



Centre for Housing Research

AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Kāinga Tipu

Scoping Study into the Creation of a Register of Housing Research in New Zealand

PREPARED BY

Norman Smith

FOR THE

**Centre for Housing Research,
Aotearoa New Zealand**

DECEMBER 2008

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Scoping Study into the Creation of a Register of Housing Research in New Zealand

Report to



Norman Smith June 2008

Structure of Scoping Study:

The Terms of Reference for this contract required an open-ended approach with the results of the initial information gathering and survey determining the next stages of the work.

For this reason documenting the process is an integral component of this report, which comprises;

- Principal Activities: Sections A – I p 3
- Conclusions: Section J p 5
- Recommendations: Section K p 7

Supporting documents for Principal Activities are provided in the corresponding Appendices A – I, pages 8-40

Report Overview - Timing is everything

What began as a scoping study and survey was extended mid-way through the contract to include developing and leading a workshop attended by “key housing research stakeholders”.

Reasons for this additional component were;

- the high level of interest to improve access to housing research by many organisations who took part in the initial survey, and
- timing related to current national initiatives in the use of digital technologies to improve access to all New Zealand research

This report has been prepared in the knowledge that, while CHRANZ commissioned this study, the principal stakeholders are the myriad of organisations, in Government and beyond, who in order to perform their functions need better access to research, information and data about housing.

I would like to express my appreciation to Terrence Aschoff who made time available on a regular basis to review progress as the contract unfolded, and board member Professor David Thorns and Cathie Benson, responsible for the CHRANZ bibliographic database, for their input at key stages of the study.

Norman Smith

“..... lack of access to housing research and associated information and data is a major issue which needs to be addressed.”

A: Background to Scoping Study

The CHRANZ board has considered how readily people with a professional interest in housing research are able to access the “public domain” research and data they require. The creation of the CHRANZ bibliographic database in early 2004 had the objective of improving awareness of housing research, information and data.

Last year Norman Smith, a previous contractor to CHRANZ with a background in library and information services, was engaged to carry out a scoping study to consider possible options including the development of a comprehensive Register of Housing Research.

Refer Appendix A, page 8 for Terms of Reference for the study

B: First stage of work

The first stage of this work was to engage with stakeholders, organisations known to have an interest in housing research. This was carried out initially through interviews and a written survey.

Face to face meetings were held with eleven individuals, the survey was sent to 60 others, and also promoted through the Social Policy Evaluation and Research (SPEaR) network. This survey, developed with assistance from Terrence Aschoff and David Thorns, was carried out over December 07/January 08.

Refer Appendix B, page 9 for a copy of the survey with cover letter

C: Initial engagement with stakeholders

The principal target group for the survey was housing research managers and specialists in central and local Government whose role is to inform those in their organisation involved with the development of housing-related policy. IT specialists and librarians were not contacted at this stage.

As a result of the interviews and the survey 15 substantial organisations and sector groups advised on-going access to housing research was “very important” for their work. [The diversity of their needs was matched by the range of opinions about how such research should be organised]. The strong view which emerged was lack of access to housing research and associated information and data is a major issue which needs to be addressed.

D: Meeting with National (Digital) Library

While engaging with in-house library specialists did not take place until the second stage of this scoping study, a priority was engaging with staff at the National *Digital* Library. National *Digital* Library is a directorate within the National Library which has been leading and/or involved with initiatives which have the objective of “charting a course for a content-rich digital NZ”.

In November 2007, in association with 15 tertiary education providers, the National Library launched Kiwi Research Information Service (KRIS) a public website that

provides information about and links to research held in institutional repositories at New Zealand universities and polytechnics.

Refer Appendix D, pages 11-12 for background information about KRIS, the NZ Digital Content Strategy and associated material

E: Potential for Collaboration - Institutional (Shared) Repositories

The potential for such an integrated approach to create a register/portal/clearinghouse for housing research is apparent. Institutional repositories can assist organisations improve their in-house performance in the storage, retrieval and distribution of housing-related research – and make it readily available to others at the same time. If more than one organisation shared a repository this would allow further collaboration.

Interest in exploring this was mutual; having launched KRIS the National Library was considering future directions for institutional repositories when approached by (CHRANZ on behalf of) the housing sector. Potential synergies and a basis for future collaboration were agreed in a document prepared in March.

Refer Appendix E, page 13, the one page document which outlines the position of the CHRANZ and the National Library

F: Background to Key Stakeholders Workshop

At a contract review in March Terrence Aschoff was advised a principal recommendation in the final report would be to bring together the organisations self-selected as “key housing research stakeholders” and National Library. The objective would be to explore using new digital technology and institutional repositories software, to create an open access housing research repository.

In order to maintain the impetus it was arranged (by way of a contract extension) to proceed immediately to organise a workshop for this purpose.

Refer Appendix F, pages 14-16 for background briefing paper sent to invitees and five who sent apologies and requested to be kept informed of developments

G: May 30 Workshop

This half-day workshop was held in Wellington on May 30. Nine organisations attended, four accepted the invitation to send 2-3 people, so involving their library and IT staff. Attendance of these information specialists proved invaluable as it brought together the range of people involved with creation, use, storage and dissemination of housing information.

External presenters were Matthew Oliver, Product Manager – Digital Solutions, National Digital Library, National Library of New Zealand and Barbara Carriock, Principal Librarian, Manukau Institute of Technology and a member of the KRIS Governance Group. Notwithstanding that six key stakeholders sent apologies and some sectors (e.g. local/regional Government) were represented by a single organisation, the

workshop was notable for the presence of most of the country's key housing research stakeholders, including people based in Auckland and Christchurch.

Refer Appendix G, pages 17 – attendees; 18-31 - presentations by Norman Smith, Matthew Oliver, Barbara Carriock

H. Issues, Positions of Stakeholders at Workshop

Despite their diversity attendees chose to focus on identifying areas of common concern which could be addressed through working together. Discussion at the workshop was recorded in detail and a summary also prepared; all documents have been distributed electronically to facilitate discussion.

A questionnaire at the completion of the workshop showed considerable interest in the idea of a joint venture, and a willingness to provide funding to take this to the next stage. Terrence Aschoff advised a report to the CHRANZ board would include recommendations on possible next steps, this report to be circulated to people attending following consideration by the board.

Refer Appendix H, page 32 - summary of workshop; 33-39 - opening comments from participants, questions and comments; 40- level of interest to continue working together and committing time and resources.

I. Post-workshop follow up with National Library

At the time of the workshop on May 30 the National Library was actively considering options for the development of and directions for institutional (common) digital repositories. Follow up discussions in mid-June confirmed they are moving towards the creation of a separate repository for research produced outside of tertiary educations and available through mechanisms such as KRIS or other National Library initiatives.

Such a repository could reference published reports and information as considered appropriate by stakeholders from the non-tertiary research sector. This is a positive development for people involved with housing research, providing impetus for a collective/consortium approach and to work with the National Library.

J. Conclusions

- The timing of this CHRANZ initiative is particularly appropriate, coinciding with the launch of KRIS, the joint initiative by the National Library and tertiary education providers to improve access to New Zealand research. This provides a strong exemplar of the benefits of repository software in the research sector.
- Digital technology and institutional (common) repositories can provide the means to facilitate access to diverse and multi-sourced housing research and data and the institutional framework for wide range of organisations to collaborate.

- Some housing organisations are struggling to provide library information services for staff and, as increasingly required as part of their mandate, make their work widely available to others.
- Repository software can provide on-line searching capacity which obviates the need to resolve the problematic issue of defining “housing research” in order to include/exclude certain material, e.g. urban development.
- National Library, which has a lead role in developing the Digital Content Strategy for New Zealand, now favours the development of a separate institutional repository, i.e. beyond that established for peer-reviewed university research publications available through KRIS. This approach will be most helpful for any housing research initiative while the ability to engage with a substantial potential user group has assisted National Library.
- The bibliographic database developed by CHRANZ is a commendable initiative and a valuable resource for some researchers. While its functionality has been upgraded it remains only a partial source of references/abstracts in an era where immediate and full text on-line access is increasingly the norm.
- The workshop developed a tripod collaborative model between organisations with the principal elements;
 - Repositories – sharing of documents
 - Data exchange - sharing datasets, and
 - Networking - personal cooperation.

