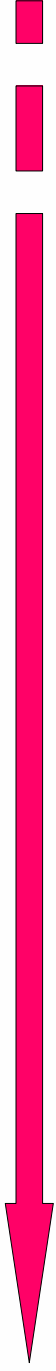# BURO: A Bespoke Repository for the UK Research Excellence Framework & Beyond

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Abstract: BURO (Bournemouth University Research Online), a bespoke repository for the university's research publications is an essential part of a wider change agenda aimed at embedding research into the core activities of Bournemouth University. BURO will be a crucial piece of this jigsaw as the university prepares for the UK's forthcoming Research Excellence Framework (REF) and beyond. BURO is the 11th largest multidisciplinary institutional repository in the UK and 232nd in the Web of World Repositories.

Aim: To highlight the challenges, learning outcomes and progress involved in building a bespoke online repository as part of a wider change agenda.

2000

POCKETS OF RESEARCH
- Sporadic & unreliable recording of research data
- RAE 2001: data collected manually (75.16 FTE staff)
- Two rudimentary school-specific publications databases
- Primarily teaching & learning focus
- Central research focus solely on bids & projects

2005

RESEARCH FOCUS
- New Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor Research & Enterprise and Head of Research appointed
- BU has *new* research agenda
- Public accountability *e.g.* Freedom of Information
- Collaboration between Library & Centre for Research & Enterprise (CRE)
- Purchase of EPrints, which is open source, experimental & flexible

2006

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT & POPULATION
- BU Library begins developing Institutional Repository - BURO
- Ingestion & cleaning of extant data from school databases
- BURO pilot using Health & Social Care School, then ALL 6 Schools
- RAE 2008: data collected manually (111.2 FTE staff)
- BU chosen for Phase II of HEFCE REF Pilot due to BURO
- Central upload of data from CVs, RAE submission & for REF Pilot

2007

2008

MAIN CHALLENGE - ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT
- Culture change: autonomous users, regular slot in VC's newsletter
- Tailored BURO/REF roadshows, workshops & 1-2-1s led by Library & CRE
- Enhancements in response to feedback – Author Browse & Self-editing Tool
- Integral part of EREPP* (staff training) programme, targeting Early Career Researchers
- School Deputy Deans of Research & Enterprise as advocates

2009

THE NEAR FUTURE
- Investigation of products that enable systems to interface *e.g.* Symplectic
- Add e-theses & integrate citation data from Web of Science and/or Scopus
- Create direct link to staff web profiles & develop CV output format
- Develop metrics tools to improve internal & external reporting
- Introduce Institutional Self-Archiving Mandate & increase OA deposits
- REF 2012: refine BURO functionality – data collection revolution!
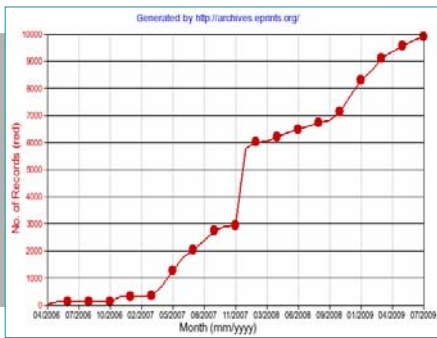
2010

2012

INCREDIBLE FUTURES
- Protocol that auto-populates BURO with personal & subject metadata from original research.
- Big Flame - publish all BU research via BURO, journal editors supply virtual labels on acceptance

2030

Conclusions: By August 2009, BURO contained 7,637 entries. It has become a critical part of the infrastructure providing data collation and open access for the REF. EPrints proved to be a good base from which to develop a bespoke system, although this was contingent on high quality communication between BU Library and EPrints development teams. Data entry/update and the need to engage academics remain challenges and whilst we expect to continue being proactive in this area, we expect this challenge to diminish significantly as research becomes increasingly embedded into BU culture and as the benefits of BURO become more obvious to the academic community at BU.