A. Proposal Cover Sheet

Cover Sheet for Dropogola								
(Plags complete ALL sections)			JISC					
(Trease complete ALL sections)								
Name of Call Area Bidding For (tick <u>ONE</u> only):								
Strand A1: Automated metadata generation and text mining Strand A2: Developing e-infrastructure to support research disciplines Strand A3: Repositories: start-up Strand A4: Repositories: rapid innovation Strand A5: Repositories: enhancement X Strand B1: VRE Innovation: Tools and interoperability Strand B2: VRE Innovation: VRE Frameworks Strand B3: VRE Innovation: VRE National and Institutional Interoperability								
Name of Lead Institution: University of Southampton								
Name of Proposed Project: KeepIt: Exemplars focused on preserving an institution's repositories			preserving an institution's					
Name(s) of Project Partner(s):The University of Northampton, University of the Arts London								
Full Contact Details for Primary Con	tact:							
Name: Steve Hitchcock	Name: Steve Hitchcock Position: Research fellow							
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Address: IAM Group, School of Electronics and Computer Science, University of Southampton, Highfield Campus, Southampton SO17 1BJ								
Length of Project: 18 months								
Project Start Date: April 2009		Project End Date: September 2010						
Total Funding Requested from JISC: £218458								
Funding Broken Down over Financial Years (April - March):								
April 09 – March 10	April 10	– March 11	April 11 – March 12					
£145731 £	£72727							
Total Institutional Contributions:£93625								
Outline Project Description: The exemplar: Our exemplar preservation repository is not one repository but many that viewed as a whole represent all the content types that an institutional repository might present (research papers, science data, arts, teaching materials and theses).								

The problem: There are various preservation tools and services but little awareness or uptake by repositories perhaps because they are too complex and potentially costly. These activities have typically been presented to repositories as additional tasks rather than as integral to their current activities. The documentation for these tools is not typically designed for these repositories.

The solution: Managers and representatives of four exemplar repositories will liaise one-on-one and in groups with a preservation specialist and developer who each have experience of both repositories and preservation and will be the bridge between the two. The project will adapt and apply proven documented approaches and training to develop preservation plans - including policy (institutional and repository), costs, preservation metadata, storage and format management, data stewardship and trust - for each exemplar. Each one will provide a distinctive institutional and/or repository focus, and through this detailed analysis we expect to identify the core elements of the documented approaches that work for repositories, and to simplify and advise on application of the documentation. Based on the findings, current preservation tools will be developed and implemented for each repository exemplar. The repositories will participate in peer evangelising the results and solutions.

Deliverables:

- Amended, simpler versions of existing documentation and training materials, on preservation policy, planning, data management and stewardship, aimed at repositories and based on what works and is cost-effective for repositories, to be disseminated by the project and the participating repositories.
- A set of preservation tools and interfaces for storage and format management, tested and evaluated with the exemplar repositories and packaged for wider use.
- Repositories constituting the exemplar will be preservation-ready.

I have looked at the example FOI form at Appendix B and included an FOI form in the attached bid (Tick Box)	YES	
I have read the Call and associated Terms and Conditions of Grant at Appendix D (Tick Box)	YES	

B. FOI Withheld Information Form

There is no information contained within this proposal that needs to be withheld from disclosure for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act.

Keeplt (Kultur, eCrystals, EdShare - Preserve It!) Exemplars focused on preserving an institution's repositories

C. Appropriateness and Fit to Programme Objectives and Overall Value to JISC Community

1 Digital preservation is essentially planning and implementing data management requirements for the longer term. Repositories are entrusted by their institutions to manage their digital outputs, so data management is clearly a core activity, but extending that to longer term requirements has not happened yet on a wide scale.

2 The types of outputs being produced across institutions that might be managed in an institutional repository (IR) include research papers, science data, arts, teaching materials and theses. Each presents a different challenge to digital preservation practices if these materials are to be effectively managed for longer-term access and use. An ideal exemplar of preservation practices would have within its scope this range of materials. There are few, if any, IRs yet that offer a critical mass of content in all of these areas, but by working with a number of repositories, including institutional, subject-based and focused repositories, we have assembled a multi-institutional IR exemplar that is fully representative all of these types of output, and will provide a fascinating basis on which to develop preservation planning and implementation strategies.

