Ex Libris Esploro

Your path to greater research impact

Executive summary

ExLibris
Esploro

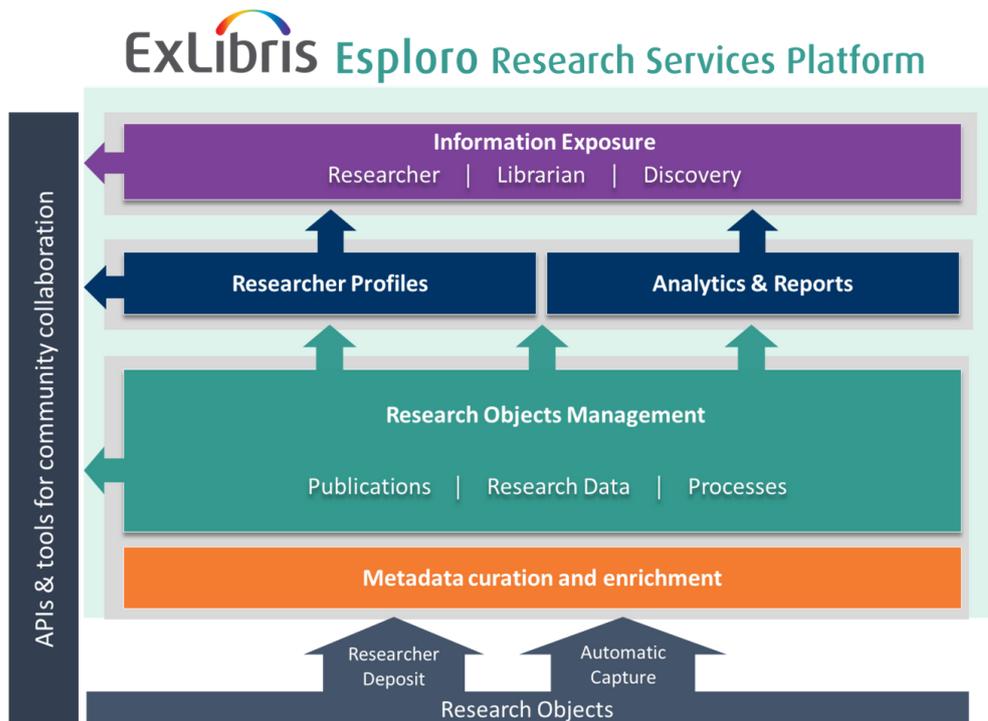## Ex Libris Esploro – unified management of research activities

Research is the lifeblood of academic institutions and a vital part of the institutional goal of driving academic excellence. One of the essential keys to maximizing the impact of academic research activities lies in the ability of institutions to systematically manage data throughout the research journey. Yet, in many cases, managing research activities tends to be complex and inefficient, performed through siloed point-solutions, generating incomplete and inconsistent data – to name only a few of the issues.

The result? Lack of discoverability of research outputs and data, inefficient, time consuming processes, inability to fully track and monitor research activities, risk of non-compliance with regulations and funder mandates, and more. All of this adds up to lower impact of institutional research efforts and loss of recognition opportunities for the university and researchers.

Many in academia recognize the need for integrated, data-driven, and scalable research services in support of institutional and faculty goals. As a recent OCLC research paper states, "Research information management intersects with many aspects of traditional library services in discovery, acquisition, dissemination and analysis of scholarly activities, and does so through the nexus with institutional data systems, faculty workflows, and institutional partners. RIM adoption offers libraries new opportunities to support institutional and researcher goals."[1] Such data management across the institution and throughout the research cycle would eliminate duplication of effort and reduce the burden on individual stakeholders.

Ex Libris Esploro paves the way to greater impact of academic research by maximizing visibility, efficiency, and compliance of research activities. It does this by systematically capturing, managing, and disseminating research output and data, leveraging library expertise and technology, and seamlessly integrating with the existing workflows of researchers and the research office.

[1] Rebecca Bryant et al., "Research Information Management: Defining RIM and the Library's Role," *OCLC Research*, Oct. 2017, p. 5. .