There was unanimous acceptance of the value of using this model, starting with sharing documents through a common repository.

- Critical to success is the will to collaborate over an extended period. Such a partnership/consortium is consistent with the “whole of Government” policy for the provision of information and services, as defined in the *E-Government Strategy*. <http://www.e.govt.nz/>.
- There was an expectation among people at the workshop that CHRANZ has earned the right - and implicitly has the responsibility - to take this initiative to the next stage. This could include convening another meeting, with a minimum of delay, to resolve if and how to work together. Such a follow-up should seek a commitment of time and resources from others to determine whether it is realistic to proceed.
- It is possible that given its leadership to date, and in the absence of any structure, a next meeting might ask for further work to remain in the interim under the neutral CHRANZ umbrella.

K. Recommendations

1. That CHRANZ extend its leadership role in this initiative to improve access to housing research and data by facilitating the process for housing research stakeholders to decide if and how they wish to work together to create a common digital repository.
2. That this process, which would probably include working with National Library and convening another meeting should take place as soon as possible to maintain the impetus of the work to date.
3. That CHRANZ encourage stakeholders to reach a Proceed or Abandon decision without delay, i.e. within 8-10 weeks. One way to precipitate this decision is request each organisation commit, say, \$3-7000 for further development.
4. That if fewer than 4-5 commit to this level of seed funding then CHRANZ resolve this initiative lacks sufficient support to be worthy of its own continuing involvement.
5. That should there be interest beyond this minimum threshold then CHRANZ resolve to join this group and agree to commit to appropriate funding to support the joint feasibility work in 2008/9
6. That as part of its commitment CHRANZ allocate additional resources to consider how to migrate its present bibliographic database into a resource to form part of a future institutional repository
7. That, assuming this project proceeds, CHRANZ if asked agree to continue in a coordinating role over the next 12 months with costs funded by the contributions from the embryonic consortium created for this purpose.

APPENDIX A - Background to Scoping Study**Terms of reference****CENTRE FOR HOUSING RESEARCH AOETAROA NEW ZEALAND [CHRANZ]****Register of Housing Research – Scoping Study:**

There appears to be considerable interest in creating a comprehensive register of housing research. The objective of this study is to consider if and how such a project should proceed. Specifically the contractor Norman Smith will, in no particular order;

- Develop a framework which defines ‘housing related research’ for the purpose of this initiative
- Develop a high level map of public and private housing research in New Zealand
- Develop a matrix of this activity, e.g. current/not current, published/unpublished/in progress etc
- Understand where and how the results of this research is published, located and made available
- Engage with principal stakeholders, researchers and information nodes (libraries etc), on the value of a register
- Gain an understanding into whether existing information structures meet the needs of users/potential users
- From talking to other stakeholders, provide an indication of other potential sources of funding
- Consider organisational models to develop this resource, e.g. collaborative
- Evaluate various service delivery models to meet user needs
- Evaluate delivery model and technology, e.g. bibliographic, interactive, portal
- Provide indicative costs for set-up and on-going maintenance/development of such a resource

September 2007

APPENDIX B - First stage of work**Copy of survey with cover letter**

December 2007

HOUSING RESEARCH IN NEW ZEALAND – Scoping Study to understand the value and feasibility of establishing a comprehensive Register of Housing Research

Dear Colleague,

Through past contact or an understanding of your organisation we understand you have an interest in housing related research.

It is likely you have heard of the Centre for Housing Research Aotearoa New Zealand (CHRANZ) established in 2003 to “invest in and promote housing research that provides an evidence base for policies and practices that meet New Zealand's housing needs”

CHRANZ is carrying out a scoping study to understand how readily people with a professional interest in housing presently access the housing research they require, and how CHRANZ can assist them. The target group for this review is particularly – but not exclusively – housing policy advisers, advocates and others in similar roles in central and local Government agencies and non-Government agencies.

One element of the work is a review of the existing CHRANZ on-line database which includes New Zealand housing-related research from a range of sources. [<http://chranz.infospecs.co.nz/>]

We have no pre-conceived ideas of the findings other than a belief, from our own experience and talking with others, that not all housing specialists can readily access all available New Zealand housing research which will assist their work.

This can be a busy time of the year but we hope you can assist us by taking 6-8 minutes to complete the attached survey and return to us by December 20.

The survey has been prepared by Norman Smith, the contractor we have engaged for this work. Please contact me or Norman directly if you require clarification on any aspects of the study.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Aschoff".

Terrence Aschoff,
Manager – CHRANZ
04 439 3326

HOUSING – RELATED RESEARCH IN NEW ZEALAND – SURVEY

[Return to Norman Smith in the form most convenient for you, electronically - norman@rminz.org.nz - or Fax : 04-387-2703]

Definition: For the purpose of this survey and consistent with CHRANZ objectives "housing" embodies the wider living environment over and above individual dwellings and covers all aspects of both the physical building – social, economic and construction(e.g. energy use) - and urban design.

Name of your organisation _____

Your name, position title: _____

Contact details: e-mail/telephone: _____

Which best describes your role with regard to housing-related research topics (tick as many categories as relevant)

- Instigator/commissioner of research
 User of research for policy development in local/central Government
 User of research for advocacy work
 Retrieval or storage of research for others
 Other, e.g. for teaching purposes _____

Can you provide any further comments with regard to the type of published research you require, e.g. changing patterns of home ownership:

What information sources do you use or direct people to for housing-related research information

- Own resources, knowledge or library
 National Library or on-line databases
 CHRANZ database
 Other Government agencies, e.g. Statistics Dept, please provide details:
 Other, please specify, e.g. use in-house expertise, international databases
- _____

How often do you use the CHRANZ database? frequently occasionally never

Do you have any comments about its usefulness to obtain different kinds of information, e.g. published research versus guidance to other sources, and where it could be improved:

Access to housing research and information, of which there are many kinds, is important to people in many organisations. Can you please indicate its importance to you

- Very important we need on-going access to a range of housing research
 Regularly need to retrieve relevant research
 Occasionally need particular documents
 Only rarely need specialised housing research

Do you have any other comments about how well your needs are met with regards to access to housing related research – what works and what does not:

Details of other persons (within your organisation or beyond) we should be in contact with:

Thank you, Norman Smith – contractor to CHRANZ
norman@rminz.org.nz Cel. 021 499 031 Fax. 04 387 2703 Tel. 04-387 2303

APPENDIX D

Information from National Library website <http://nzresearch.org.nz>



Welcome to the Kiwi Research Information Service

The Kiwi Research Information Service and the nzresearch.org.nz website grew out of a project at The National Library of New Zealand called the National Research Discovery System Project (the "Nerds Project" to its friends). It was a highly collaborative project, with contributions from other research projects and institutions all around New Zealand.

This website is a gateway to the open-access research documents produced at universities, polytechnics, and other research institutions throughout New Zealand.

We have harvested research document metadata from around New Zealand and collected it in one place. You can use this website to [search](#) for research, look up specific [subjects](#) or [authors](#), [browse](#) the research in various ways, and [keep abreast](#) of emerging research activity.

If you're a researcher at a New Zealand institution, we encourage you to [contribute](#) your research outputs to your institution's research repository. nzresearch.org.nz will harvest them and distribute them to your peers - both in New Zealand and worldwide.

Participating Institutions:

Universities

[Auckland University of Technology](#) (319 Records, at May 2008)
[Lincoln University](#) (474 Records)
[Massey University](#) (282 Records)
[The University of Auckland](#) (2020 Records)
[University of Canterbury](#) (652 Records)
[University of Otago](#) (710 Records)
[University of Waikato](#) (354 Records)
[Victoria University of Wellington](#) (245 Records)

Polytechnics

[Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology](#) (2 Records)
[Manukau Institute of Technology](#) (13 Records)
[NorthTec](#) (19 Records)
[Open Polytechnic of New Zealand](#) (14 Records)
[Unitec New Zealand](#) (54 Records)
[Universal College of Learning](#) (12 Records)
[Whitireia Community Polytechnic](#) (57 Records)

The goal of nzresearch.org.nz is to connect research users from around the world to research documents produced in New Zealand institutions.

The nzresearch.org.nz harvester gathers information about documents stored in research repositories from around New Zealand, and assembles them in one database. The original documents are all held at the originating institutions, this website only stores information like the title, authors, URL, and subject. Once the metadata is harvested, the real work of nzresearch.org.nz begins: pushing the metadata out into the wider research community through RSS feeds, OAI-PMH re-export, SRU searches, and other novel channels.



