

One step through the looking glass

Helen Morgan¹ & Sarah Brown²

1 The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia h.morgan@research.uq.edu.au

2 The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia s.brown@research.uq.edu.au

ABSTRACT

In 2018 University of Queensland undertook an institutional wide rollout of [UQ Research Data Manager](#) (UQ RDM). UQ RDM is a researcher-centric, integrated whole-of-lifecycle data management system. It provides the UQ research community with a collaborative, safe and secure large-scale storage facility to practice good stewardship of research data. The UQ RDM facilitates collaboration across the whole of UQ, with other research institutions, and industry partners. With over 4300 researchers engaging with UQ RDM and using it for their primary data storage across more than 3000 projects, the previously unknowable, dark shadow monster of working research data [[redpenbackpen](#)] is slowly being tamed.

The rich metadata collected about projects including provenance, collaborators, fields of research, data types, file size, etc. has recently become available for interrogation through UQ Reportal (SAP Business Objects) via the university's Data Warehouse.

These metadata, and the ability to analyse them, provide the institution with a unique lens to examine UQ research in a way that has never been possible before. Current business intelligence around research is generally historical (publications, grants), while UQ RDM provides us with insights into active projects at the earliest stage and allows us to gaze to what looms on the horizon. This rich source of intelligence whispers of things to come.

This lightning talk will take the room “**one step through the looking glass**” and share the first glimpse into some of the high-level visualisations and the insights they provide us all.