ExLibris Esploro Research Services Platform

Esploro: Potential benefits

Below is a summary of the ways in which we believe Esploro could help universities achieve their goals.

Increased impact of research activities

Esploro promotes the visibility of research outputs and data by capturing all research objects, enriching their metadata, and using a variety of dissemination methods to make the research objects easily discoverable and accessible.

Simplified, more efficient research workflows

Esploro unifies and automates research data workflows, replacing siloed, manually driven processes. For the library, the research office, and researchers, Esploro facilitates tasks such as managing research objects, applying metadata, depositing materials, and updating public scholarly profiles.

Improved compliance with research policies

Helping the research office manage and track publications, Esploro enables an institution to monitor compliance and ensure adherence to government and fund provider requirements, including open-access policies.

Connecting the library with research activities

With Esploro, libraries play a key role in academic research. Esploro enables library staff to leverage their skills and technology in support of research processes and promotes librarians' collaboration with the research office and researchers.

Easy tracking and robust reporting of research activities

Esploro enables the library and research office to measure research impact through relevant KPIs and the analysis of cross-institutional activities. Esploro makes metrics available to all relevant stakeholders, including researchers, administrators, and the office of the provost. It also enables the institution to benchmark research KPIs vis-à-vis the Esploro community.

Creating the next-generation institutional repository

The introduction of Esploro signifies a move beyond the traditional institutional repository, creating a *unified system of records* for all research objects, including publications, research data, processes (e.g. code, software, ELNs), and other materials generated by researchers.

Esploro captures a comprehensive record of research objects in a unified, metadata-rich, cloud-based repository. This new approach allows for broader dissemination of outputs and data, tracking and measurement through integrated analytics, and use of flexible workflows that can be adopted to specific library needs.