Institutional Repositories | **Ira**
Aotearoa



"coda, An Institutional Repository for the New Zealand ITP Sector is a DigitalCommons project that highlights university scholarship of various types (working papers, journal articles, dissertations and theses, etc.)."

(<http://www.coda.ac.nz/>)

"The purpose of the Institutional Repositories Aotearoa Project is to make available ... research outputs created by staff and students of the three partner institutions through the implementation of open access institutional repositories..."

(<http://www.ira.auckland.ac.nz/>)

The Open Access Repositories in New Zealand (OARiNZ) project will design and build the infrastructure necessary to connect all of New Zealand's digital research repositories that meet standards for interoperability and access."

(<http://www.oarinz.ac.nz/>)

All three projects were funded by the New Zealand Government through the Tertiary Education Commission's eLearning Collaborative Development Fund - <http://www.tec.govt.nz/>

Definitions

- An **Institutional Repository (IR)** is defined as an online locus for collecting, preserving and disseminating – in digital form – the intellectual output of an institution particularly one involved in research

IRs form part of a larger national, regional and global system of Open Access repositories, indexed in a standardised way and searchable using one interface.

- **Open access** is free, immediate, permanent, full-text, online access for any user, web-wide, to digital scientific and scholarly material, primarily research published in peer-reviewed journals
- **Metadata** is "data about data" which is essential for locating and retrieving digitally stored information such as publications. It shares many similar characteristics to the cataloguing that takes place in libraries and archives.

APPENDIX E

Document developed with National Library on behalf of CHRANZ and Housing Research stakeholders

Potential for Collaboration between the Centre for Housing Research Aotearoa New Zealand and the Kiwi Research Information Service, National Library of New Zealand

CENTRE FOR HOUSING RESEARCH

The Centre for Housing Research Aotearoa New Zealand (CHRANZ) in October 2007 initiated a review of how well existing New Zealand housing research is utilised. The rationale for this review was the opinion of CHRANZ board members - reinforced by informal discussions with a range of government departments and others - that not all policy makers and others were accessing all housing research that was available.

The objective of this review was to ensure housing related policies and programmes are developed with the benefit of all relevant research and information. When the review was initiated it was envisaged a possible outcome could be the development of the present CHRANZ bibliographic open access database [<http://chranz.infospecs.co.nz/>] into a more advanced Register of Housing Research.

Work to date by Norman Smith, the consultant engaged to carry out this work, has included interviewing and surveying a range of stakeholders who use, create, retrieve, aggregate or distribute housing-related research. This led to meetings with staff at the National Library involved with the new Kiwi Research Information Service (KRIS) initiative.

NATIONAL LIBRARY – KIWI RESEARCH INFORMATION SERVICE

Since 2006 a consortium of 15 academic institutions has been working with the National Library to create a new method of providing ready access New Zealand research. The project has the objective of, eventually, creating a single access point for all New Zealand research.

The goal of nzresearch.org.nz is to connect research users to documents produced in New Zealand institutions, by gathers information about documents stored in research repositories from around New Zealand and assembling them in one database. The original documents are all held at the originating institutions, this website only stores information like the title, authors, URL, and subject. Once the metadata is harvested KRIS is pro-active in disseminating this metadata into the wider research community through RSS feeds, OAI-PMH re-export, SRU searches, and other channels.

At March 3, 4632 documents had been harvested from the 15 foundation partners. A search of the database on that date produced 42 references to *house* and *housing*. With the pilot now established – the service was launched in November 2007 – the National Library is now looking to work with other agencies to add their research to KRIS. [Ref. <http://nzresearch.org.nz/>]

COLLABORATION BETWEEN CHRANZ AND KRIS

Both the writer and Matthew Oliver, Product Manager – Digital Solutions, National Library, believe the CHRANZ review to be particularly timely and there is an opportunity for the parties to explore how they could collaborate. In this way;

- KRIS would acquire a partner beyond the initial 15 with which to pilot (and document) the process of a new organisation joining with it
- CHRANZ would achieve the objective of its present initiative by further improving access to housing research beyond the database it established for this purpose

There are a number of additional benefits to both parties which should be explored; CHRANZ could extend its leadership role in compiling research and other information across the housing sector, perhaps even establishing a document repository.

The National Library has stated it is interested to meet with CHRANZ/Housing New Zealand Corporation to explore how the parties might work together on a project which would use the capabilities of KRIS to improve access to New Zealand housing.

Norman Smith March 11, 2008

APPENDIX F**Background to Key Stakeholders Workshop**

May, 2008

Dear Colleague,

Workshop for Housing Research Stakeholders - Wellington Friday May 30, 2008

The invitation to attend this workshop follows your recent communications with Norman Smith who is contracted by the Centre for Housing Research (CHRANZ) to review access to New Zealand housing research.

Some time back you spoke with Norman and/or completed a survey about housing research. Through this we learned about organisations carrying out, commissioning, aggregating or using housing-related research and identified yours as a principal stakeholder in this field.

The objective of the workshop is to explore the potential to collaborate to improve access to housing research through the use of institutional repository software. The use of this software within the academic Open Access community in New Zealand has been exemplified in the recently launched Kiwi Research Information Service (KRIS) and the workshop will draw on the experiences of that project.

The attached paper provides background on how we have got to this point. Details of the workshop are as follows:

- Venue: Conference Room,
3rd Floor, National Library 58-78 Molesworth St, Wellington
- Date: Friday May 30, 2008
- Time: 9.00 a.m., coffee for 9.15 a.m. start
12 noon. Finish and lunch
- Programme: The starting point for the workshop will be presentations from Matthew Oliver, Product Manager-Digital Solutions at National Library and Barbara Garriock from the Manukau Institute of Technology, a member of the KRIS Governance Group who is also leading the development of CODA, a consortium of tertiary institutions developing a common institutional repository. From that point an open ended discussion will consider the issues and opportunities outlined in the attached document.

I hope you will be able to attend the workshop, can you please confirm this by contacting Norman Smith - Norman@rminz.org.nz. - who can clarify any matters.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "T. Aschoff".

Terrence Aschoff, Manager - CHRANZ 04 439 3326 terrence.aschoff@chranz.co.nz

BACKGROUND PAPER

Workshop for Housing Research Stakeholders - National Library, Wellington May 30, 2008

Prior to this workshop people attending may wish to circulate this document within their organisation for comment. As well as research managers it will be relevant to library staff and others who maintain research collections or access research.

WORK TO DATE

The Centre for Housing Research Aotearoa New Zealand (CHRANZ) <http://www.chranz.co.nz/> in October 2007 initiated a review of how well existing New Zealand housing research is utilised. The rationale for this review was the opinion of CHRANZ board members - reinforced by informal discussions with a range of government departments and others - that not all policy makers and others were accessing all available research relevant to their work.

The objective of this review was to ensure housing related policies and programmes are developed with the benefit of all relevant research and information. When the review was initiated it was envisaged a possible outcome could be the development of the present CHRANZ bibliographic database [<http://chranz.infospeccs.co.nz/>] into a more advanced Register of Housing Research.

Work to date by Norman Smith, the consultant engaged to carry out this work, has included interviewing and surveying a range of stakeholders who use, create, retrieve, aggregate or distribute housing-related research.

With assistance from other organisations such as the Social Policy Evaluation and Research Committee (SPEaR) endeavors were made to contact all organisations involved with housing research.

Given the diversity of organisations with an interest in housing more than 80 were identified, including some which represented their wider membership (e.g. community housing groups) or substantial sectors (e.g. Local Government)

Through their responses to the survey a number have self-selected to be invited to this workshop, advising that access to housing-related research is *very important* to their work. (See attached copy of survey). Because of their size and interest in housing research three organisations have been invited to send two people.

INSTITUTIONAL REPOSITORIES AND THE OPEN ACCESS INITIATIVE

The development of institutional repositories as an idea and software tool grew out of the Open Access Initiative, which aimed to open up access to peer-reviewed published content that typically resided in print and online journals. That these journals often charge subscription fees to the institutions and researchers that created the content led to the creation of local repositories in which researcher could lodge pre- and post-publication copies of the content.