3 Digital preservation tools and services are emerging. The iPres 2008 conference on preservation held in London displayed confidence within the international preservation community that it has practical and demonstrable solutions to the problems of managing digital content. Some of this work has been aimed at repositories (including JISC projects Preserv 1,2 <u>http://preserv.eprints.org</u>; Sherpa-DP 1,2 <u>http://www.sherpadp.org.uk</u>; and in Portugal, RODA <u>http://roda.iantt.pt/en</u> and CRIB <u>http://crib.dsi.uminho.pt/</u>). However, a recent meeting held by the Digital Preservation Coalition on Tackling the Preservation Challenge left repository managers asking what can be done to help them preserve their repositories. Who is responsible for repository preservation: repositories and their institutions, or preservation service providers? In many cases the answer is: both. There is no services-only solution:

"The 'free rider' solution of 'Let someone else do it'-- whether that someone else is the government, a library, a museum, an archive, Google, Microsoft, the data creator, or the data user -- is unrealistic and pushes responsibility to a single company, institution, or sector. What is needed are cross-sector economic partnerships"¹

4 There are various preservation tools and services but little awareness or uptake by repositories, perhaps because these are too complex and potentially costly. These activities have typically been presented to repositories as additional tasks rather than as integral to their current activities. The tools and the documentation have not usually been designed for these repositories.

5 This project is about closing that gap between repositories and emerging preservation tools and services. It will do this by enhancing a series of distinctive exemplar repositories, and will involve the managers of each liaising with specialists on the development of preservation strategy, policy and services for repositories. This team approach is essential to foster the emergence of repository preservation culture and services. The project will bring expertise in the development of preservation tools from prior JISC projects.

6 These repositories will aim to become leading exemplars of preservation-aware repositories, but more can be done. The repository managers, based on this practical experience of specifying their preservation needs

¹ Francine Berman, Got data? a guide to data preservation in the information age *Communications of the ACM*, Vol. 51, No. 12 (2008), 50-56

Available from http://ucsdnews.ucsd.edu/newsrel/supercomputer/12-08FBerman.asp

and overseeing the implementation, will become evangelists within their peer community of repository managers. Those best able to help repositories understand and achieve their preservation requirements will be other repository managers.

7 In turn, this will help seed a marketplace for preservation services, whether these are existing preservation services redirected towards repositories, or repository services redirected towards preservation. Repositories will need ongoing help from preservation service providers, which will provide a range of specialist expertise and assurance, and cost-effective infrastructure.

8 By building preservation-ready exemplar repositories, this project will help close the gap between repositories and services and lay the basis for extending the approach to all repositories.

D Quality of Proposal and Robustness of Workplan

Objectives

9 To establish long-term content management practices for all and any data that has been and might be deposited in an institution's repositories, through the application of policy-backed analysis and strategy for the repositories, and the matching application and adaptation of proven preservation tools and services.

This will be achieved by:

- 1. Identifying
 - a. data management requirements of the repository in conjunction with the repository manager and informed by policy, growth, development projections, and budgeted costs
 - b. a preservation strategy for the repository
 - c. appropriate preservation tools and services; then implement or adapt for implementation
- 2. Testing and validating the strategy against services
- 3. Evangelising managers of funded exemplar repositories to report the methods to their peers

Deliverables

- Amended, simplified versions of existing documentation on preservation policy, planning, data management, stewardship and trust, aimed at repositories and based on what works and is cost-effective for repositories, to be disseminated by the project and participating repositories.
- A set of preservation tools and interfaces for storage and format management, tested and evaluated with the exemplar repositories and packaged for wider use.
- Repositories constituting the exemplar will become preservation-ready repositories.

A collective exemplar repository

10 The repositories involved at the University of Southampton are the institutional repository, a school repository, and special project repositories covering science data, and teaching materials. Some of these repositories are emerging from their JISC project phases to become full repositories.

11 Following its successful project phase, one of these repositories, Kultur, a multi-institutional repository for the arts, is splitting into its constituent institutions: at Southampton, where it will be merged with the institutional repository, and at the arts-focussed University of the Arts London and the University of the Creative Arts, where in each case the new institutional repositories are expected largely to carry on the Kultur identity. Given their arts focus, and their recent collaboration with Southampton University, it is a natural progression for these repositories to join this multi-institutional exemplar.

