

# Metadata in an Ecosystem of Presentation Dissemination

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## An ecological approach?

### The challenge

To develop a conceptual model to help articulate the complex situations in which metadata is created, repositories and other services interact, and academics work.

### The metaphor

Ecology is the study of complex natural systems, with the aim of understanding and modelling the processes and interactions between the participants in the system and their environment. The Repositories Research Team (RRT) has examined the use of ecology as a metaphor to support the understanding and representation of interactions between repositories, dependent services, and their users. These interactions whether technical, political, or cultural have a direct impact on the metadata in each repository. Where many other approaches to modeling facilitate an abstract view of a single type of interaction; the ecologically influenced approach seeks to support communication of the combined influences of a repository's technical and cultural setting, however specific and chaotic (or messy) it may be.

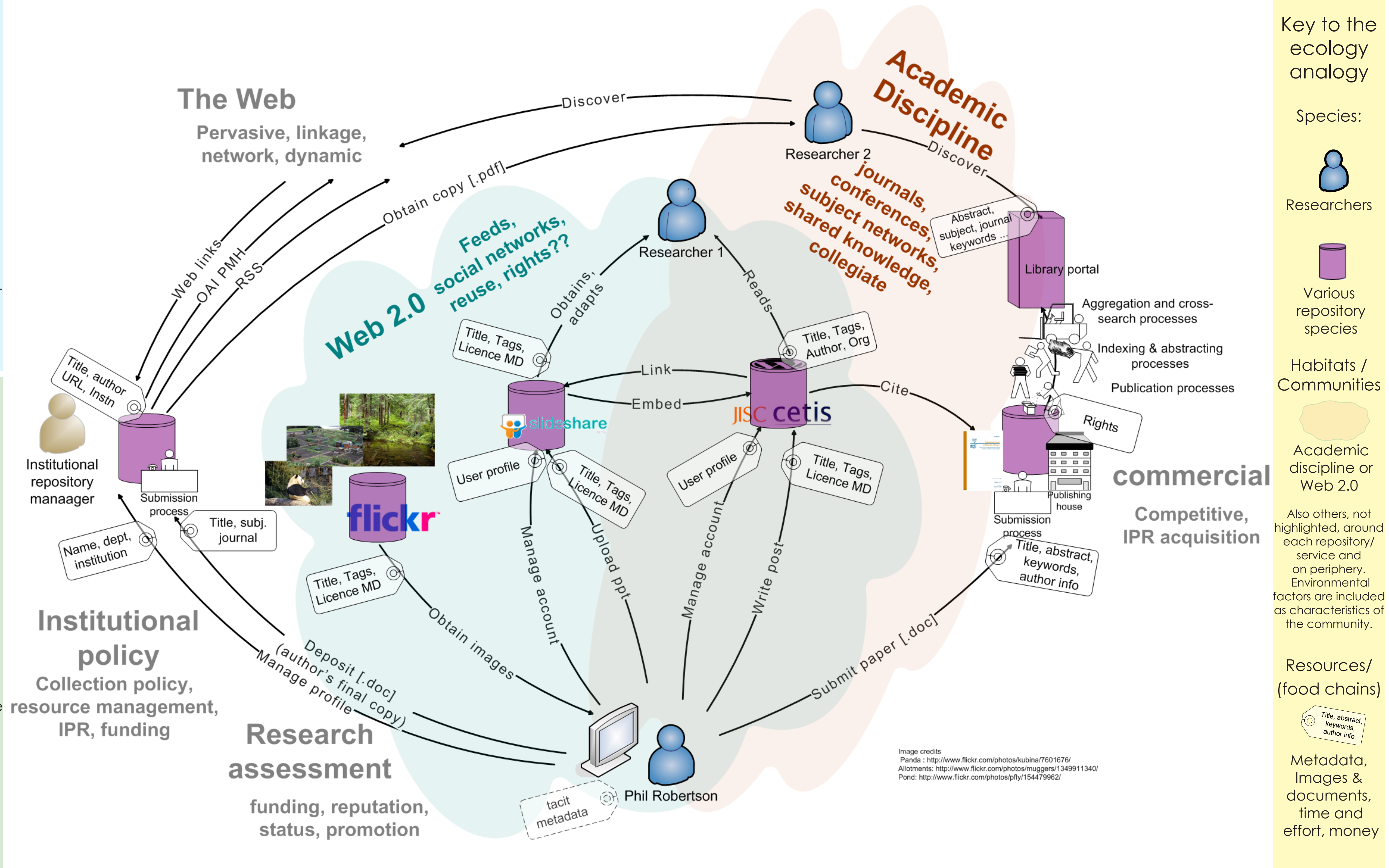
## Phil and his slides

This poster presents an ecologically influenced view of a researcher, Phil Robertson, seeking to disseminate and store their presentations. Its intent is to help reflect on how Phil's approach is or isn't working, to help evaluate the impact of it on the metadata created, and to begin to discuss its effectiveness.

### Scenario

Phil Robertson submits a paper to a journal, and his author's final copy to the institutional repository. He then creates a presentation of the paper for a workshop using images gathered from flickr. After the workshop he uploads a copy of the presentation onto slideshare and then blogs about the paper and presentation. After the journal paper is published, it is indexed and abstracted, and then made available through aggregation and cross search services. Researcher 1 reads Phil's blog post and gets a copy of the slides from SlideShare to adapt for her next presentation. Researcher 2 finds out about the paper via a table of contents alerting service, but as his institution doesn't subscribe to the journal in question he finds a preprint through Phil's institutional repository.

The key entities (such as Phil or SlideShare) and interactions (profile management, citation, and discovery) are shown on the diagram, the diagram also indicates environmental factors (such as rights policies, conference, journal, and academic reputation, and social networks) influencing the entities and their interactions. Environmental factors are influences that indirectly affect the entities and interactions.



METADATA	Title	Author(s)	Subject	IPR	Abstract
SlideShare	title 2 or 3	1 user-created uploader profile only	uploader and user-created free text tags	CC tool in author profile / optional	user-created
Institutional Repository	title 1	Names; institutional affiliation,	uploader assigned high-level LCSH and free text mediated by a librarian	repository profile/ missing	user-created
Blog	title 2	user-created about page; organisational affiliation	author-created free text tags	author profile/ missing	user-created
Journal	title 1	Names, institutional affiliations	author-created free text keywords	journal profile/ restricted	user-created
Indexing and Abstracting service	title 1	Names,	librarian-created discipline-specific detailed classification	N/A - mediates journal	librarian created

## Questions

- What changes if it is published in an Open Access Journal?
- Where are the preservation copies, and what metadata do they have?
- How many times is the same metadata created?
- What would be the trade offs in using a simple desktop submission widget (based on SWORD)?
- What interactions and metadata impact the discovery/ dissemination of these ideas?

RRT is a collaboration between UKOLN and CETIS.

CETIS (Centre for Educational Technology and Interoperability Standards - <http://jisc.cetis.ac.uk/>) supports the educational use of technology in tertiary education in the UK. UKOLN (<http://www.ukoln.ac.uk/>) is a centre of excellence in digital information management, providing advice and services to the library, information and cultural heritage communities.