CASE STUDY

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN, DENMARK

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As one of the first institutions to implement *Pure*, the University of Copenhagen (UCPH) has leveraged its long history of engagement with the Danish *Pure* User Group and *Pure* to influence the development roadmap.

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BACKGROUND

The University of Copenhagen (UCPH) was founded in 1479 and is one of the largest and oldest universities in Europe. They employ over 10,000 staff, over half of whom are researchers. The university produces over 8,500 publications every year.

UCPH was among the first universities to implement *Pure*, back in the early 2000s. One of the key drivers for getting a proper CRIS/RIMS was the introduction in Denmark of the Bibliometric Research Indicator (BFI; "forskning" is Danish for "research"), a national system for allocating research funding to Danish universities based on research output. The requirements involve tracking publications in three categories of journals and reporting to the national system. This can be a complicated and time-consuming process to manage. *Pure* was able to automate much of the work, including integrated reporting to the national system, thus saving UCPH money and reducing errors.

UCPH also wanted a research portal to make the university's researcher profiles accessible to a global audience. The increased visibility of research results and researchers provided by the *Pure* portal was expected to facilitate increased collaborations within the university and with external partners. These collaborations, in turn, would attract more research funding and further increase research output.

This case study is excerpted from the the 2020 whitepaper "Buy or build, an exploration of the total cost of ownership for a research information management system". Research institutions seeking to improve performance and accelerate growth are encouraged to read the whitepaper: **https://bit.ly/2M76AHi**.

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IMPLEMENTATION & OPERATION

The implementation of *Pure* took approximately 10-12 months. Overall, about 10-15 FTEs were involved in the implementation of *Pure*. A significant effort went into a customised approach for the *Pure* Portal, integrating it with the Content Management System (CMS) behind university's website.

Another reason for the substantial internal resources required for implementation was that the university is very decentralized. For the first time, many different institutes and departments (e.g., library and research office) had to work together, coordinate activities and take joint decisions.

Today, approximately 15 FTE administrators provide support for *Pure*, including roles responsible for adding and validating content.

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RESULTS & LESSONS LEARNED

The UCPH has a long history of working with Pure and was one of the very first institutions to implement it. Many lessons have been learned by both the university and the provider, and these lessons have been leveraged through the years to generate improvements and guide successful implementations of additional modules.

- Hosting in the cloud as a provider-managed service is significantly more cost-effective.

- Two-way integration (read-write) with Pure is valuable for increased flexibility.

- Pure User Groups are valuable for sharing best practices and for influencing provider development priorities.

- Data re-use between co-authoring institutions can increase efficiency and reduce TCO.

Because UCPH has such a long history with *Pure*, and Denmark has such a large and experienced *Pure* User Group (*Pure* was originally developed in Denmark), many of the more recent lessons learned reflect sophisticated *Pure* integration and usage behaviour at a large university.

- **Hosting in the cloud as a provider-managed service is significantly more cost-effective.** At the time of the original implementation, the standard was to host *Pure* locally at the university. UCPH is now moving towards a switch to the cloud-hosted and managed service to reduce infrastructure costs.

- **Two-way integration (read-write) with *Pure* is valuable for increased flexibility.** The *Pure* API for integrating with local systems has traditionally supported reading data out of *Pure* to feed into other systems. UCPH determined that it could further reduce its TCO if it could automate the writing of data into *Pure* as well. The recent release of the *Pure* Write API is therefore most welcome as it supports the possibility to auto-populate *Pure* from other local systems and thus reduce the manual work for data entry and validation.

- ***Pure User Groups* are valuable for sharing best practices and for influencing provider development priorities.** As one of the first institutions to implement *Pure*, the UCPH has been active in the Danish *Pure* User Group for many years. Coordinated communication and advocacy by the large number of *Pure* users has enabled the user group to influence the development roadmap for *Pure*. As *Pure* market coverage has grown substantially, especially since Elsevier acquired *Pure* from Atira (the original Danish developer), it has become more difficult for Elsevier to take individual institutional needs into consideration. However, UCPH remains actively engaged in the Danish *Pure* User Group, working with colleagues to leverage their collective interests to identify development options that balance regional and global priorities.

- **Data re-use between co-authoring institutions can increase efficiency and reduce TCO.** As there are many institutions using *Pure* today, many *Pure* installations include records (e.g., articles) that have been co-authored by researchers at multiple *Pure* institutions. UCPH and colleague institutions recommend that *Pure* facilitate the reuse of data between *Pure* institutions to lower the time for data entry and validation.

For more detail about selecting and implementing RIMS, review the Elsevier/Knowledge E whitepaper "Buy or build, an exploration of the total cost of ownership for a research information management system": **https://bit.ly/2M76AHi**