Many institutional repositories therefore define their scope accordingly and only accept research outputs that meet the criteria of 'peer-reviewed journal articles and conference papers as well as technical reports, theses and working papers' (see the JISC briefing paper available at http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/pub_openaccess_v2.aspx). Some repositories have however gone beyond this definition and accept documents outside this scope.

OBJECTIVE OF WORKSHOP

Work to date on this contract has shown what will be known to those who carry out, commission or use housing-related research - that such a diverse range of disciplines and subject areas are involved and access can be highly problematic. CHRANZ recognises its own effort to aggregate information through the creation of a bibliographic database is only a start.

Experience in the academic community has shown the value of using institutional repositories to store research and make it more widely available. Is there an opportunity for housing research stakeholders to create a consortium which would create a digital repository for housing research which in turn could utilise common features of repository software to propagate research to stakeholders and other researchers as well as into wider online communities? Such a question raises further questions:

- How many housing research documents might be involved, hundreds, thousands? Is there metadata available and a well developed structure?
- Is a repository the right mechanism, i.e. is this the best use of resources or are there other options which need to be considered?
- What would the scope of a Housing Research repository be in terms of the original aims of the Open Access Initiative? Would it adhere to strict definitions of peer-reviewed content and if not what would the implications be?
- Who would build and maintain the repository and who would meet the cost?
- Would a Housing Research repository stand on its own as a valid output or does the group feel that inclusion in a service like KRIS is required to validate the project?

Both CHRANZ and National Library note the similarity of the aims of CHRANZ's work and that carried out by the KRIS project. The National Library is well-placed to provide advice, guidance and access to information and users of repositories and is pleased to be invited to attend this workshop. In light of developments in the research and online areas it is very timely to be bringing housing research stakeholders together to explore if and how to proceed.

KIWI RESEARCH INFORMATION SERVICE

The Kiwi Research Information Service (KRIS) is an initiative between the National Library and universities and polytechnics from around New Zealand to connect open access institutional repositories together through the website, <http://nzresearch.org.nz>. The site was launched in November 2007. A recent search showed 4632 documents had been harvested from the foundation partners with a search producing 42 references to *house* and *housing*.

The site is an exemplar of the way research can be aggregated from many different repositories and presented by institution, author and most importantly subject. A key aspect of KRIS is the original documents are all held at the originating institutions, this website stores only information such as title, authors, URL, and subject. Once the metadata is harvested KRIS is pro-active in disseminating this metadata into the wider research community through Really Simple Syndication (RSS), Search/Retrieve by URL (SRU) and the Open Access Initiative - Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH).

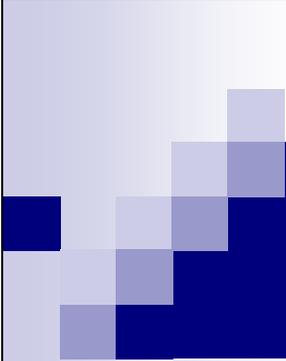
It should be noted that KRIS is only one avenue for disseminating and aggregating research and with a repository in place many others are available.

Matthew Oliver, Product Manager - Digital Solutions at the National Library advises there is a parallel between this initiative and that of the National Energy Research Institute (NERI), <http://www.neri.org.nz/>. NERI comprises 13 partnership organisations looking to utilise the tools provided by the KRIS website to facilitate access to energy research. They too face the challenge of developing a structure which integrates areas/disciplines which to date have been spread across a wide range of classifications.

On a more practical level, CODA is a consortium of five Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics in New Zealand already in operation and linked to KRIS. <http://www.coda.ac.nz/>. These five have collaborated to develop a common institutional repository of research and scholarly output selected and deposited by the individual institutes.

APPENDIX G**May 30 Workshop : Attendees, Presentations**

| ATTENDEES | REPRESENTING |
|---|--|
| John Duncan Richard Arkinstall Margaret McLachlan | Building Research (BRANZ) |
| Marc Daghish Corwin Wallens | Housing New Zealand |
| Tim Robertson Judith Maxim | Department of Housing and Building |
| Eva McLaren | Auckland Regional Council |
| Allen Davison Lisa Campbell | Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority |
| Philip Worthington | NZ Family Violence Clearinghouse Ministry for Social Development |
| Don Neely | CHAI Community Housing Aotearoa |
| Vicki Cowan | Beacon Pathway |
| Karen Bayne David Drysdale Daniel Kellenberger | SCION – Formerly Forest Research |
| Terrence Aschoff | CHRANZ – Centre for Housing Research Aotearoa NZ |
| David Thorns | CHRANZ Board and Canterbury University |
| Norman Smith | CHRANZ contractor |
| Matthew Oliver | National Library of New Zealand |
| Barbara Carriock | Manukau Institute of Technology Member CODA and KRIS Governance Group |
| Apologies | Treasury MfE - Ministry for the Environment WasteMINZ - Waste Management Institute of NZ CRESA - Centre for Research Evaluation and Social Assessment SPEaR - Social Policy Evaluation and Research Committee Landcare Research |



CHRANZ Housing Research Stakeholders Workshop

Wellington
Friday May 30, 2008

Norman Smith

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Review of Housing Research

1. Engage with principal housing research stakeholders to understand whether existing information structures meet user needs
2. Consider ways access could be improved and options, e.g. creation of a comprehensive housing research register
3. Evaluate improved delivery models and how stakeholders might collaborate, provide indicative costs for set-up, maintenance and development

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Scope and Definitions

Housing

All aspects of building envelope, social and economic issues and the wider living environment, urban design/human settlement

Research

Defined by participants.

Stakeholders

Organisations commissioning, carrying out, retrieving, aggregating or disseminating housing-related research.

Key stakeholders

Indicated this housing research was very important. Central and regional Government, business, not for profit, NGOs/community groups.

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3

Reach and Response

Eighty organisations, face to face interviews, surveys, telephone follow up

- Almost all *key research stakeholders* [*] here today
- [*] Definitions based on;
 - size of organisation
 - housing a principal or important focus
 - initiator of housing research/researcher
 - user of research for policy/advocacy/activity
- Some explicitly represent other organisations, others implicitly represent a sector, e.g. regional government

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1. Engage with principal housing research stakeholders to understand whether existing information structures meet the needs of users

Principal Findings and Conclusions

- Diverse information needs and equally diverse sources of housing related research
- Library and information systems to make this available can be problematic.
- Some public domain research not available to others, including Government agencies
- Re-organisation of Government housing agencies has exacerbated the situation
- Limited life of some information about housing – not all archived material worth retrieving.

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2. Consider ways access could be improved and options, e.g. creation of a comprehensive housing research register

- Building on the existing CHRANZ bibliographic database always a possibility – clearinghouse, portal, register or ??
- National Library - National Research Discovery Service 2006 created KRIS.
- KRIS: Central website to provide access to publicly funded research produced at NZ universities, polytechnics, other research institutions.
- Currently 15 tertiary institutions - access to research in all fields published by universities and institutes of technology
- KRIS “soft launch” in November. Last week 5034 documents, 45 references to housing.
- KRIS website *one* exemplar of how research can be aggregated from many different repositories then disseminated.

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2. (contd) Consider ways access could be improved and options, e.g. creation of a comprehensive housing research register

Principal Findings and Comments

- Potential of software tools developed for institutional repositories to change the way all housing research is organised and accessed
- Institutional repositories and open access facilitate collaboration between organisations at many levels.
- CODA consortium of is sharing resources to create a common institutional repository.
- Approach to National Library by "housing research stakeholders" to explore the potential of these tools a first
- National Library keen to provide advice and guidance to scope out the best options.

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3. Evaluate improved delivery models and how stakeholders might collaborate, provide indicative costs for set-up, operation and development

Level of interest explore the issue and solutions?

Questions for consideration

1. Is accessing/managing/disseminating housing-related research a problem?
2. Are in house initiatives in hand to improve internal and external access to information?
3. Is there merit in considering housing research as a pilot?
4. Would you join a working group to give the issue further consideration?
5. Would you consider committing resources into this project?

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KRIS and nzresearch.org.nz Research and repositories in New Zealand

Matthew Oliver
National Library of New Zealand

CHRANZ Housing Research Workshop
30 May 2008

www.natlib.govt.nz

Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa
NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF NEW ZEALAND

What is the Kiwi Research Information Service?

