

# Scoping and Developing Institutional Data Services: the Data Libraries of 2020

IASSIST Conference  
Friday 29 May 2009

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# Summary

- Data libraries
- Drivers in Oxford for the start of data related initiatives
- Projects
  - Scoping Digital Repository Services in Research
  - Embedding Institutional Data Curation Services in Research



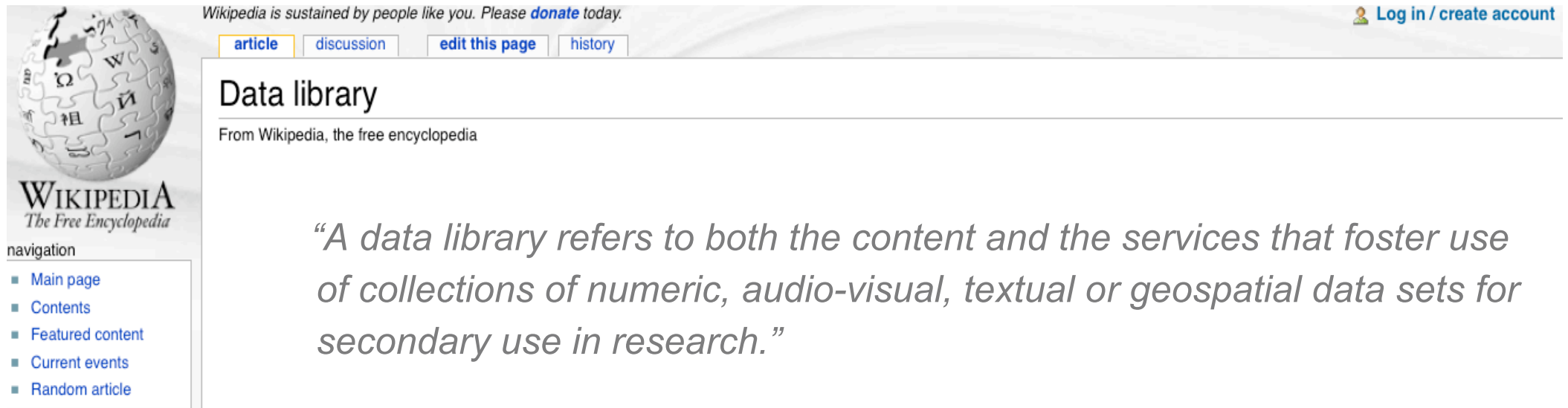
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# Data Libraries



The screenshot shows the Wikipedia interface for the 'Data library' article. At the top, a banner reads 'Wikipedia is sustained by people like you. Please [donate](#) today.' with a 'Log in / create account' link. Below the banner are tabs for 'article', 'discussion', 'edit this page', and 'history'. The article title 'Data library' is prominently displayed, followed by the subtitle 'From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia'. A quote from the article is shown: *“A data library refers to both the content and the services that foster use of collections of numeric, audio-visual, textual or geospatial data sets for secondary use in research.”* On the left, a navigation sidebar includes links to 'Main page', 'Contents', 'Featured content', 'Current events', and 'Random article'. The Wikipedia logo is visible in the top left corner.