12 In addition, we are including a new institutional repository that began as a JISC start-up project, NECTAR at The University of Northampton, which is supported by the Southampton University-based EPrints Services. This will give us the opportunity to investigate the possibility of expanding a repository

services portfolio to cover preservation. It should be noted that the collaboration in this project is not part of EPrints Services, which will be represented on the project advisory team to learn and provide feedback. Participation in this project implies no commitment from either repository or services provider to offer preservation services following conclusion of the proposed project.

13 The following repositories are exposing the principal outputs of the University of Southampton:

- **Eprints-soton** an institutional repository, mandated content (to include **Kultur** Soton, materials from the arts)
- ECS-EPrints a single School repository (electronics and computer science), mandated content
- Ecrystals* science data, project repository
- EdShare* teaching and learning materials, project repository
- Southampton Student Dissertations (swot.ecs.soton.ac.uk) demonstration repository (for taught (Masters) students rather than research students)

Institutional arts repositories resulting from the JISC Kultur project

- Kultur*, University of the Arts London
- Kultur, University of the Creative Arts

A services-based institutional repository

• **NECTAR***, The University of Northampton (supported by EPrints Services)

* Selected repositories will be funded up to 0.1 FTE within this project to enable those repository managers or their representatives to participate one-to-one with the project specialists on preservation analysis, planning and implementation for those repositories. These funded partners will also work with the project on dissemination and peer evangelizing of the outcomes for their repositories. These repositories will be represented by the repository managers, but others may be seconded for the detailed work:

14 Those seconded to the project are likely to work with the repository in a manager or administrator capacity - it has to be someone who understands repository planning, policy-making and decision-making processes, and ideally someone who is involved in these. There will be scope for technical collaboration too. Where there is a secondment the repository manager will also join the advisory team.

15 These funded repositories are all emerging from recent JISC project phases. They may not have the volume of data now that they hope to build in the future. It is important to note, therefore, that this project is taking a preservation planning approach rather than a reactive preservation action approach. These repositories are in a good position to explore the methods proposed.

16 The other repositories will be unfunded and will participate in the project activities as they choose. The respective repository managers will join the advisory team. The National Archives will bring its expertise and format support tools PRONOM/DROID to another JISC project, providing support, access to new versions of tools, and collaborating with the project to enhance functionality for repository applications where appropriate.

Plan of work (April 2009-September 2010)

17 This plan and the following methodology are based on that elaborated in the call (12/08), strand A6.

- Stage 1: An institutional or organisational needs and benefits analysis
- Stage 2: Pre-implementation planning to closely evaluate tools and processes that will constitute the exemplar environment
- Stage 3: implementation

O1 (Apr09-Jun09)

Initial policy, costs and planning analysis, per-funded repository consultation (liaison manager-repositories) Training for repository liaison officer in stewardship, and trust issues: DAF, DRAMBORA, PLATTER (externally provided) (liaison manager)

Investigation of storage requirements and services options (developer)

Specify initial technical implementation plans (storage, services) per-funded repository (developerrepositories)

Q2 (Jul09-Sep09)

Report findings of storage investigation; identify options per-funded repository (developer-repositories) Training for repository representatives in data management (PREMIS, OAIS, significant properties) (liaison manager-repositories)

Develop format management tools and scheduler per-funded repository (developer) Develop ORE repository storage management solutions (developer)

Q3 (Oct 09-Dec09)

Training for repository representatives in stewardship, and trust issues: DAF, DRAMBORA, PLATTER (externally provided, with input from repository liaison officer) (liaison manager-repositories) Update preservation plans for stewardship per-funded repository (liaison manager-repositories) Develop, present format management tools and scheduler per-funded repository (developer-repositories) Develop, present repository storage management solutions (inc. ORE) (developer-repositories) Perform audit per-funded repository, identify preservation requirements (liaison manager-repositories) Select developed tools per-funded repository (all)

Prepare evaluation plans per-funded repository (liaison manager-repositories)

Q4 (Jan10-Mar10)

Finalise repository preservation plans per-funded repository (liaison manager-repositories) Plan test and evaluation of tools developed (all) Test format management tools and scheduler (developer) Test ORE repository storage management solutions (inc. ORE) (developer)

O5 (Apr10-Jun10)

Implement and test format management tools and scheduler for exemplar repositories (developerrepositories) Evaluation (liaison manager-repositories) Document recommended repository preservation practices and training materials (liaison manager)

Document tools developed and processes for implementation (developer) Dissemination (liaison manager), peer advocacy (repositories)

