

JIBS Workshop on Data Management

Group Discussion Summary

SESSION 1

Issues:

Communication from publishers/aggregators, in particular:

- what they collect/can collect
- what we need/want
- a dedicated point of contact

Sharing good practice (e.g. reporting practice)

Lack of transparency in pricing

Historical influences

Inflexibility

Free money to buy big deals

Vulnerability through big deals

Comparative Data (across similar HEIs)

Content is embedded (e-resources now widely used to support taught courses as well as research)

Lock-ins

Time involved for staff

Lack of skills in interpreting data

Academics – engagement

Ebook stats of increasing importance

Suggestions:

Having a specific point of contact (who is knowledgeable)

Establishing a group of practitioners with a practical focus

- revive discussion lists

Code of practice for libraries (What's the minimum we should be doing?)

Identify communality in the 'Long Tail'

Articulate the problem – collective voice

Planning for COUNTER 4

Benchmarking

Central repository of data

Stats role = evidence

Models of good practice for usage data

Advocacy

Analysis of 3rd party software

SESSION 2 (SCONUL)

Issues:

Consistency

Timing

Getting data from suppliers – duplication of effort

Problem of reporting periods – SCONUL = academic year, compared to COUNTER (calendar year)

Lack of forum for input in to e-measures

Lack of online evaluation/feedback for issues concerns associated with the submission

SCONUL communication – lack of visibility/transparency

Usefulness of data given time taken to collect

Currency – publication after planning for forthcoming year has happened

Lack of clarity regarding questions

Reliability – clear definitions; confidence rating?

Relevance of Questions - broader discussion

New questions – burden imposed on institutions to collect additional data

Suggestions:

Fewer, simpler questions

Tighter deadlines

Suppliers to feed through information

Ability to identify packages/resources – avoiding issues associated with counting

Obtaining more information from subscription agents

More availability of info relating to definitions, e.g. e-measures

SCONUL & COUNTER to talk – using SUSHI to automate collection of some data, which could be anonymised for benchmarking

E-measures consultation – encourage local participation at our institutions

Reliability – clear definitions; confidence rating?

Relevance of Questions - broader discussion

Phased return of data as institutions gather it; data published as submitted in open website (i.e. not password protected)