- Long-standing tradition
- Seeds of institutional data services



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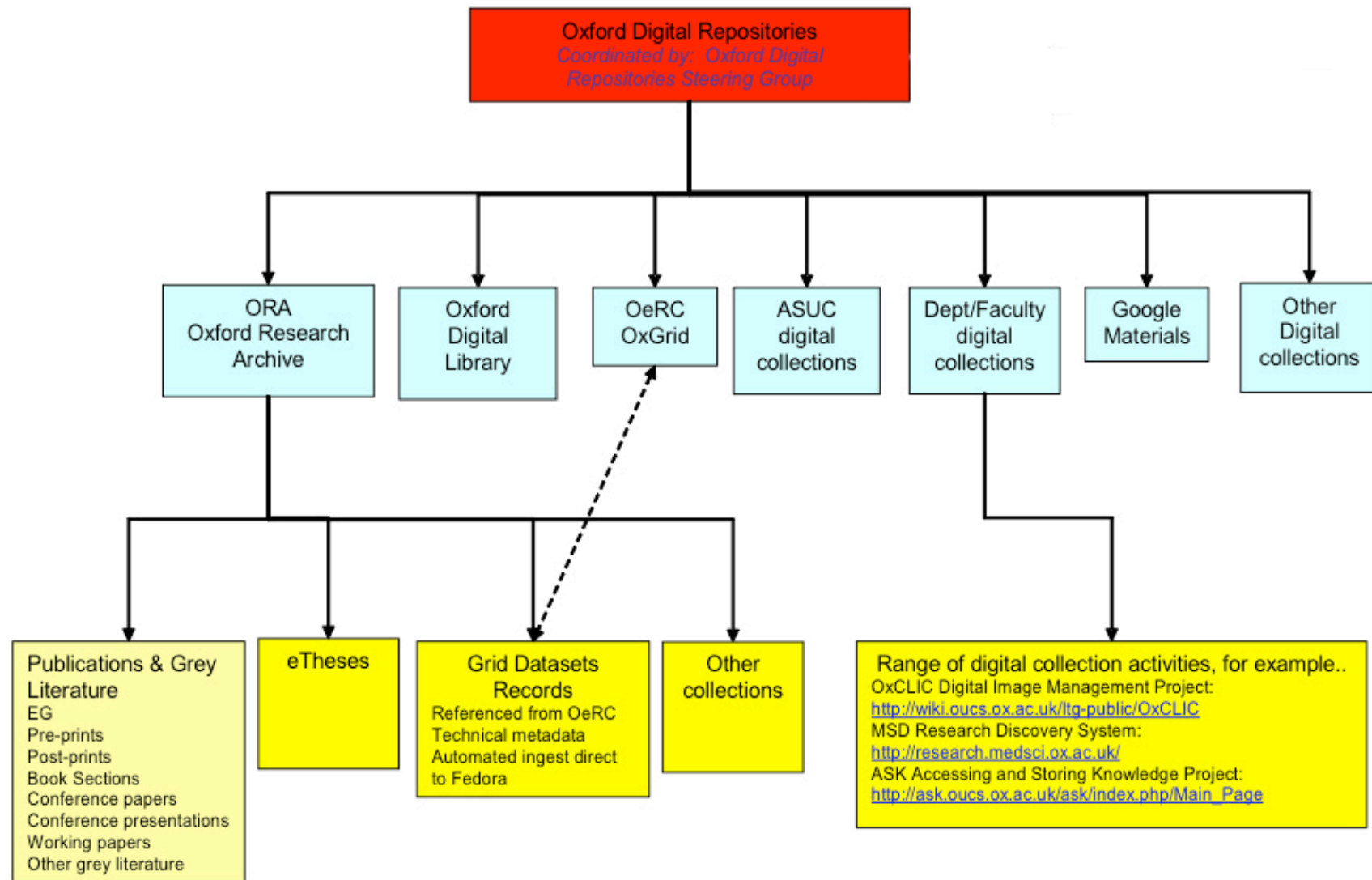


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# Drivers in the University of Oxford

- Wealth of existing digital resources in Oxford and increasing digital content generated in the University
- Maturity of digital repository services and need of integration between data and traditional publication
- Data policies from funding agencies

# Oxford Digital Repositories Steering Group



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# Scoping Digital Repository Services for Research Data Management

Funded by  
the OUP John Fell Fund  
and the JISC funded

  
From Jan'08 to March'09



***Aiming to scope the requirements for digital repository service to store, disseminate and preserve research data generated at Oxford.***



# Interviews with researchers

- Around 40 interviews
- Part of the Oxford case study work for the UKRDS feasibility study
- Following scenarios:



I COULDN'T MAKE SENSE OF THE DATA I COLLECTED FOR MY PhD 5 YEARS AGO

I WANT TO PUBLISH THE DATA AS AN ADDITIONAL RESOURCE FOR READERS OF MY PUBLISHED BOOK/ARTICLE



WHEN RESEARCHERS LEAVE THE DEPARTMENT WE LOOSE ALL THE DATA THEY CREATED



WE COLLECTED DATA AS PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHO OWNS THE DATA?



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# Top requirements for services

- Advice and support across research lifecycle
- Secure storage for large datasets with access controls
- Sustainable infrastructure for publication and long-term preservation



# Consultation with service units



**Social Science Library**  
Oxford University Library Services



**Data Archiving & Backup on the HFS**

University of Oxford • Medical Sciences Division  
INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES



**Research Technologies Service**

**The IT Learning Programme**

**The Data Library** Legal Services Office

Central University Research Ethics Committee (CUREC)

Aiming to

- Validate the researchers' requirements for services
- Determine the *data management* services available to researchers in Oxford
- Identify gaps in service provision



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# Research data management and curation services framework



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# Findings of consultation with service units

- Widespread expertise in data management and curation amongst service units in Oxford
- Support provided in ad-hoc basis but services not made explicit
- Overall, the majority of the services in the data management and curation framework are not offered fully or at all.
- There is a need for a university wide policy on data management and curation

# The Data Audit Framework (DAF) in Oxford

- Funded by DISC-UK DataShare to pilot the DAF and share the experiences with the rest of the community.
- Used the DAF methodology to:
  - document two research group's data management practices;
  - map research data resources within the two research groups and
  - compile information about data resources freely available on the Oxford University web pages.