- The Kiwi Research Information Service (KRIS) was the result of the National Research and Discovery Service project between the National Library and tertiary institutions.

coda

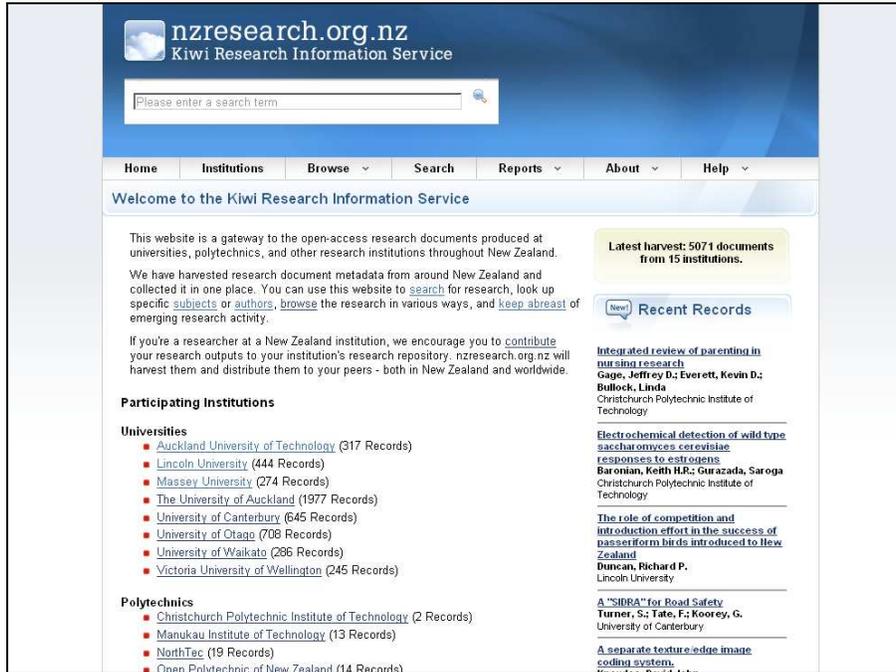
Institutional Repositories | Ira

OARINZ

- It aims to open up and promote publicly funded research in New Zealand and make publications easy to find.
- Managed by a governance group made up of representatives from the academic community and key government departments, tasked with:
 - Foster and encourage the uptake and use of existing and new repositories
 - Developing the website to meet users' needs

www.natlib.govt.nz

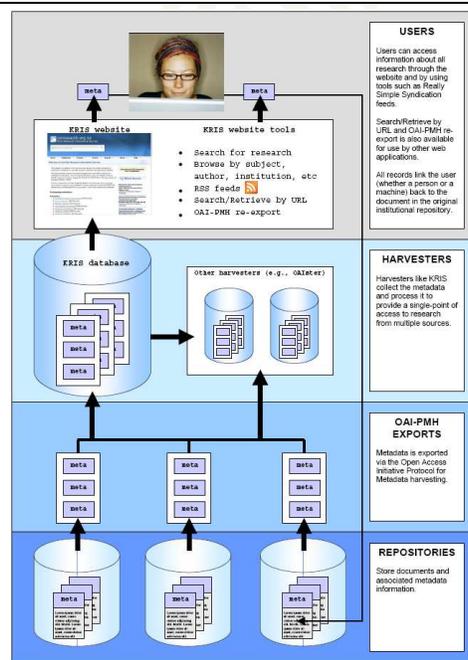
Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa
NATIONAL LIBRARY
OF NEW ZEALAND



Technical landscape

- The KRIS website is only one part of the landscape, performing a harvest of repositories.
- Significantly it does not hold any actual research or documents, just information about what's available and where to find it.
- There are other 'harvesters' and having a repository can expose your research to all or any of them.

www.natlib.govt.nz



Metadata guidelines – priority

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandatory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – URL (Identifier) – Title – Author (Creator) – Date • Required. Necessary to make proper use of the record in the site. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Important <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Abstract (description) – Subject – Type – Publisher – Rights – Thesis level • Recommended. Offers useful functionality to research seekers. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medium – Low <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Contributor – Coverage – Language – Relation – Format – Source • Optional. Offers little or no functionality to research seekers. |
|--|---|--|

www.natlib.govt.nz

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How to participate in KRIS – Draft guidelines

To participate in the Kiwi Research Information Service, organisations need:

- **Research outputs** that meet the definition of research adopted by the KRIS Governance Group:

Research and Experimental Development (R&D) comprise creative work undertaken on a systematic basis in order to increase the stock of knowledge of humanity, culture and society and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications. R&D is a term covering three activities: basic research, applied research and experimental development. (Adapted from the 1993 Frascati Manual)
- Existing sources of **metadata** about the research outputs or the resources to create metadata.
- A commitment to sustaining a **research repository** that is stable and accessible, and that meets the technical requirements to produce OAI compliant metadata.
- A **contact person** who can oversee the project in the organisation.

www.natlib.govt.nz

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Repository software in New Zealand

- **Eprints** (<http://www.eprints.org/>), used University of Otago and 250 organisations world wide; open source with fee-based consultancy available
- **DSpace** (<http://www.dspace.org/>), used by the other universities and over 200 institutions world wide; open source and an active user-based support community, including a NZ-based user group.
- **Fedora** (<http://www.fedora-commons.org/>), used by CPIT and Open Poly and over 100 others; open source and also available as a hosted service through Wellington-based firm, Catalyst IT.
- **Digital Commons** (<http://www.bepress.com/ir/>), used by the Coda partnership; hosted and effectively managed on your behalf (for a fee).

Issues around establishing repositories

- For nzresearch the value of metadata is about surfacing digital objects: if we can't link to a document then it's of limited use.
- Setting up repositories is relatively simple and cost-effective but the maintenance is both time-consuming *and* vital to its success: an empty repository is a pointless repository.
- What about research outputs that are confidential, restricted or embargoed?
 - You can put these in a repository too and the repository will limit access as you see direct
 - You can export the metadata records for those outputs or not, again as you see fit
 - We are happy to harvest restricted-access records as long as the metadata record shows that access is restricted.

The National Library's role

- Active role in the governance group and lead in day-to-day management of the website.
- Promotes KRIS and awareness of research discovery.
- Keen to work with groups like CHRANZ to identify and scope the need for solutions to research discovery beyond the tertiary education sector.
- Needs to keep abreast of emerging technology as well as the demand for services.
- Where appropriate take a lead in developing those services.

More information

There is lots of information available:

- <http://nzresearch.org.nz/index.php/about/technology>
- OARiNZ Knowledge Base wiki <http://www.oarinz.ac.nz/oarinzwiki/>
- NZ Institutional Repositories mailing list nzir-l@natlib.govt.nz (and its members)
- Or email me at matthew.oliver@natlib.govt.nz

www.natlib.govt.nz

CODA project

Transferable outcomes

Barbara Garriock, Manukau Institute of Technology
30 May 2008

CODA Project Overview

- Involved 6 Institutes of Technology and Polytechnics (ITPs)
- With support from the National Library of New Zealand
- Funded by the Tertiary Education Commission e-Learning Collaborative Development Fund
- **Aim: To test the feasibility of a shared Institutional Repository (IR) for ITPs in New Zealand.**

Publicly funded research made available to a world-wide audience

- Easy access from any internet browser
- Data harvested by search engines, e.g. Google
- Research available as downloadable full-text

A positive impact on researchers

- Profile of researcher and researcher's institutions enhanced
- Contributors are advised of number of downloads per month
- Scholarship is easily shared among a world-wide audience

Enhances institution's profile

- Each individual institution can take its place as a member of the NZ research community
- Profile an institution's research as complementary, i.e. applied rather than theoretical
- Global recognition of quality research in NZ

Demonstrates the value of collaboration

- Best practice is explored and shared
- Provides a sustainable platform for an institution's research outputs
- Provides a supportive environment for the growth of expertise
- Research benchmarking possible within or between any research and/or tertiary sector
- Results in a significant reduction in costs

Conclusions

- Provides global online access to full-text research outputs
- Enables researchers to share scholarship internationally
- Enables institutions to contribute to the research culture in NZ
- Manages and controls data using national and international standards
- Provides an affordable entry point to Institutional Repositories

BACKGROUND PAPER FROM BARBARA CARRIOCK FOR HER PRESENTATION

1. Executive Summary, CODA Pros & Cons *Digital Commons* Institutional Repository Software report.

CODA has by forming a consortium reduced the cost and effort required to own and operate an Institutional Repository (IR). The nature of predefined solutions is that they aim to fulfil the majority of client requirements, and the requirements not catered for are managed another way, or dropped. Some degree of compromise is required for a solution like this to be acceptable for a client institution.

