LIFE Conference
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The Researchers’ Perspective

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The UK Research Community

Higher Education
- c 75,000 researchers
  - 26% life sciences and medicine
  - 26% physical sciences and engineering
  - 48% social sciences, arts and humanities

Government and Industry
- c 116,000 researchers

Researchers = 0.6% of the UK workforce
- US and Japan 0.9%
- EU average 0.5%

Library staff in UK
- c 10,000 staff in academic libraries, of which c 3,000 professional staff
- CILIP membership 14,644 (2003-04)
Expenditure on Research and Development

**UK Government Expenditure**
- £11,055m total
  - £5,227m Research Councils and Higher Education Funding Councils
  - £2,523m Government Departments (civil) and EU
  - £3,345m Defence

**UK Total Expenditure**
- c £21,000m ($30,000m)
  - US Expenditure $275,000m
  - German Expenditure $53,000m
- UK accounts for c4.0% of OECD expenditure on R&D
Researchers’ Interest in Preservation

- Researchers are both producers and users of information
- The dissemination and knowledge transfer imperatives
  - Bibliometrics, career progression and the assessment of research quality
  - Responsiveness and links between the research base and the economy
- **Access** through delivery to the desktop
  - Metadata, provenance, citation linking, authenticity and version control, common platforms and interoperability
Publications and Other Outputs

Production

- UK produces c 70,000 articles annually
- c 15,000-20,000 journals worldwide
- c 1m articles published annually
- growth rate of c 3-3.5% annually

Citation

- UK accounts for c 12% of global citations
- Huge disciplinary differences, but
  - c 10% of papers never cited in another paper
  - citations continue to accumulate for c 8 years
Data and Other Outputs

- E-science and the data deluge
- Images, performances, sounds, software
- 11.5bn pages on the publicly-indexable Web 2005

“I can get access to my own data; what I want is access to other people’s data”
Data and E-infrastructure

*Increasing interest in how to preserve and provide access to research information*

- **UK E-Infrastructure Steering Group**
- **OECD Ministerial Declaration on Access to Data from Publicly-Funded Research**
- **US CyberInfrastructure Report and NSB Report on Long-Lived Data**
- **Australian Research Information Infrastructure Committee**
Key Goals and Principles

Ideas and knowledge derived from publicly-funded research should be made available and accessible for public use, interrogation, and scrutiny, as widely, rapidly and effectively as practicable

- explicit rules and codes of practice
- standards, quality assurance and peer review
- access in a managed environment
- efficient and cost-effective use of public funds.