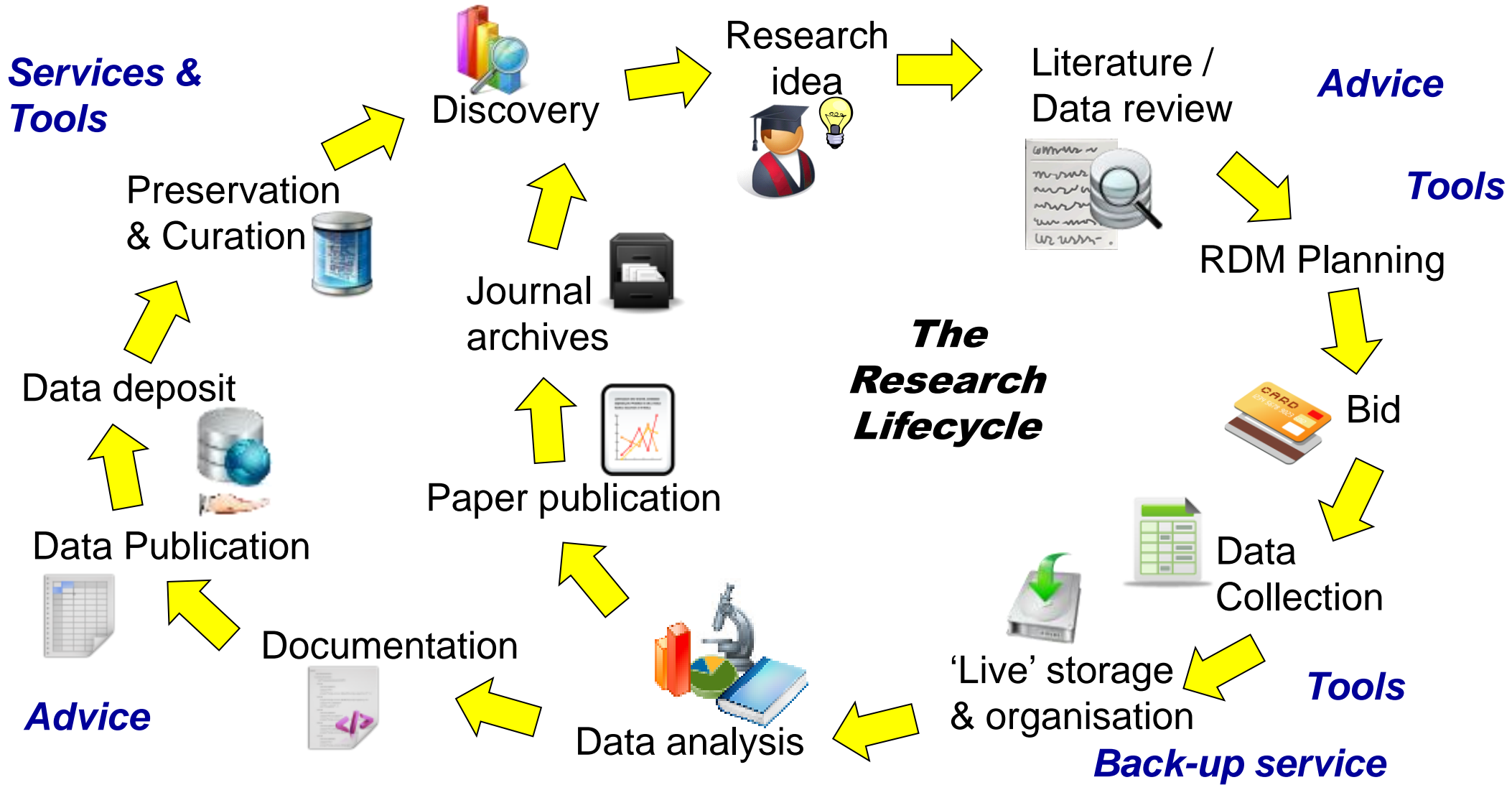
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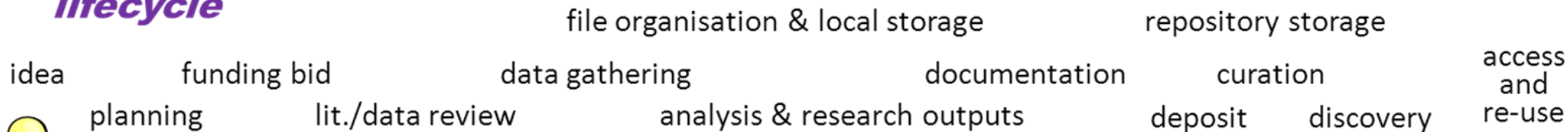


Vision for an RDM Infrastructure



Modular infrastructure

Research data lifecycle



Oxford
DMPonline



Project Costing

DATASTAGE

Storage-as-a-Service

& **OXBOX**

ORDS

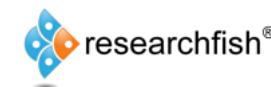
Online Research Database Service



Institutional Data Repository



HFS
Back-up



External data repositories



& EXTERNAL TOOLS AND SERVICES

Training & Support

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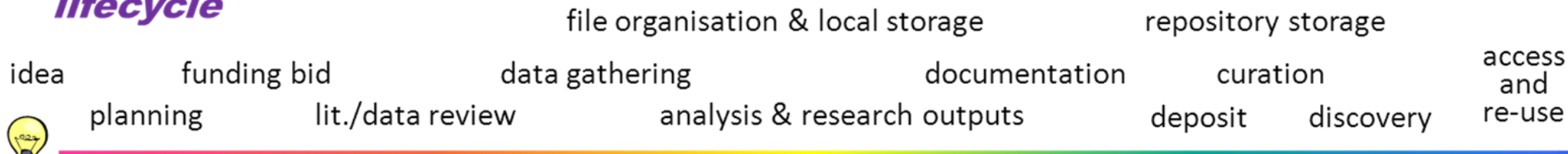


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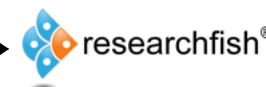
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Data Repository



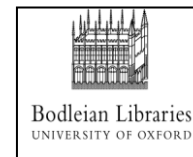
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Research
Services



Governance and responsibilities

- Research Data Management and Open Data Working Group
 - Chaired by Pro Vice Chancellor for Research
 - Academic representation from each division
 - Representation from the major support departments
- Make recommendations to Research Committee
- Different support departments (informally) responsible for different phases of research lifecycle support:
 - Research Services for pre-project
 - IT Services for 'live' research
 - Bodleian Libraries for post-project

Challenges

- Development of frameworks and APIs to package and send data & metadata
- Communications
 - Between support departments, and to and from academics
- Discipline-specific research data management
 - Greater involvement of subject librarians
- Costs of sustainability
 - Still uncertain
 - Reluctance of institutions to take these on
- IPR and licensing
 - Who can apply open licences to data?
 - Who acts as data steward?

Questions?

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