CODA selected *Digital Commons* (DC) to provide their IR software, which is delivered as an Application Service Provider solution whereby the supplier provides, hosts, services and supports the software.

CODA's design brief required a multi branded IR portal be created. Configuring the DC solution to function correctly as a multi instance multi branded solution was a technical challenge that is ongoing.

The DC IR solution is reasonably feature rich and is considered a good entry level IR solution in NZ terms. For institutions with less complex requirements, where there is a reasonable fit with out of the box functionality, DC offers real advantages.

It is considered that an institution joining CODA could have their repository up and running within 2 to 3 weeks. The investment is minimal, after initial start-up costs, less than \$5,000 pa (until 2010) and there is no infrastructure to consider; the only requirement on the client institute is to provide site logos, text and personal configuration choices.

Remote hosting enables rapid uptake and minimizes site establishment and operating costs. Clients do not need to be concerned with hardware requirements, capacity management, security,

backup and recovery, availability, reliability, operations staff, technical resources, bandwidth, storage, service and support; other than to ensure that their service level requirements are fulfilled through their agreement with DC for service provision.

With service costs per institute at less than \$5,000 NZD per annum this is a very effective and efficient model, particularly for institutions with less complex IR requirements.

2. Project Background

Until recently New Zealand had no infrastructure for, and little experience with, implementing institutional repositories for research outputs. The 'Institutional Repositories for the Research Sector: Feasibility Study' (July 2005) clearly described a flourishing open access and institutional repository movement internationally and equally clearly described the dearth of activity in this arena in New Zealand. The report was also clear about the current lack of institutional funding and on the need for government funding of 'institutional repositories as an essential enabler of enriched scholarly communication in the digital age.

The *Digital Commons* (CODA) project was one of a three-stranded framework for a national infrastructure of repositories designed to provide open access to publicly funded research and teaching. The CODA project was designed to test the implementation of a low cost to entry repository infrastructure for polytechnic research.

Tertiary Education Commission funding (eCDF) was granted to cover a three year license for *Digital Commons* software, and implementation and support costs for one year. At the conclusion of the project a cost model was put in place to ensure the ongoing maintenance and extension of the project to new members as a self financing undertaking.

This project also allowed participating institutions to canvass the related legal, social and organisational issues including copyright/digital rights management, incentives for authors to deposit their work, links to the PBRF process, repository management capability, sustainability and long term storage, preservation and access.

The six participating institutes were:

- Manukau Institute of Technology (lead agent)
- Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology
- Northland Polytechnic
- Unitec Institute of Technology
- Universal College of Learning
- Whitireia Community Polytechnic

All participating CODA partners have submitted papers into their institutional CODA repositories. www.coda.ac.nz

During the project *Digital Commons* changed ownership from ProQuest to Berkeley Electronic Press (Bepress) which took effect in July 2007. This has driven a number of changes regarding site support and business contacts

APPENDIX H

Issues, Positions of Stakeholders, from Workshop

Workshop for Housing Research Stakeholders, Wellington Friday May 30, 2008 - Overview and Key Points – Norman Smith

1. These notes provide a summary of the workshop, which had the objective of bringing together principal organisations with an interest in housing research. All other background material, presentations, attendees, fuller notes from the day and possible next steps are included in this document or as attachments.
2. A feature of the workshop was the range of organisations present or who sent apologies; key housing research stakeholders and important sectors such as regional/local government and community housing. Attendees held a range of responsibilities within their organisations including research management, website and IT systems, library and information systems.
3. Opening comments provided the widest possible range of perspectives including the challenge presented by the diversity of the topic and the information needed, from data to published reports (see page below).
4. The timeliness of the workshop was widely acknowledged given developments which included national initiatives to using digital repositories to improve access to New Zealand research and a number of organisations present needing to improve their own performance in the area.
5. Many present faced considerable challenges assisting their internal clients obtain the reports and housing data they needed and improve the dissemination of their own research and were considering how to use digital technology to achieve this.
6. The potential to use institutional repositories for organisations to collaborate to help themselves and help others at the same time was acknowledged. However, given the diverse nature of “housing research” and the different needs of organisations the questions were asked more than once were: Is it possible? Can a business case be made?
7. The presentations by Matthew Oliver, National Library and Barbara Carriock, CODA, were the catalyst for discussion around technical aspects for the storage and retrieval of documents, the nature of different institutional repositories to facilitate open access, the role of individual organisations and the National Library.
8. While acknowledging there were many unanswered questions at many levels about of any how a collaborative approach by those present could work, the latter part of the workshop considered how organisations might work together.
9. Following discussion there was general consensus it was possible to synthesize the opportunities for co-operation into three strands;
 - (i) Repositories – sharing documents
 - (ii) Networking - personal cooperation
 - (iii) Data exchange - sharing datasets
10. There was general agreement that working together on (i), repositories would lead to cooperation in the other two. Implicit was the use of digital technology and, at an early stage, developing common policies so individual organisations align their own initiatives with others.
11. Critical to success is the will of organisations to work together to make this happen; the implicit conclusion of the workshop was the need to maintain the momentum by, for example, meeting again shortly.
12. At the end of the workshop people were asked to comment on the position of their organisation with regard to the issues considered and their willingness to commit time and resources to give them further consideration.

NOTES – RECORD FROM MEETING

Norman Smith

Introduction

Terrence Aschoff

Why did CHRANZ initiate a review of Housing Research?

Terrence introduced Professor David Thorns, Canterbury University, CHRANZ Board member.

CHRANZ core business is investing in high quality policy, relevant housing research. We manage, publish and promote and it is publishing and promoting that brings us here today. Research products are available on the web site - bibliographic database, housing research papers, products around the public social housing end of the market.

Many agencies are telling us the same thing - housing research and data produced by different people is not readily accessible and not being utilised. This degrades the ongoing value and use of research.

The Board commissioned Norman Smith to do a review last year. We want to engage with stakeholders, to produce, hold and make research available, and to explore ways of accessing information. To look at the options around establishing a *Housing Research Register* (just a name).

Issues to be looked at include set up costs, ongoing maintenance etc. We found we were “in the same room” as the National Library. Today is a collective opportunity to make research produced more accessible to each other and to the wider community.

Norman Smith

Presentation. Work to date and Workshop Objectives

ALL

Introductions and participant perspectives

The group was asked to pose questions and make statements to help build a framework.

HOUSING NEW ZEALAND – Marc DGLISH

There is a need to bring together information. Are we talking about putting together a data hub or a one-stop shop? Somewhere to access all information or somewhere to access research papers. We need to understand which path we are going down.

HNZ produce lots of different reports, the question is how to bring them together and make accessible. I'm thinking along the lines of Wikipedia.

SCION – Karen Bayne

We have been looking at housing research from different perspectives since 1998/99. Housing is a wide, diverse topic and one challenge of this is casting the net wide and bringing in aspects which affect a great number of sectors. There is a definite need - we have struggled to find research and found out later that someone somewhere else is doing it.

Papers and reports are not the only option. Some information doesn't come through well like this. A repository for paper alone is not the only way to go. We are interested in work in progress and a current centre of expertise. Will this be a database or a network?

EECA – Allen Davison

I'm not an expert on dissemination, EECA is a user. We did a review on one of our programmes and the recommendation that came out of that was to look at something like this. We have an energy library, funded by industry bodies and government. It works well for us. We may be able to link in some way with housing research. We have considerable funding for a number of years for residential housing type research and are considering how to spend it.

DEPT OF HOUSING AND BUILDING – Judith Maxim

We have a library but the concern is where to find information. We're very interested in a depository and also see value in something like Wikipedia. The organisation created from others is three years old; as a

result we have five collections from and are aware of lots of gaps. The challenge is to rebuild. A centralised repository would be invaluable. The key focus areas are affordability and accessibility.

