Working Toward Research Information Interoperability in the UK
Jisc offers digital services for UK education and research. The charity does this to achieve its vision for the UK to be the most digitally advanced education and research nation in the world.

Jisc.ac.uk
1. Overview of UK research landscape

2. Introduction and background to CASRAI

3. UK CASRAI national network pilot

4. Implications of CASRAI and connections to other initiatives
The UK research context

» Research excellence (REF) and research impact
» Government mandates and reporting requirements
» Open access
» Increasing importance of external (non-governmental) funding
» Interdisciplinary and international
» Importance of the institutional brand and national/international profile
The UK research (information management) context

Internal data flows within the university

Reporting on research projects

Grant applications

Research Councils

Research Fish

ROS

JeS

Reviser
Research information management is a relatively young profession*

Institutional systems landscape is complex (ad hoc): CRIS/IRs; UKRISS; spreadsheets.

Funder systems landscape is complex (and somewhat ad hoc): JeS; Research Fish; HESA; ROS

Information required for both day-to-day management, funding requirements and strategic decision making

Consortia Advancing Standards in Research Administration Information (CASRAI)

International community of leading research funders and institutions collaborating to ensure seamless interoperability of research information

Develop and maintain a common data dictionary and advocate on best practices
Dictionary defines key terms or information elements which relate to the management of (for example):

› Research grants,
› CVs
› data management plans
› controlled vocabularies
› Authoritative lists
› Identifiers
» A single, open and unambiguous reference source for data profiles

» Can be used by multiple technology suppliers – including those using CERIF or VIVO
Jisc and CASRAI are piloting three National Working Groups in the UK;

The groups will be focusing on priority areas that emerged at the CASRAI-UK summit in Dec 2013:

1. Data Management Plans
2. Organisational Lists
3. Research Reporting
Developing an initial data profile reflecting the current version of the Digital Curation Centre’s “DMP-Online” tool.

Potentially developing a version of the data profile derived from harmonization and discussions among the UK Research Councils.
Explore the suitability of FundRef, ISNI, Ringgold lists for adoption as a standard authoritative list for international funding organizations

Examine sources of authoritative lists of organisations involved in UK research

Develop a sustainable process for maintaining authoritative lists of organisations in the CASRAI dictionary
Development of data profile supporting institutional report to UK funders for the new policy on Open Access and research contributions and outputs more generally
Engaging stakeholders by convening the CASRAI-UK National Review Circle

The National Working Groups will be developing the outputs, drafts and reports (and fed back to the Review Circle)

The National Review Circle ensures that the resulting standards are applicable and multi-disciplinary and that valid diverged views are communicated
Shared research reporting service focusing on priority use-cases for researchers, institutions, funders and publishers:

- Monitoring publication activity
- Collaboration: Standards development and interoperability
- Funder mandate compliance
- Monitoring publication charges
» CASRAI: Casrai.org
» CASRAI/Jisc National Network: Jisc.ac.uk
» Research Information Management Toolkit: jiscinfonet.ac.uk/infokits/research-information-management
» Jisc Monitor: slideshare.com/JISC
» Cerif: eurocris.org
» Rioxx: rioxx.net
Ben Showers
Head of Scholarly and Library Futures, Jisc
b.showers@jisc.ac.uk
@benshowers