Q6 (Jul10-Sep10)

Document tools developed and implementation processes (developer) Reports and dissemination (all)

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6
Project	Project	Progress	Project	Progress	Project	Final reports
manager	planning,	report,	meetings	report, project	meetings	
	meetings	project		meetings		
		meetings				
Liaison	Initial	Present data	Joint-	Finalise	Evaluation	Reports and
manager	planning,	management	present	repository	Document	dissemination
	stewardship	training	stewardship	plans	practices,	
	training		training,	Plan	training	
			update	evaluation	materials	
			plans		Dissemination	
Repositories	Consultations:	Data	Stewardship	Consultations:	Evaluation	Dissemination
	initial planning	management	training,	final plans	Peer	
	(policy, costs),	training	update		advocacy	
	implementation	Storage	plans			
	plans	options	Select tools			
Repositories	Investigate	Develop	Develop	Test	Implement	Documentation
Developer	storage	format,	and present	developed	tools per-	Dissemination
	requirements	ORE tools	format,	tools	repository	
	Specify	Present	storage			
	implementation	initial	(ORE) tools			
	plans	storage				
		ontions				

Timeline

Methodology

18 The aim is to connect those with experience of preservation methods and developing repository preservation tools (repository liaison manager and developer), with those managing working repositories. This will be achieved through one-on-one consultations and group training. In some cases training will be provided by the project, in others by working with existing training courses, but where necessary seeking to adapt these for repositories for the purposes of the project. A training element is included in the budget.

19 The JISC Repositories Support Project has given presentations and practical workshops to repository managers on preservation topics: policy, OAIS, preservation metadata (PREMIS), storage, and storage formats. It became clear these topics are barely known within this community. It is wishful thinking to believe that these approaches, all well established in digital preservation, will become part of repository practices without engaging directly with repositories on a more sustained basis. We must not expect to train those from repositories to become preservation specialists.

20 Many idealized preservation scenarios are unrealistic for repositories on cost grounds. What is required is the opportunity for repositories and preservation services to engage in a business dialogue to specify the repository's preservation needs based on an understanding of the tools and support available. That is what this project will enable us to do. It will provide the opportunity to work jointly and in detail on adapting versions of validated preservation planning approaches.

21 Preservation can rarely be an ideal solution, but it is better to have a viable strategy and a working if imperfect solution than none at all.

22 In this approach we will apply seven of Berman's top 10 guidelines: plan, cost, describe (metadata), copy, store, stewardship, trust.

PLAN

23 Policy and strategic analysis based on one-to-one repository consultations. A repository does not begin with preservation. Instead it starts with policy and business planning and an assessment of scope. We will base the consultations on the following materials and tools:

- Policy: apply recommendations of Beagrie *et al.*, Digital Preservation Policies Study, JISC, 30 October 2008 <u>http://www.jisc.ac.uk/Home/publications/publications/jiscpolicyfinalreport.aspx</u>
- OpenDOAR Policies Tool <u>http://www.opendoar.org/tools/en/policies.php</u>
- DCC Curation Lifecycle Model http://www.dcc.ac.uk/docs/publications/DCCLifecycle.pdf
- Assessing what you've got: Data Audit Framework (DAF) http://www.data-audit.eu/.

Training on the use of DAF will be sought as needed for the project team and repository managers

COST

24 Continuation of the initial planning, above, and because the results will be repository-specific, will be based on one-to-one repository consultations to evaluate the cost of implementing the preservation strategies and policy, using the following tool and materials:

- LIFE 2 project costing model for repositories <u>http://www.life.ac.uk/</u>
- Costs: apply findings from Beagrie *et al.*, Keeping Research Data Safe: A Cost Model and Guidance for UK Universities, Final Report to JISC, April 2008 http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/keepingresearchdatasafe.aspx

Training or help in applying LIFE will be sought as needed.

