

The PIRUS2 Project

<http://www.cranfieldlibrary.cranfield.ac.uk/pirus2/>

Publisher and Institutional Repository Usage Statistics

Fact Sheet

What is PIRUS2?

PIRUS2, supported by JISC, the United Kingdom Joint Information Systems Committee, is a co-operative project involving publishers and repositories, which will develop a set of standards, protocols and processes to enable publishers, repositories and other organizations to generate and share authoritative, trustworthy usage statistics for the individual articles and other items that they host.

PIRUS2 builds on the standards already established by COUNTER (www.projectCounter.org) and on the results of the original PIRUS (Publisher and Institutional Repository Usage Statistics) project, which demonstrated that it is *technically* feasible to create record and consolidate usage statistics for individual articles using data from repositories and publishers, despite the diversity of organizational and technical environments in which they operate.

Why is PIRUS2 important?

Until now the most granular level at which COUNTER has established standards for the reporting of usage is at the individual journal, database, or book level. A number of recent developments, however, mean that it may now be appropriate to give a higher priority to developing standards for the recording, reporting and consolidation of usage statistics at the individual article level.

PIRUS2 aims to:

- Develop a suite of free, open source programmes to support the generation and sharing of COUNTER compliant usage data and statistics that will cover individual items in publisher, aggregator, institutional and subject repositories
- Develop a prototype article-level Publisher/Repository usage statistics service
- Define a core set of standard usage statistics reports that publishers and repositories could produce for internal and external consumption
- Assess the costs for publishers and repositories of generating the required usage reports, as well as the costs of any central clearing house/houses; investigate how these costs could be allocated between stakeholders

Who is involved in PIRUS2?

PIRUS2 is lead by Mimas (The University of Manchester) and Cranfield University; the other primary partners are COUNTER, Oxford University Press and CrossRef. Oxford University, Southampton University and other Institutional Repositories will also participate in PIRUS2, together with publishers, subject repositories and related projects in the UK, USA and Europe. Work on PIRUS2 commenced in October 2009 and the final report will be published in December 2010.

Where can I obtain further information on PIRUS2?

For further information on PIRUS2, please visit the project website at:
<http://www.cranfieldlibrary.cranfield.ac.uk/pirus2/>