

8 June 2023 * euroCRIS strategic partners meeting * Brussels

“Connecting the dots”

A report from the US International Forum on
Expert Finder Systems

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What is the Expert Finder Systems Forum?

- Volunteer organized
- Growing community of practice around RIM systems in the US
- <https://expertfindersystems.org/>



History of the EFS Forum

2019

- Inaugural conference
- Orlando, Florida
- 70 attendees

2021

- Virtual conference
- 245 attendees
- 4 sponsors

2022

- 3-part webinar series

April 2023

- Miami, Florida
- 108 attendees
- 9 sponsors

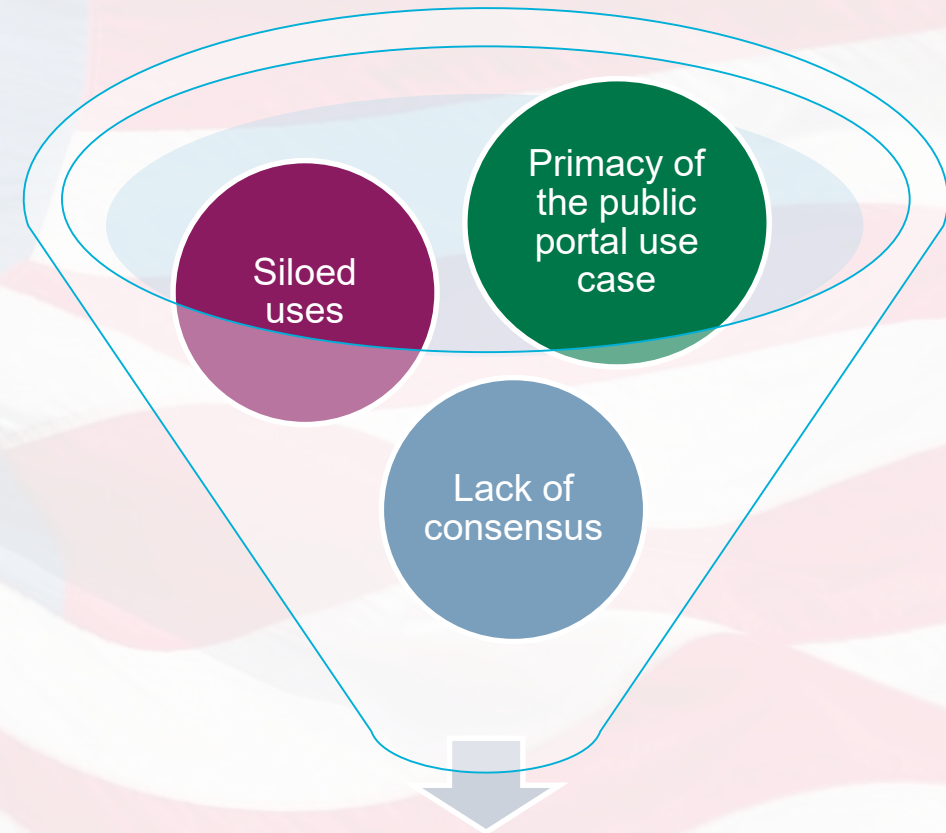


EXPERT FINDER SYSTEMS
INTERNATIONAL FORUM 2023

About that name. . .

