Preservation as the Priority

Paul Stokes
Jisc
ORCiD 0000-0002-7333-4998

Tamsin Burland
Jisc
ORCiD 0000-0002-5129-979X

Abstract

The use of research management systems (such as CRISs, repositories and systems to manage research grants and contracts, ethics or impact) is well established across UK universities. With the drive to open research, these systems are crucial to an institution's ability to effectively manage their response to funder, legal, ethical and good practice mandates around research.

However, universities face many challenges in maintaining and supporting their portfolio of research management systems and research outputs, and ensuring they remain fit for purpose against a backdrop of a constantly evolving and sometimes unpredictable environment. (Digital) Preservation of research outputs persists as a particular problem for many institutions. There's a lack of understanding, lack of knowledge, lack of systems and, perhaps most damming, a lack of funding.

There is a school of thought that suggests that digital preservation should be the first thing a researcher should consider when preparing to embark on their research. Where are the outputs to be stored and kept usable for the long term. Data management plans are (relatively) well established and these theoretically are supposed to cover this, but the digital preservation aspect is still often glossed over or forgotten.

Submitted 30th July 2021

Correspondence should be addressed to Paul Stokes, Jisc, 4 Portwell Lane, Bristol, BS1 6NB. Email: paul.stokes@jisc.ac.uk

Copyright rests with the authors. This work is released under a Creative Commons Attribution License, version 4.0. For details please see https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/ .

In this lightning talk we intend to explore how a research data management eco system might be envisioned with preservation at its heart; the Archival Information package as the primary home for research outputs.

iPRES Theme: Empowering Digital Preservation for the Enriched Digital Ecosystem