# Embedding Institutional Data Curation Services in Research (EIDCSR)

Funded by   
From April 2009 to September  
2010



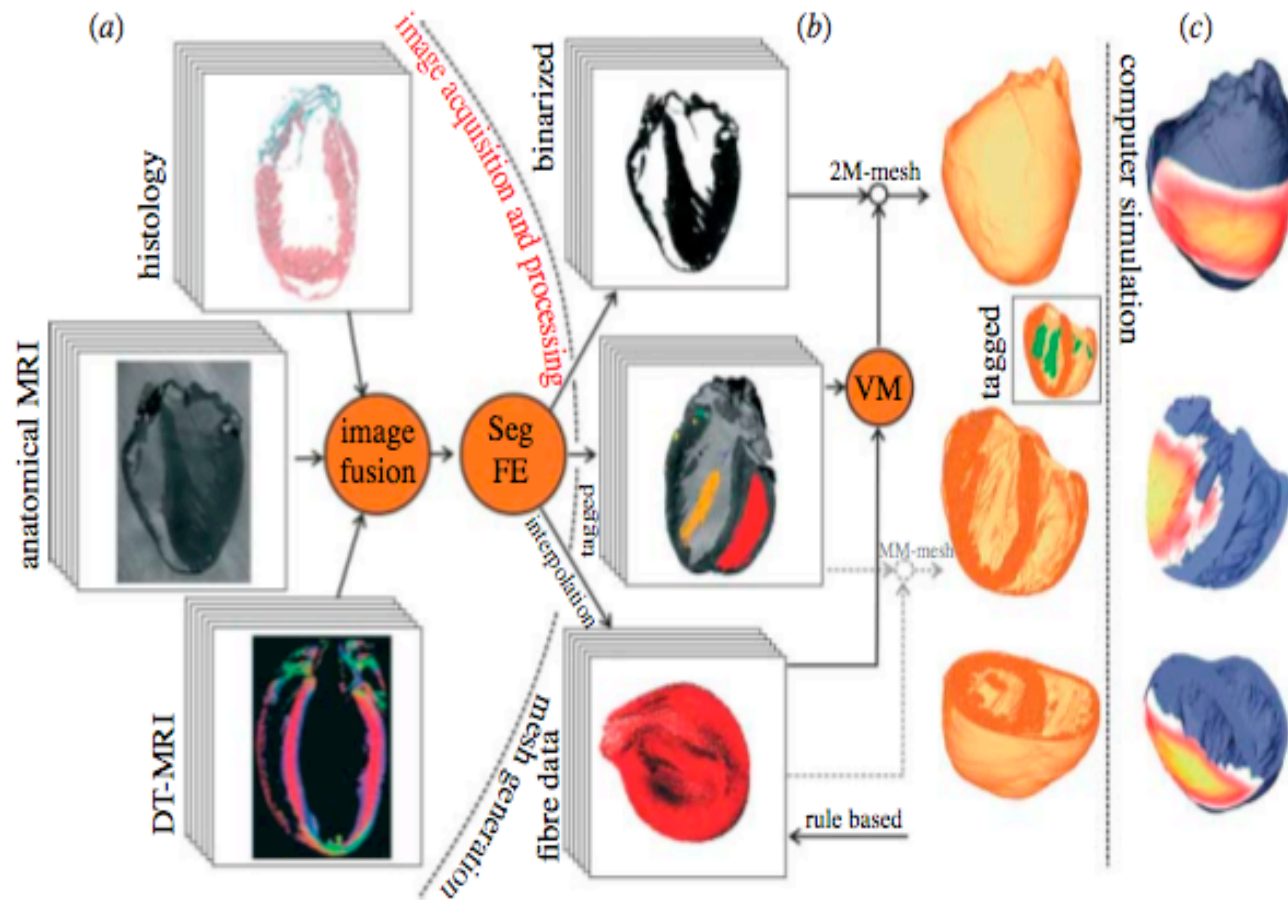
## Research Services

**Cardio Mechano-Electric Feedback  
Group**

**Computational Biology Group**

***Aim is to address the data management and curation requirements of two collaborating research groups in Oxford.***

# The EIDCSR research data challenge



*“expects research data generated as part of BBSRC support to be made available...data should be retained for a period of 10 years after completion of the project”*



