Introduction to euroCRIS and CRIS Systems

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Structure of the talk

- What is euroCRIS?
- What is a CRIS?
What is euroCRIS?

We could start with looking at the name “euroCRIS”, which has two parts:

- “euro”: referring to “Europe”, where the organisation was established (at the early 1990’s) and has its base.

- “CRIS”: short for “Current Research Information System” (sometimes also “RIM” is used (“Research Information Management System”)).

So, euroCRIS is a European based organisation dealing with or focusing on CRIS’s.
What is euroCRIS?

• An international not-for-profit association of experts and users of research information and research information systems (CRIS).

• Mission: To promote collaboration within the research information community and advance Interoperability through CERIF.

• Main activities:
  • Development and governance of the CERIF data model and promotion of its use.
  • Promotion of cooperation between stakeholders (organisations) in the RI Domain. To fulfill this function, euroCRIS regularly organises international events: Membership Meetings (twice a year) and Conferences (every 2 years).

• (upcoming) Events:
  • Strategich Membership Meeting, Münster, 18-20 November 2019.
Membership: the euroCRIS Community

200+ members from 45 countries (mainly Europe)

Members outside of Europe:
Australia – Brazil – Canada – China – Colombia – India – Iran – Israël – Malaysia –
Nigeria – Pakistan – Peru – South Korea – USA
Strategic Partners
Workshop on repository/CRIS interoperability and integration at the Open Repositories 2019 conference in Hamburg

As part of the euroCRIS contribution to the OR19 conference (University of Hamburg, June 10-13, 2019), a well-attended full-day workshop on repository/CRIS interoperability was held on Mon June 10th. This full-day event was jointly organised by euroCRIS and DuraSpace as a follow-up to a similar activity held as a pre-CRIS2018 Umeå event last summer.

CRIS/IR interoperability has kept swiftly evolving since the release of the joint FUNIS/euroCRIS survey report back in 2016. New open source systems like Haplo or DSpace-CRIS that integrate the CRIS and repository functionality are increasingly joining the ’traditional’ information transfer mechanism between large CRIS like Pure, Converis or Symplectic Elements and standalone DSpace.

Excellent panel discussion in the CRIS interoperability session, reflecting on the strengths, weaknesses and economic realities of open and proprietary systems
#OpenRepo2019

https://www.eurocris.org
What is a CRIS?

A CRIS (Current Research Information System) is an information system that holds a broad range of information about research, in other words: metadata on research

(metadata = data about data).
CRISs: a bit of History

To get a proper idea about CRISs and their function, a bit of history may be useful.

• At the end of 1980’s-beginning 1990’s, due to an increasing strain on the financial means for research, the question came up in some European countries (*starting with Norway and The Netherlands*) whether the taxpayer's money for research was properly spent.

• To check this, research reporting and evaluation procedures were defined by the governments requesting from the institutions (a complete set of) information about their research. As a consequence CRISs were developed and implemented at the institutions in order to register and supply the information.

• In the course of the 1990’s more and more countries in Europe followed in this development.
What is a CRIS?

The information (metadata) stored in a CRIS has a broad coverage and includes information on:

**Research projects:** title, description, duration, academic field, language(s), level (institutional, national, international), participating institut(e)ions, etc...

**Researchers:** name, affiliations, role in the research (PI, researcher, manager, author, reviewer, ...), CV-related info (age, field of expertise, educational background, awards, etc...)

**Organisations involved:** name, role or position in the research (e.g. funder, leading unit, etc.), type of organisation (university, research institute, network...), contact info, partnerships, etc...

**Input for research:** amount of money invested in the research, investment in time/personnel (f.t.e.'s) equipment, infrastructure and/or services used, funding sources, etc...

**Output of research:** publications, datasets, patents, awards, (other) products, (software, media), etc...

... and the relations between all these entities/objects.
CRISs: a bit of History (continued)

In the course of the years 2000 CRISs gradually grew into multi-functional information systems not only useful for reporting of research but also providing researchers and institutes with functions for optimal communication, showcasing and profiling of research to all kinds of stakeholders.

Also it has become common practice in Europe to use the CRIS as the basic source for the OA Repository of an Institution (i.e. the CRIS feeding the Repository)

Another, recent, development is to include functions for Research Data Archiving and registration of Data Management Plans in CRISs.
CRISs: multifunctional systems for various stakeholders

- **Researchers**: finding collaborations, CV generation, visibility & profiling, reputation management
- **Decision Makers**: performance, strategic decisions, priorities, cross-country comparisons
- **Project Managers**: overview and performance of ongoing activities
- **Research Organisations**: integration and interoperability, strategic management, profiling
- **Publishers**: finding reviewers
- **Intermediaries / Brokers**: finding research results of potential market or innovative value
- **Teaching Staff**: integration of relevant information into lectures and training
- **Libraries**: acquisition, dissemination
- **Funding Organisations**: distribution of programs, evaluation of results, finding reviewers
- **General Public**: finding information for participation in projects, partnerships, usage of results
- **Media**: distribution and communication
- **Enterprises / Professions**: finding information for participation in projects, partnerships, usage of results

CRISs: Multifunctional systems for various stakeholders.
This development of CRISs into multifunctional sources of research information, is also reflected in the research information system’s landscape: CRISs more and more tend to obtain a central, pivotal position in this landscape.
Position of CRIS in the Research Information Landscape

**INPUT FROM**

- External Publication / Data Resources
  - (WoS, Scopus, Google Scholar...)
- Researchers
- Administrative Resources
  - (HRM, Finance, Project Man.)
- Institute’s Secretariat

**OUTPUT TO**

- Publication Repositories
- Dataset Repositories / Archives
- Profiling & Management Applications
- ((inter)national) Research Portals
- Other RIS-systems / formats

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**Institutional CRIS**

**ORCID**

**Internet**

**CERIF**

**Current Research Information Systems**

**The International Organisation for Research Information**
M.J.C.M. (Marno) Verbeek
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Marno Verbeek is a Professor of Finance at Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University (RSM). He was Dean of Research of RSM and Academic Director of the Erasmus Research Institute of Management (ERIM) from 1 July 2011 until 15 July 2017.

His recent research is largely in the area of empirical finance with a particular focus on mutual funds, hedge funds, asset pricing, investment strategies, survival bias and performance evaluation.


He received his PhD from Tilburg University in 1991.

+ Work in Progress (4)
+ Publications (57)
+ PhD Tracks (28)
+ Recognitions (2)
CRISs as a source for profiling of an Institute’s Research Performance

https://erimdashboard.nl/
CRISs: (potential) treasure chests of Research Information

- Challenge: making the (content of the) treasure chest known and useful to the world.
- For this international portals and applications such as OpenAIRE and VIVO could play a crucial role.
- Condition: creating interoperability between CRISs on the one hand and these applications (OpenAIRE / VIVO) on the other.
CERIF: the international standard data model for both defining and exchanging the information elements of a CRIS
Example of interoperability: CRISs to OpenAIRE based on CERIF (XML)
Also VIVO is an excellent candidate to open-up information in CRISs to the world

For a wider, generic implementation of CRIS-VIVO, standardization is necessary.

A way forward in this could be:
• Refractoring of CERIF to bring it more in line with an RDF-structure.
• Mapping of CERIF-information elements (entities, attributes) to the VIVO ontology.
• Cooperation between euroCRIS and VIVO in a joint “CERIF2VIVO” project.

Thank you for your attention