Diffuse terminology

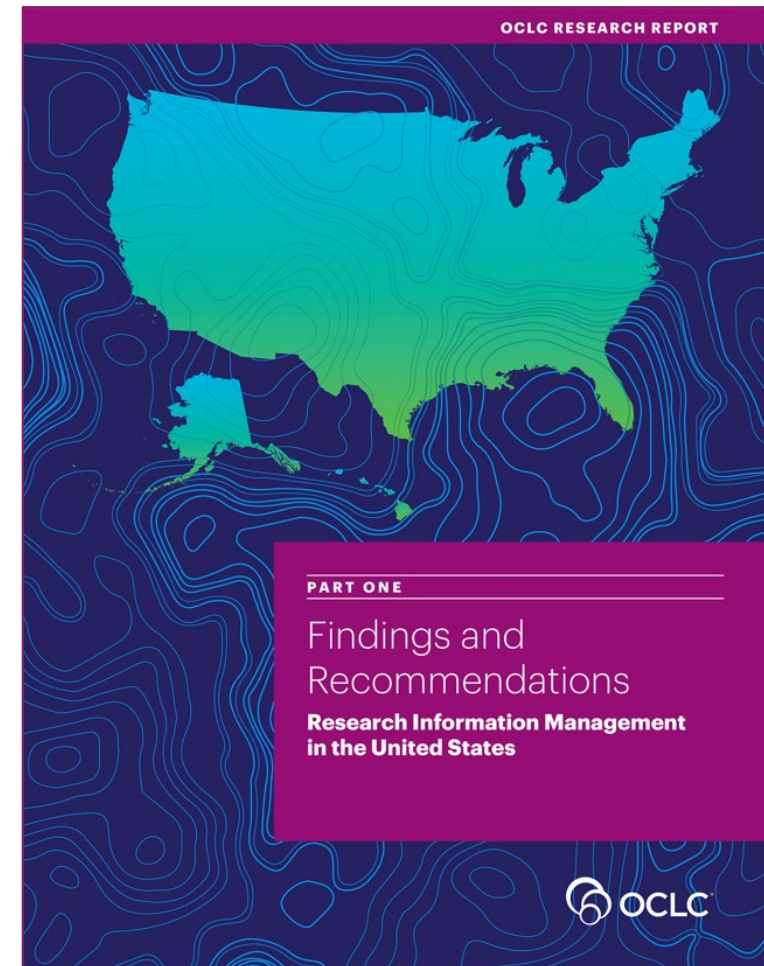
- Research Information Management System (RIMS)
- Researcher Profile System
- Expert Finder System (EFS)
- Research Information System (RIS)
- Research Networking System (RNS)
- Faculty Activity Reporting (FAR) system
- Faculty Information System (FIS)



“Expert finder systems”

What the %\$&! is Research Information Management?

Research Information Management (RIM) systems support the transparent aggregation, curation, and utilization of data about institutional research activities.



International Forum on Expert Finders Systems

A large, colorful banner for the 2023 event. The background is a tropical sunset scene with a large orange and pink sun, palm trees, and a blue and green landscape. The year "2023" is written in large, white, 3D-style numbers across the center. On the left, the text "Connecting the Dots" is accompanied by a graphic of dots. In the top right, there are three dark blue buttons: "SPONSORSHIP", "PROGRAM", and "REGISTER" (which is highlighted in green). A teal button with the text "Call for Proposals" is positioned below the "2023" text.

Connecting the Dots | APRIL 5-6, 2023
CORAL GABLES MIAMI, FL

2023

Call for Proposals

SPONSORSHIP

PROGRAM

REGISTER

<https://expertfindersystems.org/>

Steering committee

Representation includes:

- RIM professionals
- Librarians
- Research administrators
- Researchers
- Product providers

Jeff Agnoli

Education, Funding and Research Development
Ohio State University, Office of Research
Subcommittee: Sponsor Recruitment Lead

Rebecca Augustyniak

Executive Director, Florida ExpertNet
Florida State University
Subcommittees: Website Lead, Registration, Venue

Ann Beynon

Lead Partnerships Manager
Clarivate
Subcommittee: Program

Rebecca Bryant, Secretary

Senior Program Officer
OCLC Research
Subcommittee: Program Lead

Washington Carvalho-Segundo

Computer Scientist
Coordinator, Laboratory of Methodologies for Treatment and
Dissemination of Information
Brazilian Institute of Information in Science and Technology
Subcommittee: Evaluation

L. Bryan Cooper

Associate Dean, Libraries
Florida International University
Subcommittees: Sponsor Recruitment

Amy Finley, Treasurer

Director, Florida ExpertNet
Florida State University
Subcommittees: Venue Lead, Website, Registration

Jan Fransen, Chair

Former Service Lead, Research Information Management Systems
University of Minnesota
Subcommittee: Evaluation Lead

Bruce Herbert

Director, Office of Scholarly Communications
Texas A&M University

Michelle Hutnik

Director, Research Analytics and Communications
Pennsylvania State University
Subcommittee: Program

Clarke Iokavakis

Scholarly Services Librarian
Oklahoma State University
Subcommittee: Program

Andrés Melgar

Principal Professor
Pontifical Catholic University of Peru
Subcommittee: Evaluation

Tina Moir

Snr. Director
Industry & Academic Relationships, Pure
Elsevier
Subcommittee: Program

Matt Ramey

Metrics and Research Impact Specialist
National Center for Atmospheric Research
Subcommittee: Program