DESCRIBE (metadata)

25 This is concerned with describing data so that it can be managed effectively within a repository and will cover data management practices, including preservation metadata (PREMIS) and a systems-based analysis (OAIS). The outcomes are likely to be repository-specific, so this will also involve one-to-one consultations, with group tutorials as required. This work will be based on the following reference tutorials:

PREMIS

- Understanding PREMIS, Library of Congress Network Development and MARC Standards Office, 2009 <u>http://www.loc.gov/standards/premis/understanding-premis.pdf</u>
- PREMIS Data Dictionary for Preservation Metadata, version 2.0, PREMIS (PREservation Metadata: Implementation Strategies) Preservation Metadata Maintenance Activity, 2008
 http://www.loc.gov/premis/v2/premis-2-0.pdf
- PREMIS tutorials <u>http://www.loc.gov/standards/premis/tutorials.html</u>

OAIS

• The OAIS Reference Model, section 4B in Digital Preservation Management: Implementing Short-Term Strategies for Long-Term Problems, Cornell University, 2003 http://www.library.cornell.edu/iris/tutorial/dpm/foundation/oais/index.html

COPY AND STORE

26 This will be an implementation-led approach based on the following technical development of storage and format management tools, informed by repository requirements.

27 Evaluate storage platforms – open storage – storage controllers. In future repositories will be able to use many storage platforms simultaneously, including open storage and 'cloud' platforms such as Amazon

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S3. We will evaluate the services and storage architectures available and focus on how repositories can use the advanced functionality and benefits that these storage services provide. Repositories will be shown how to apply a repository storage controller (<u>http://eprints.ecs.soton.ac.uk/15818/</u>).

28 The investigation of storage approaches will consider cross-repository software solutions based on OAI-ORE. This serves a number of the Berman guidelines for good practice: most obviously copy and store, but also stewardship because it provides flexibility in how and where data is stored, by whom and which software tools, such as repository software, they can use. ORE potentially has major implications for repository management, but this may be too soon for the repositories in this project. Repositories will presented with the latest findings and invited to advise on implementation.

29 **Present format management tools to repository managers.** These tools identify the formats of objects in a repository, help analyse the risks to those formats, and where necessary recommend appropriate actions such as migrating to less risky formats. The project will apply tools from the 'smart storage' approach

(http://eprints.ecs.soton.ac.uk/16785/) developed in Preserv 2 (see Figure), and will work with repository managers to make these tools more usable. This work will involve collaboration with the National Archives and the PLANETS project. The specialized repositories included in this proposal will be profiled by the Preserv PRONOM-ROAR service.

30 Smart storage automates event scheduling. A preservation process (e.g. virus scans, format identification, checking, validation, recovery, etc.) acting on a digital object can be considered an event. A calendar-based scheduling tool developed in Preserv 2 will be specified for use with selected storage services.



31 **Significant properties**. Digital objects have many properties that can be manipulated independently. While this can be an asset for authors, in preservation terms these features can be a disadvantage. The objective of PDF/A, a noted preservation format, is to remove or disable certain dynamic features. What features is it legitimate to 'fix' for preservation? Whose objectives are being served, what is gained and what is lost? Answering these questions is at the heart of the study of the significant properties of digital objects, and for the exemplars understanding such properties is a precursor to format management.

STEWARDSHIP AND TRUST

32 This will involve group training, and will probably have to be provided by the existing training courses run by the developers of these tools. It is known that using these tools can be complex and time-consuming, so we will investigate whether it is possible to work with the trainers to adapt the training materials.

- Assess digital curation practices and the performance of repositories: **Digital Repository Audit Method Based on Risk Assessment (DRAMBORA)** <u>http://www.repositoryaudit.eu/</u>
- Establishing trust: **Planning Tool for Trusted Electronic Repositories (PLATTER)**. Use of this tool depends on carrying out a trusted digital repository audit such as DRAMBORA.

Project management

33 The project will be based and managed at Southampton University and led by a small, dedicated team with experience of JISC repository and preservation projects and expertise in the areas of project management and technical development. The project manager and liaison manager roles are likely to be combined by one person, but could be split.

Risks

34 The biggest risk is that repositories will not weight preservation sufficiently against other activities. That has been the case until now, and is why the exemplars are needed. Growing and busy repositories will not change this unless we can work closely with repositories and show how preservation practices are integral to what they do already, make it presentable and understandable, and clearly outline the costs and benefits.

35 It is important that the repository liaison manager has a detailed understanding of current practices for both repositories and digital preservation. This person is the link between the two practices, and this project is the chance to make this connection. There are people capable of doing this, but perhaps not many. It may be helpful to outsource some of the training to agencies with experience of repository preservation, if necessary. The project developer has an important liaison role to play as well.

