



Managing the REF

A Case Study from Bangor University

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Background on Bangor University

§A long established university, founded in 1884

§10,000 students, 23 academic schools, 600 staff

§5 Colleges:

- q Arts, Humanities and Education
- q Business, Social Sciences and Law
- q Health and Behavioural Sciences
- q Natural Sciences
- q Physical Sciences

§RAE08 identified world-leading research in our 19 UoAs

§We maintained our ranking of 50th in the UK

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Lessons from RAE 08

§Begin preparations earlier

§Gather data annually

§Hold data centrally

§Gather data at individual staff level

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January 2008

§Began developing integrated research data system:

- For internal management
- For external reporting such as REF

§Research data:

- Details are held in different sections of the institution
- Number of internal and external drivers
- Different disciplines have different requirements
- Resource implications of any development

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The Bibliometrics Pilot

§Previously only held RAE submitted output details

§Bangor was chosen for HEFCE's bibliometrics pilot project

§We volunteered to:

- Get insight into developments
- Hasten the collection of outputs for our repository
- Use the experience to inform research strategy

§Pilot highlighted good and bad practice

§Confirmed the need for a definitive research data set

§Confirmed the need for a 'joined-up' approach to research data

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A 'joined-up' system

§Off the shelf systems

- Do they deliver a complete solution
- Cost implications
- Rely on external development
- May not integrate with other HEI systems

§Bespoke system

- Can adapt to individual and external needs

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Central Research Information Management System (CRIMS)

Human Resources, <i>staff data</i>	C R I M S	Strategic Planning
Repository, <i>Manual & auto harvest</i>		REF, RCUK, HEFCW, HESA etc
IN		OUT
Finance, <i>Pre and Post Award</i>		Business and Industry
Academic Office, <i>PGR data</i>		Collaborations, Networks
Innovations Office, <i>IP, KTP etc</i>		Media, Public interactions etc

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Research monitoring

- § Useful management tool
- § Monitor annually
- § Strengths and weaknesses
- § Robust data
- § Benchmarking
- § Scenario modelling

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Impact

- §New component
- §Gather potential stories
- §25% high proportion of assessment
- §No details at this stage
- §Meaning unclear
- §Experimental and untried

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Conclusion

- §Manage research data in integrated way
- §Clear picture of strengths and weaknesses
- §Compare performance annually
- §Evidence based research strategy
- §Know our staff and what they do
- §Talk to the sector

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Break out discussion

If the RAE/REF did not exist what aspects of your institutions research, if anything, would you monitor and why.

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