David Scherer

Customer Consultant for Pure & Data Monitor
Elsevier
Subcommittee: Program

Besiki Stvilia

Professor
School of Information - Florida's iSchool
Florida State University
Subcommittee: Program

Julia Trimmer

Former Director, Faculty Systems and Analysis
Duke University
Subcommittee: Communications Lead



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Themes from the program



Reporting and analytics

- U Kentucky, Carnegie Mellon, Syracuse

Faculty activity reporting uses

- Virginia Tech, U Colorado

Cross-campus “social interoperability”

- Role of the library, “It takes a village”

State-wide efforts to support economic development

- Florida ExpertNet, Ohio Innovation Exchange

Keynote speakers



Jeff Agnoli, Senior Liaison, Ohio
Innovation Exchange



Karen Estlund, Dean of Libraries,
Colorado State University



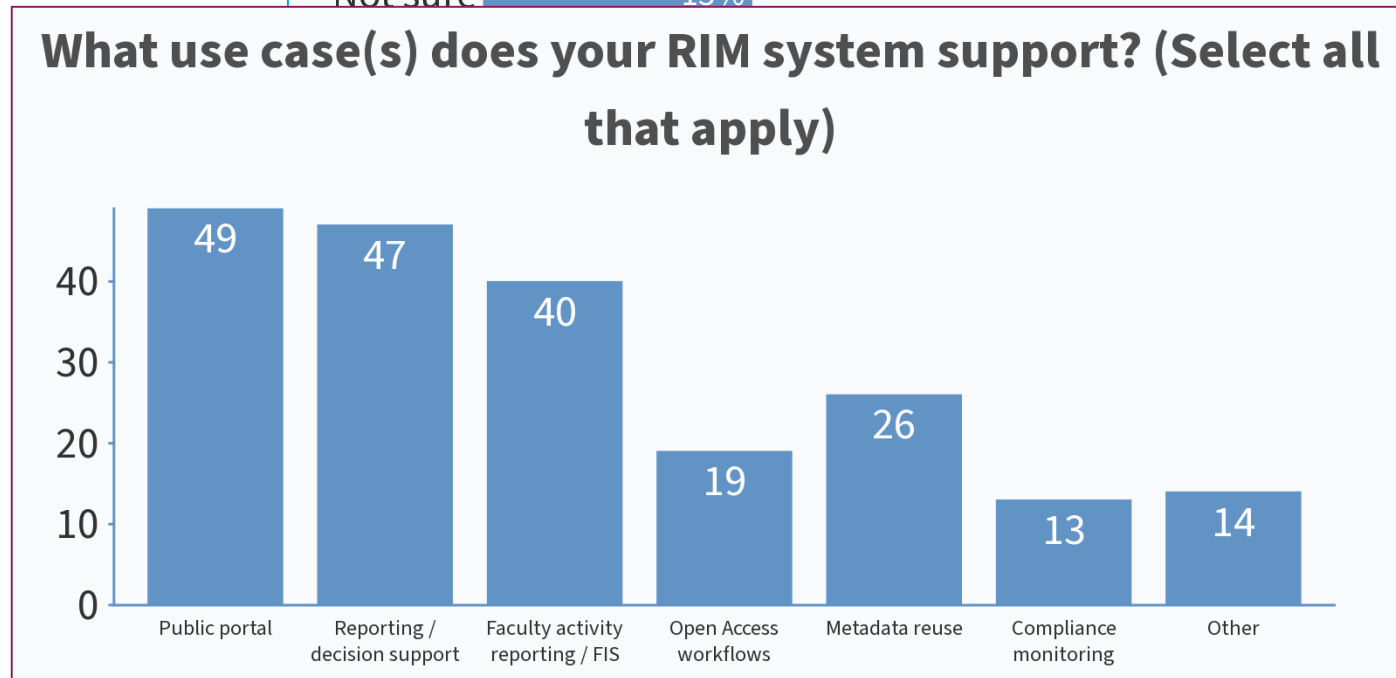
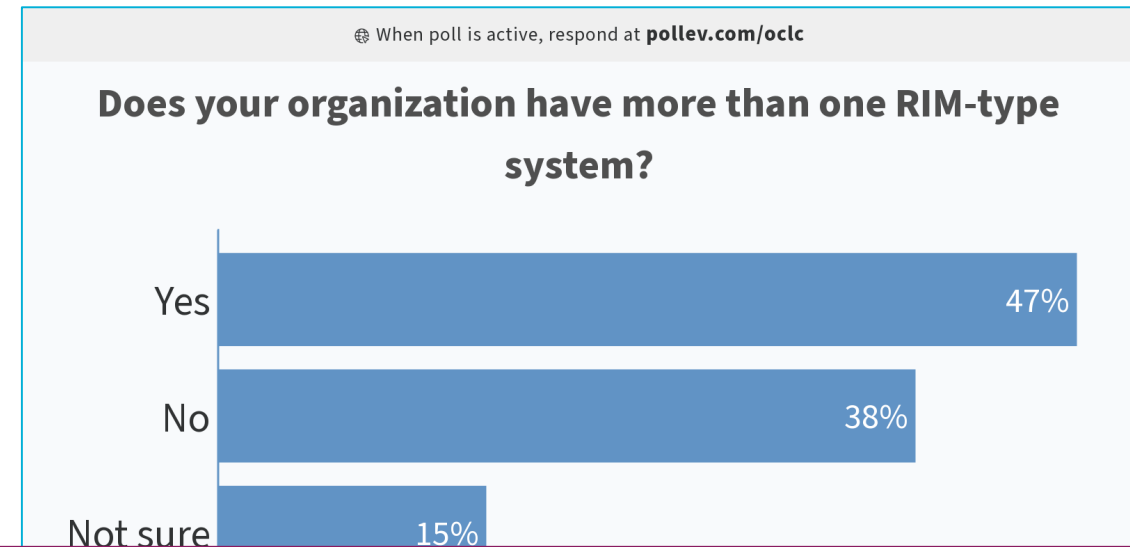
Baron Wolf, AVP for Research &
Director of Research Analytics,
University of Kentucky