E. Engagement with the Community

Stakeholders

36 Primary stakeholders are defined by the axis of this project: repository managers and preservation service providers. We will be engaging directly with the former through the exemplars, and prospective service providers will join the advisory team.

Dissemination - Working with JISC

37 Dissemination is built into the plan in the form of peer evangelism, by repository managers, targetted at other repositories and repository managers in the UK. The aim will be for each participating repository to work with the project team to give at least one presentation to their respective communities, to co-author papers and reports with the team, and to contribute to an ongoing blog of experiences in the project.

38 We will also seek to initiate advocacy exercises aimed at subject librarians and schools/department library representatives who will need to liaise with the providers of materials and ask preservation questions (e.g. significant properties). This has been an issue particularly for science data, where it has been argued that curation needs to begin nearer to the source creator.

39 We will work with DCC, RSP, ULCC Digital Preservation Training Programme (DPTP) and other JISC services to put on courses and promote the practices, findings and outcomes of the project to other repository managers and within the preservation community.

40 The repository liaison manager will be looking to work with DCC (Lifecycle), DAF, DRAMBORA and DigitalPreservationEurope (PLATTER), LIFE project and JISC preservation consultants (e.g. Neil Beagrie) to structure and provide appropriate training in these tools for exemplar repository managers. These courses could be made available to other repository managers by arrangement with the host organizations.

Evaluation and testing

41 Each of the deliverables will be evaluated:

• Amended and presented training materials and documentation: do these engage the repository staff? Are they helpful, understandable and usable? Do these materials make a difference? Also, how much impact will these materials make beyond the project? How effective is the peer evangelism? Evaluation will be based on feedback from the exemplar repositories and other participants on the courses.

• Tools and services - repository implementations: these have to be tested prior to application for repositories. The individual repository implementations have to be measured against the requirements drawn up with each repository during the planning stages (Q3, see workplan).

F. Impact

Sustainability-preservation services implications

42 Once repositories are engaged with preservation, sustainability will depend on connecting them with preservation service providers. Few repositories will be able to sustain all preservation activities alone.

43 So far we have not seen such services targetted commercially at repositories in the UK. There are a number of prospective candidates, including traditional preservation organizations such as national libraries and archives or, tackling this from a different angle, expanding current repository services. Members of both types of organization will join our advisory team. Repository services may be the more likely route to preservation support, as these already have relationships with repositories and experience in assessing the market for services driven by the needs of services clients. Including repositories with a services arrangement in the project may influence their service providers towards adding support for preservation.

G. Budget

Detailed budget removed from this version.

H. Project team

The team brings extensive experience in repository management and digital preservation practice.

Steve Hitchcock (project manager and repository liaison manager), 0.25 and 0.75 FTE, project manager for the JISC Preserv 1 and 2 projects since 2005, has experience of current practices in preservation and repositories, recently presenting on digital preservation for the JISC Repositories Support Project.

David Tarrant (preservation and EPrints developer), 0.5 FTE, an award-winning software developer, has developed a number of preservation tools for repositories in for the Preserv 2 project, including open storage and format management tools. Also a developer for EPrints software.

Funded exemplar repositories

For planning, consultation and training, the funded exemplar repositories (0.1 FTE each) will be represented by:

- Debra Morris, repository manager EdShare
- Simon Coles, repository manager eCrystals, and manager UK National Crystallography Service
- Jess Crilly, Kultur, University of the Arts London
- Miggie Pickton, repository manager, NECTAR, The University of Northampton

Advisory team

The advisory team will include representatives of unfunded exemplar repositories and senior managers of the funded exemplar repositories:

- Mark Brown, University Librarian, University of Southampton, chair, Southampton repositories
- Les Carr, repository manager ECS-EPrints and SWOT
- Pat Christie, Director, Library and Learning Resources, University of the Arts London
- Hugh Davis, Southampton University Director of Education with responsibility for e-learning, and PI, EdShare repository

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- Leigh Garrett, Director, VADS (Visual Arts Data Service), Kultur, University of the Creative Arts
- Wendy White, repository manager, e-Prints Soton (and Kultur-Soton)

The advisory team will also include members with national and international expertise on preservation and repository services. We expect to add more names, but the following advisors are confirmed :

- Sheridan Brown, Key Perspectives Ltd and EPrints Services
- Tim Gollins, Head of Digital Preservation, The National Archives
- Andreas Rauber, Vienna University of Technology, and EU PLANETS project