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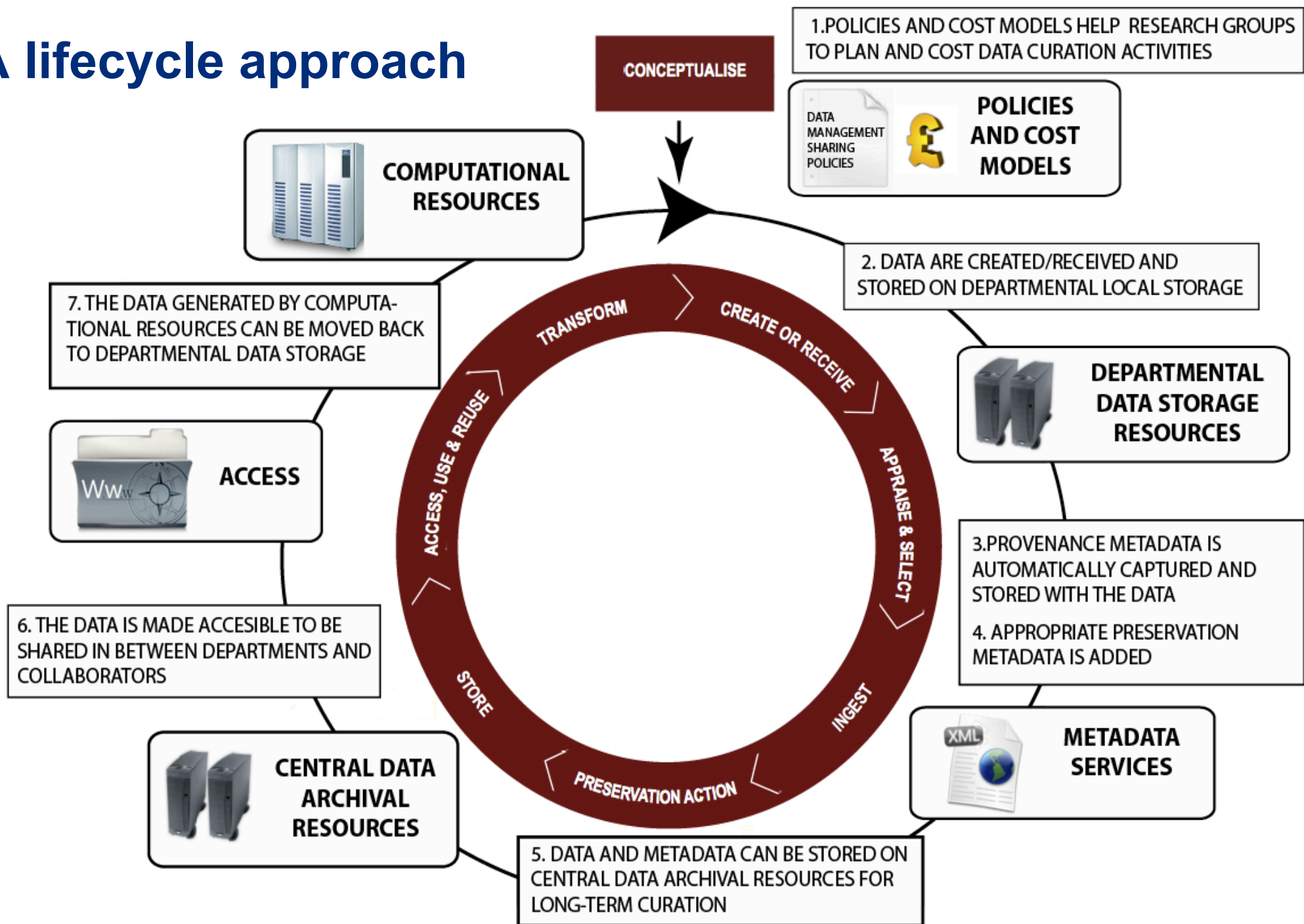
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# A lifecycle approach



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# Next steps

- JISC EIDCSR
  - Use the DAF to capture requirements iteratively
  - Requirements will feed into technical requirements, policy and business models
  - Identify metadata standards to describe, manage and preserve the research data
- UKRDS Pathfinder activities
- Keeping Research Data Safe 2
- To follow developments <http://eidcsr.blogspot.com>

# Thanks