ARC – Eva McLaren

It is important to have centralised data management, like a knowledge management, around housing. Data and research as well as network. For ARC it would be useful to have conversations around methodology. We have recently set up regional network which currently has an economic focus. This has brought people together. In a few weeks we will be rolling out business, then social. It is for putting commissioned data out there and providing a place for conversation. It is password protected at the moment but will shortly be opened for sharing.

BRANZ - Margaret McLachlan

There are two major strands to our work – we do research which needs to be disseminated. (most of that is on web site) and we do an enormous amount of publishing. Often if we are publishing for a specific market, we need research from a broad spectrum so having access to a portal with lots of information would be great. We would want to know whether we are looking at a portal or a repository.

CHRANZ/Canterbury Un. - David Thorns

Housing is a multi dimensional. We're looking at housing and context – position is crucial. We have recently been doing work (part of ? BRICKS network?), and have visited a number of databanks. We're trying to set up a social science database. There are a number of areas with major deficiencies.

As a teacher, I am totally conscious of how students are thinking. The current mindset is web based searching. The way we look for information is being restructured.

Secondly, there is tension between creating a data bank or repository. We need to know what is out there and what is going on now. We have to get to people who are doing research to keep up to date records. To give incentives for people to keep repositories up to date and encourage people to see the importance of this. We have to have good system, a way of retrieving, access, and a strategy for maintenance. We have to work out the parameters for collecting usable information for this community of people. A linkage system for web type technology in a way people can work through.

Comment from floor - is going to need a dedicated budget to enable this to happen.

BEACON PATHWAY – Vicki Cowan

We are doing research into sustainable housing. Focus for us is doing research to stimulate change. The critical thing is synthesising the many components. To change things that are being done, e.g. by EECA, we have to work across disciplines. The challenge will be the structuring of a repository, making access easy. The regional perspective is interesting as mentioned by ARC. The location aspect is critical, from an institutional and a climatic point of view. The project has to be phased - start with repository then build it up. Let's not be too ambitious at the beginning. Incrementally working towards the goal will give greater success.

HNZC – Corwin Wallens

I reiterate (from an earlier HNZC speaker) the need to access a range of information. We need to be able to find all relevant research - which might include links to international research), – housing research in relation to a diverse range of areas – health, affordability, design for diverse needs. A depository would also be useful in identifying possible gaps, e.g. overcrowding.

EECA – Linda Campbell

It has become obvious that there is a big hole in EECA – there are lots of issues we are struggling with internally and externally. Information sharing was quite informal initially but we are now past the stage where that works. We are thinking about bringing the process back in-house. Resourcing will be important. A depository will need the right professional person to manage it. We are looking at information management strategy, the way that we generate and share information internally and externally, how to source information and share. We are an information needy organisation but also an information rich organisation.

A lot of important stuff happens with the individual sharing experience, but that has issues around quality. We advise public on serious issues and have to know that information is authoritative. This needs to be built into the process.

BRANZ – Richard Arkinstall

Branz is grappling with some of these issues. This year we kicked off the Industry Engagement Programme. It is about making sure research is targeted and correct for industry needs 10 years out. We have a research agenda – this feeds into the bigger knowledge management programme. We are taking this in small chunks. We do research for lots of the organisation here today. We are rebuilding our website but are grappling with how to put information into a usable form and disseminate. We produce lots of bulletins and reports and are constantly getting requests about whether information is up to date. We are working on a publishing history programme. There are lots of strands feeding into the project. We have also started trying to get information out of peoples' heads – to unlock years of experience.

SCION – Daniel Kellenberger

Our work is about methodology to calculate and measure impact. Scion is using methodology to assess materials and components. We are trying to extend this to include neighbourhoods - to incorporate social aspects. We are working with different organisations, e.g. Beacon, MAF etc. It is quite a good network but difficult to find specific information. It is important to have a structure – it will be difficult to reach agreement on this. The structure for information is critical. It has to be a structure that people are comfortable accessing. How do you access information in New Zealand, do you approach or ask to be kept up to date?

Comment from floor –

There may be neutral frameworks that could be built on.

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT – Philip Worthington

[Personal focus NZ Family Violence Clearinghouse]. We are interested in how to make information useful and sharable to whichever community wants to use it. Key questions are: published or unpublished information? New Zealand or overseas? Overseas is a big area, do you selectively go overseas? The Wikipedia approach would be good, easy to do for an early win in a specific area. Bibliographic software has the ability to input straight into a database. We should look at establishing standards.

My suggestion would be to start with something simple, not too complex in terms of structure or cataloguing standards. This is key to what KRIS has done, and the system can be built on further down the track as necessary. We need to be aware of how a body of research can drop out of view by being passed from organisation to organisation.

BRANZ – John Duncan

There is a huge amount of information BRANZ has developed since 1970 - a huge repository of printed stuff before computerization. The problem is because people can't find information on a computer they assume it isn't out there, it hasn't been done. A large number of relevant reports on housing are unavailable on computer. Obsolescence is important, but understanding what happened 30 years ago is crucial to understanding the environment today. Construction methods, approaches to design, (not used today) are extremely relevant to anyone wanting to change the structure of houses. Lots of stuff on the website is available for free download.

Should we be looking at work in progress, or published information? Researchers must be committed to keep it going. There is one particular urban research database which is out of date and there is no process for maintaining it. Having a list of whose doing what today is a totally different issue from having something which talks about what has been done. There are issues around reliability, accuracy and authority. It would make more sense to get research organisations to contribute final reports and using that commitment to allow the network to build. I personally think we should start by recording what's there. It will have to have a very robust maintenance process, even for published stuff. With regard to resources, we have a small amount but cannot say we are prepared to house or fund. There is sufficient interest in the industry and we would like to see this happen. We could possibly be a part funder

Community Housing – Dan Neely

Our organisation has a diverse membership which is growing. One goal is to improve the capacity of the sector and having good data for members is key to that.. Are we talking about a one stop shop or something more specific? We would be interested in a one stop shop – it is more accessible. We would like to see information about health, economics – everything that can be tied into housing. There are lots of good models - in UK, Canada, and Australia. I suggest adopting a user rating such as Amazon.com, not just peer rating. Money – it is possible we could contribute. We have our own library system, but it is not very accessible – it is untappable electronically.

Department of Housing and Building – Julie Loke

There are two aspects to our role – informing the sector on what is happening, and the second would be the need for data to answer questions relating to policy. We would like to know the nature of the repository – will it be research based, deal with existing or new information? We are interested in behavioural

information, changing the needs of home owners, tenants. The structure of the repository and classification of data is of interest. We are also reviewing a plan to look comprehensively at what is available for housing. There will be a large requirement in future for information. Our interest is in social areas, social drivers, and representing the building aspect and the social aspect.

Comments from the floor –

- Can we learn international organisations? What can be learnt from overseas in terms of addressing this issue?
- The fundamental question is whether to use existing technology or build something new – this comes down to resources.
- Boundaries around research are amorphous – looking at organisation based repositories or shared repositories, or is there a generic repository that this research can sit alongside.
- What is the purpose of the repository? Research or policy - this will influence how it is done. This has to be defined. We must start with an agreed purpose and get clarity around goals and objectives.

Matthew Oliver – National Library**Digital repositories – implications for access to housing research - Presentation***Comments from the floor -*

- This is very complex - is it impossible? Is there any other ground swell of interest emerging from other sectors? Yes, SCION, KRIS, and government agencies. MORST and SSC are looking at this as well. There are opportunities for collaborations.
- Defining it as a research repository makes for a nice easy boundary.
- It becomes one part of a bigger project.
- Peer review – it is up to the individual organisation making the report available to carry out QA.. There is no scope for Amazon.com type ratings. It depends on the architecture of the system designed.
- IP and copyright – a lot of material is pre-published material. It is not necessarily finally published material that will go into this. There are issues around what goes in and how comprehensive the repository is. There could be a closed access record with references people can use to ascertain where to go next to access information.
- Once the parameters are decided, there is still the New Zealand problem with permission to publish – every publisher has to be approached individually unless it is pre-published material.
- The ability to partition and put information into the repository but not make it totally available. After some release threshold date there may be a change to its status.
- Information held in governments departments – this can often be shared inter-department – it is accessible at one level but not at another.
- The Official Information Act – how will this affect putting information in the repository?
- Each organisation could have its own repository, with a separate presentation layer, “sucking” from all the repositories.
- Key wording protocol would have to be something everyone adopted to be of value. The idea is to build as big a cube as possible, so people can access specific areas of information.
- MIT – CODA - With regard to dealing with the key word issue, a mandatory key word was a classified subject heading - the categories are huge and broad. The second level was mandatory master codes. The user chooses from a drop down list. This is still a very broad category. The third area, also mandatory, is pretext key words put in by the researcher, as many as wanted. The philosophy is that researchers know key words and are the best people to design them. As soon as research is put on the repository, the terms are added to Google.