US characteristics

Multiple, siloed systems

Public portal = primary use case

Growth in other uses



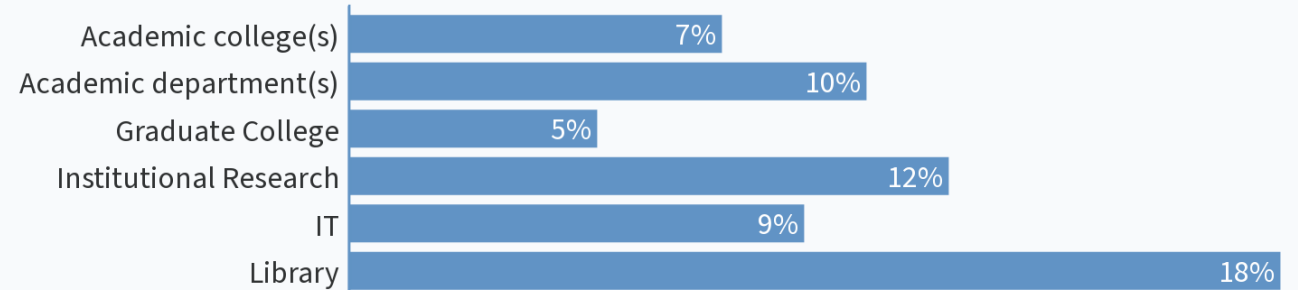
Characteristics

Lots of stakeholders

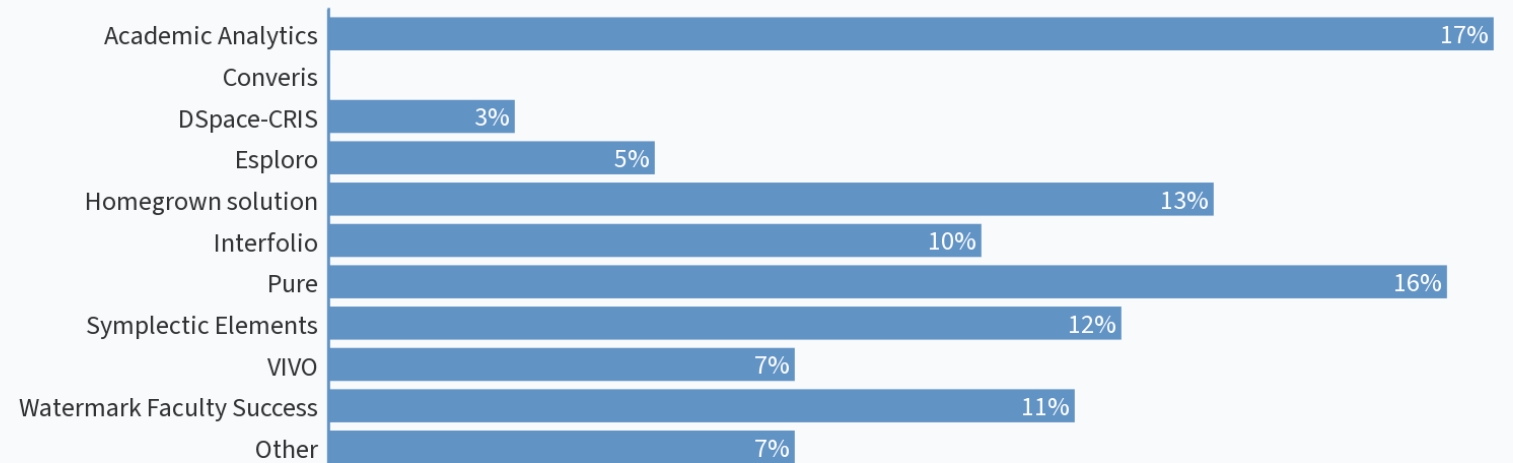
Widespread use of Academic Analytics

State-wide portals

What unit(s) are involved in RIM activities at your organization? (Select all that apply)



What product(s) is your organization using? (Select all that apply)



Key findings

US landscape is decentralized and duplicative

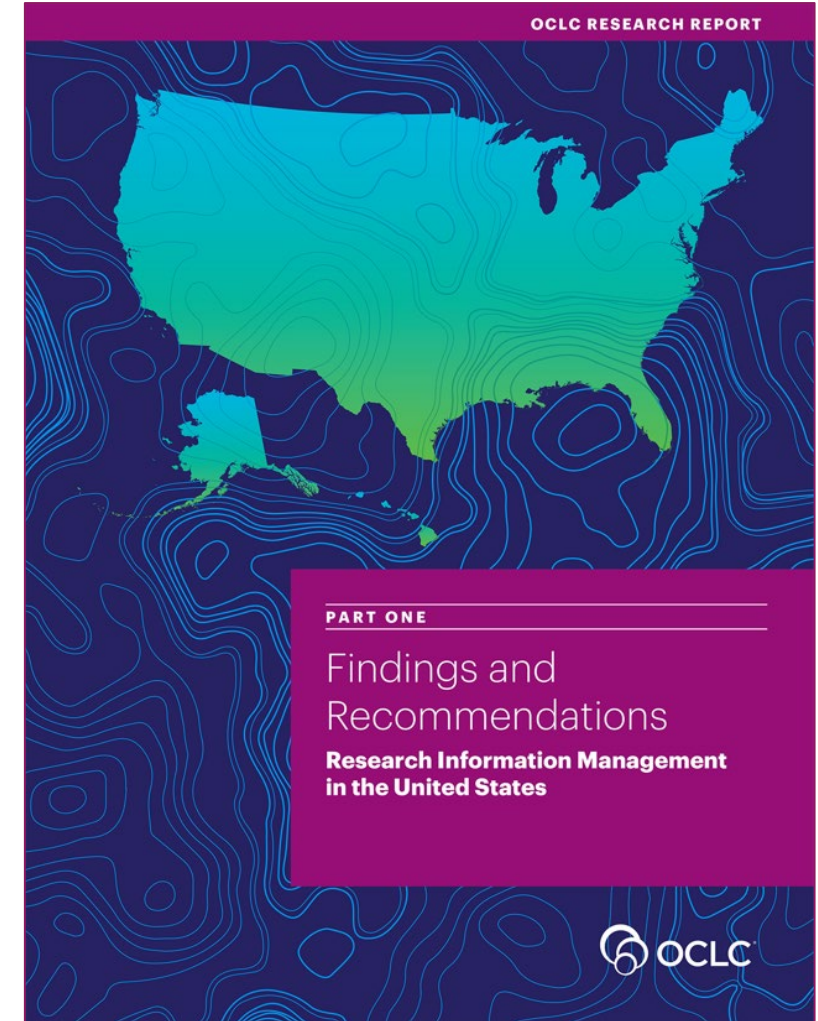
Widespread confusion about RIM systems

No national mandates

Public portal is primary use case

RIM systems can support an array of uses

Libraries are frequently involved



What's next?



Launch Digital Commons repository

Recruit new steering committee

Address name

Explore non-profit incorporation

Support a growing community of practice

What's next?

Continued RIM growth in US

Move beyond public profile use case

More compliance monitoring due to federal mandates?

Increasing merging of product categories

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