Management and Sharing of Research Information through ResearchNet
http://ResearchNet.org

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Background

Current Research Information Systems (CRISs) have been developed and used in:

- Government funding agencies:
  - ITFAS ([http://itf.gov.hk](http://itf.gov.hk)) at Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC) of Hong Kong SAR Government
  - ISIS ([http://isis.nsfc.gov.cn](http://isis.nsfc.gov.cn)) at National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC)

- Universities/Research institutions:
  - IRIS at City University of Hong Kong
  - RCGAS at the University of Hong Kong
  - MiniIRIS/IRIS at over 1,700 universities/research institutions in mainland China

There is an urgent need for sharing and exchange of research information among funding agencies and research institutions.
Current Research Information System (CRIS)

MiniIRIS/IRIS has been used by over 1,700 universities since 2002.

The University of Hong Kong (HKU)
Innovation and Technology Commission (ITC), HKSAR
http://itf.gov.hk

National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC) http://isis.nsfc.gov.cn
Problems with Existing CRISs

- CRISs are developed in individual organizations
  - Isolated systems result in the difficulties of information exchange
  - Repeated data entry results in data inconsistency problems
- Research information can hardly be shared and disseminated to the public
- Scientists have to follow different standards for writing research proposals
Need for Sharing and Exchange of Research Information

Applicant 1 (University)

Applicant 2 (University)

Applicant 2 (University)

Applicant 2 (University)

Funding Agency 1

Funding Agency 2

Funding Agency 3

Funding Agency M
Objectives of the Project

- To design standards for research information exchange using XML and Web Services
- To develop a research information exchange platform (http://ResearchNet.org):
  - Information exchange among universities and funding agencies
  - Information retrieval and sharing by public
- To promote the sharing and exchange of research information among funding agencies and research institutions
Key Elements of Research Information

Business Process

Research Data  Function
Sharing of Research Data

- Design XML standards for research data
  - Researchers
  - Research institutions
  - Research projects
  - Publication
  - Funding opportunities
Sharing of Functions

- Set up Web Services standards for CRIS functions
  - Announcement of funding opportunities
  - Proposal review
  - Project search
  - Project statistics
  - Check duplication
ResearchNet: A Platform for Sharing and Exchange of Research Information

- Research information standard
- CRIS interface

Creates a Win-Win situation for scientists, research institutions and funding agencies
Main Functions

Exchange of Research Data
- Grant access rights
- Extract research data from reliable sources

Sharing of Research Information
- Project search
- Search for funding opportunities
- Search for research outputs
- Search for researchers
- Search for research institutions
- Email alert
# Project Search

![Image of Project Search interface](image)

**ResearchNet.org**

**User Name**: [Input Field]

**Password**: [Input Field]

**Search**: [Button]

**Project Search**

- **Agency**: ALL
- **Project No.**
- **Project Name**: [Input Field]
- **Project Type**: [Input Field]
- **Researcher Name**: [Input Field]
- **Organization**: [Input Field]
- **Province**: ALL
- **Keyword**: [Input Field]
- **Year**: [Input Field]
- **Display Record**: 10

**Search**: [Button]

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Search for Funding Opportunities
Search for Research Outputs
Search for Research Organizations

[Website screenshot]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Project Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Peking University</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Institute of High Energy Physics, Academia Sinica</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Search for Researchers
Email Alerts

[Image of an email alert system interface]

Please tick the items you want to subscribe
1. Project
   - Keyword:
2. Funding opportunity
   - Keyword:
3. Publication
   - Deadline: [Format: yyyy/mm/dd]
   - Keyword:
   - Type: ALL

Subscribe  Cancel
Advantages

For funding agencies
- Promotes the standards for grant opportunity announcement
- Enables the use of off-the-shelf grant management software
- Encourages the use of best practices within agencies

For research institutions/scientists
- Find research information (e.g. projects, researchers, institutions, etc.) from a single source
- Learn more about available opportunities in a standardized manner, saving time and money
Summary

- ResearchNet.org is a simple and easy to use software platform
- It enables the exchange and sharing of research information among funding agencies and research institutions
- It provides a single source to find research information and grant opportunities
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