**Barbara Carriock – CODA, Manukau Institute of Technology, KRIS
Experience of one institutional repository consortium - Presentation***Comments from the floor –*

- Have to articulate shared vision and what expected final product is.
- An institutional repository will only met one requirement of the three spoken of this morning.

- Set up costs. The initial cost of setting up a proprietary system is not huge, it doesn't include buying hardware. The costs are in training, resources, especially in terms of time. Meetings to decide structure, philosophy, define research; decide what is published on KRIS, etc. It took 9 months (fragmented) of talking before anything got set up. Was time expensive. \$US35k per annum is published price of software. We are paying about \$5k each per annum.
- There is a trade off between buying and building own system. To do the latter you need more highly trained technology resources.
- Think of it as a tripod - Networking, dataset and research output repository; or repository, networking and dataset. Current thinking in e publishing is when you publish a research article it is linked back to the database. We need to focus around research output – KRIS is a repository of university output, BRANZ has a repository. How much of the public sector would be cloaked by the OIA. The cost is borne by the repository creator so they have to believe it is worth sharing information.
- In some cases repositories exist in a form that is unable to be made readily accessible.
- An option would be to put up the title of the information required, leave an email address which could be responded to. This would just be for study reports, and is not possible for a library because of copyright issues.
- Staff resources put in metadata – not researchers.
- PDF – is not harvestable. It takes 3 fields on metadata to pick it up.
- How to turn a standard website into a repository? Software can do this, KRIS, Google or other will pick it up. It is possible to manually construct a file that does all these things but there are issues with manual updating, resources etc. with construction.
- Licence fees can be shared by a consortium.
- How stable and sustainable is website? Will it be in existence in 10 years time?
- Reports can be produced about number of hits and entries and entries. It can also produce a list on everything related to a key word.
- What is of value to individual organisations?
- It has to be “market pull” to ensure putting up the right sort of information. There is no point in making the wrong information available.
- Preparedness of organisations to put information out there?

Workshop Continues

- We need to decide which of the three to go with, repository (research reports), network, dataset (warehouse).
- What is the relation between institutional repositories and library catalogues? An institution repository is the institution's responsibility, is electronic.
- Is it simple to add in a library catalogue?
- Network will develop by establishing the repository. Aim at three, get one, keep asking about 2.
- Repository is defined as research reports. Data is raw whereas the repository is synthesised.
- Is very complex – is it do-able? Yes, once the structure is worked out it can be as big as you want. It is critical to work out the structure.
- We need to look at international housing research sites. That we do not seem to have a NZ government housing website is part of our complexity. We should look at how international sites are structured and whether they would work for us.
- Housing New Zealand – we have the same issues as other organisations. There is a lack of understanding inside the organisation in terms of research. There are cultural issues around sharing information. How do we sell this inside organisations and change the culture.
- Residential sector has a database accessible through the intranet but has not been contributed to for a long time.
- There is website that pulls together all government sites. It was released in last 6 months. This is the Public Sector intranet.
- There is value in looking at websites, how they work for shareholders and stakeholders. There is a real need for straight technical advice. A paper outlining a model and defining questions and issues would be useful. We need to make smart decisions now to make the whole idea easier. Standardising for future proofing.
- The system is not important, it is the information you have around research. Good information around research makes migration to another system easier.

Terrence Aschoff - Closing Comments

What we achieve with the establishment of a repository could well feed through too and reinforce what you are trying to achieve within your own organisations. Norman's report will be made available - will be published on the website. A summary of today's discussion will be made available, as will soft copies of presentations. Norman's final report is due at the end of June. I am hearing the need for another step in this, how others might be involved. I see there is a real opportunity. We will help you to build a business case; the new financial year may be time to regroup. Thank you.

Closing Comment from floor – The will to make this happen is the main driver.

OPENING COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS RECORDED

| <u>QUESTIONS</u> | <u>COMMENTS</u> |
|---|---|
| Would a repository be shared and closed | Structure critical |
| A data hub or access system | There is a need now and in the future |
| Database, network or repository | Link internal systems/info to wider sector |
| Research or data, what classification | Diversity of subject area a challenge |
| Scope - environmental, economic, other | Paper and reports not enough, data also needed |
| What is to learned internationally | In-house work to be done/begun |
| Existing technology or start from scratch | Networking needed to discuss methodology |
| What is the purpose | Cost issues |
| NZ specific versus NZ related (some international) | Boundaries are blurred |
| Housing specific versus housing related | Work in progress is difficult to track |
| How to identify research gaps | The issue is knowledge management Challenges include: |
| How can quality be maintained | *maintenance strategy |
| Would there also be a local/regional focus | *agreement on parameters |
| Which new software from that available | *structure, access and synthesizing |
| Do we need to scope what is already available | *organisations committed to contribute to database |
| How can the information be kept current | Phased approach required |
| Published and unpublished research? | Start simple, keep it simple |
| What are the incentives to contribute | Very large amount of relevant research not on computer |
| How will standards be established | Dedicated budget and resources required |
| Would work-in-progress be included, which is difficult to track | Challenges include maintenance, agreement on parameters and standards, structure/access. |
| Would it be NZ specific and NZ Related (international) | Commitment from all parties required |
| What are the incentives for organisations to contribute | Local/regional research requires consideration |
| Do we need to scope what is already available | Phased approach required and keep it simple |
| | Huge amount of relevant research available in printed form but not available in digitally |
| | Dedicated budget and resources essential so buy-in from senior management important |

SUMMARY OF POSITIONS, INTEREST/SUPPORT FROM ATTENDEES

Information in Italics is comment on the survey completed by people at the workshop. The numbers in italics and underlined are the number of people who put their organisation in this category.

| | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Accessing, managing and disseminating New Zealand housing research is a problem for our organisation | 5 <u>[3]</u> | 4 <u>[7]</u> | 3 <u>[2]</u> | 2 <u>[0]</u> | 1 <u>[0]</u> | Accessing, managing and disseminating New Zealand housing research is not a problem |
| Because it is an issue with major implications a special effort is required to solve it | 5 <u>[0]</u> | 4 <u>[9]</u> | 3 <u>[3]</u> | 2 <u>[0]</u> | 1 <u>[0]</u> | No urgency, happy to wait and eventually benefit from the work of National Library and others |
| We have no in-house initiatives under way which will see our organisation develop its systems to improve internal and external access | 5 <u>[0]</u> | 4 <u>[3]</u> | 3 <u>[5]</u> | 2 <u>[3]</u> | 1 <u>[0]</u> | We have already committed sufficient specialist resources and are utilizing digital technologies as they become available |
| While housing research is only part of our interest we can see merit in proceeding with this ahead of other subject areas as a pilot for later adoption of institutional repositories | 5 <u>[1]</u> | 4 <u>[4]</u> | 3 <u>[5]</u> | 2 <u>[1]</u> | 1 <u>[0]</u> | Our IT/website/library and other staff are presently aware of the issues and opportunities and a housing research specific initiative would cut across our present work |
| This issue is sufficiently important we would be interested to join a working group to give it further consideration | 5 <u>[5]</u> | 4 <u>[5]</u> | 3 <u>[2]</u> | 2 <u>[0]</u> | 1 <u>[0]</u> | This is not sufficiently important to warrant our time |
| It is possible we would commit resources to the creation of a consortium to work on this project | 5 <u>[1]</u> | 4 <u>[4]</u> | 3 <u>[2]</u> | 2 <u>[0]</u> | 1 <u>[0]</u> | Good luck! |
| <p><i>Five attendees could not comment on if their organisation could be willing to commit resources.</i></p> | | | | | | |
| <p>Other comments: <i>The objective of this brief survey was to gain some idea of the level of interest in further exploring how to improve access to housing research. It is reasonable to conclude from responses that all present believe this issue is relevant to their organisation and this initiative should continue. Norman Smith.</i></p> | | | | | | |



Centre for Housing Research

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