

RISE Working Group – report May 2019

INORMS RISE Work Plan 2018-2019 (from Terms of Reference)

- a) Finalize goals and Terms of Reference: *COMPLETE*
- b) Develop a workplan: *COMPLETE*
- c) Identify professional development needs: *see RAAAP Survey, below*
- d) Develop professional development activities/resources to meet needs: *delayed pending RAAAP Survey and ACU Data*
- e) Additional Item: Impact Provider Criteria
- f) Be fabulous, impactastic and have fun

RAAAP Survey

We have collaborated with the Research Administration as a Profession (RAAAP) task force (and Julie Bayley has joined the task force for this purpose) to include RISE questions as the guest section of the international RAAAP survey. Launch is delayed by the owners of the survey, but it will be distributed summer 2019, including a scaled back version of the original questions we recommended (NB There were some members for whom impact is not a “thing” in their national setting and were resistant to significant questions). In parallel the Association of Commonwealth Universities picked up some questions in their research administration benchmarking survey, so we will have some additional data coming to us. Once we have the data we can use them to inform our discussions about members’ professional development needs.

Impact Provider Criteria

In addition to the RAAAP Survey, the INORMS RISE Working Group developed criteria to help research management associations (RMA) and RMA members assess people and organizations providing products and services to support research impact defined as the provable effects of research in the real world¹. These criteria encompass impact in its broadest sense including creating impacts, assessing impacts, stakeholder engagement, data collection and communicating impact. The INORMS RISE Working Group will not make recommendations on any provider but the considerations presented in the provider criteria will support RMAs to make informed decisions with respect to their own priorities.

The provider criteria were e mailed to RISE correspondents on April 23, 2019. Beyond the members of the RISE working group, the RISE correspondents include members of research administration associations in 12 countries including Australasia, North America, Europe, Asia and Africa. It also went to the Association of Commonwealth Universities.

Communication

The work of the INORMS group has been flagged at multiple impact talks in our various settings, but a more formal update will be given at ARMA 2019.

¹ Impact is the changes we can see (demonstrate, measure, capture), beyond academia (in society, economy, environment) which happen because of our research (caused by, contributed to, attributable to).

Towards a 2019-2020 Workplan:

While the RAAAP and ACU surveys are collecting data, the RISE Working Group developed one additional item for development in 2019-2020. With feedback from most RISE Working Group members, we identified three priorities from 8 suggestions.

1. Resources/tools/practice: 4/8
2. Relevance absent an impact agenda: 2/8
3. Ecosystem approach: 2/8 (but related to relevance)

The group prioritized tools/practices and will focus first on assembling a collection of codified tools, those tools that are already described in some form of document/video and freely available. Susan Reno (U. Missouri USA; Center for Advancing the Societal Impacts of Research) and David Phipps (York University, Canada; Research Impact Canada) both have resources and a mandate for this work and will lead development of an international tool kit for research impact tools – broadly construed to include public/community engagement, communications/dissemination, impact assessment, impact planning, etc.

Next Steps

- Assume annual workplan is July 1-June 30 to encompass INORMS Conferences
- Susan Reno and David Phipps will develop a tools workplan for review by the RISE Working Group for a July 1 start. The choice of tools to be developed will be informed by the RAAAP and ACU survey data
- RISE Work Plan for 2019-2020:
 1. Analyze and report on RAAAP and ACU data
 2. Develop and deploy resources (impact tools)
 3. Be impactastic and have fun