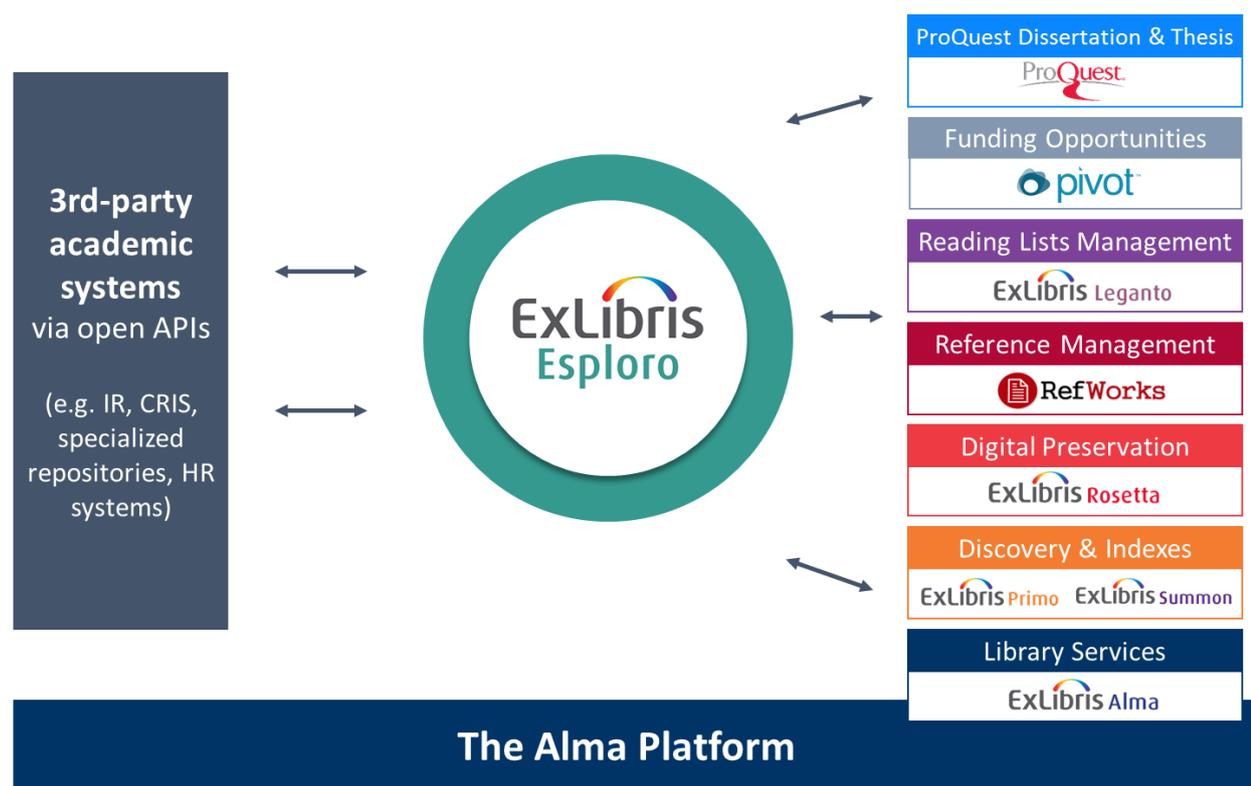## Essential Esploro capabilities

- **Capturing and gathering research objects & related data**
    - Direct or mediated deposits by researchers or librarians of outputs and data with configurable approval processes
    - Automated capture from external repositories and central content indexes
    - Automated capture of fund provider and project data
- **Tailored to compliance workflows**
    - Workflows for managing REF and ERA compliance
    - Open Access and APC tracking
    - DMP sharing

- **Tools and workflows to maintain and enhance quality of data and metadata**
  - Metadata enrichment and management tools
  - Access rights enforcement
  - Storage management
- **Open APIs and out-of-the-box integration with multiple systems**
  - Interoperability with other systems
  - Customizations
  - Sharing of API data, documentation, and examples through the Ex Libris Developer Network
- **Discovery and Sharing**
  - Research Discovery Portal – a dedicated Discovery UI and Portal for showcasing the institution's outputs and experts
  - Research view searches across publications, datasets, and other data types
  - Searches across researchers affiliated with the institution
  - Use APIs to populate VIVO or other profile interface, faculty webpages, CMS, tenure systems, etc.
- **Analytics & Reports**
  - Benchmarking reports per research, institution, and cross-institution
  - Integrated with multiple metrics systems, including Altmetrics, citation metrics, and journal metrics
  - Reports on compliance regulations and university policies
  - Ability to create own reports
- **Community Zone**
  - Data management plans
  - Metadata tools
  - Best practices
  - KPIs & benchmarks
- **Researcher Profiles**
  - Automatic population of researcher profile with publications, affiliations, activities, etc.
  - Bibliographical overview
  - Embedded researcher approval process
- **Researcher view**
  - Deposit and correct data
  - Manage profile
  - Researcher metrics
  - Manage projects, funds, and more
- **Librarian View**
  - Dedicated view based-on – and expanded from – the new Alma UI
  - Admin & configuration controls for all system functionality
  - Consolidated task list for all of the librarian's roles

Leveraging the Alma platform, integrating with the academic ecosystem

Esploro becomes part of your academic ecosystem, creating efficient end-to-end research workflows. Built on the Alma platform, Esploro integrates easily with Ex Libris discovery, resource management, preservation, and reference management tools and interoperates with third-party academic systems through open APIs and out-of-the-box integrations.

Esploro and the Academic ecosystem

- **Working with third-party academic systems**

  Esploro open APIs and out-of-the-box integrations help institutions create efficient workflows with multiple external systems, including:
  - GitHub, Dropbox, and Google Docs, allowing researchers to create links to, or grab publishable files from, these services
  - Subject-based repositories & indexes
  - DOI minting tools such as DataCite, EZID, and CrossRef APIs
  - ORCID, to assist in identifying resolution and author disambiguation
  - Electronic Thesis and Dissertation repositories
  - SHERPA/RoMEO and Ulrich's, for automated searches to check publisher policies for author self-archiving on a journal-by-journal basis
- **Integrated Alma workflows**
  - Automated triggering of Alma workflows

- o Metadata enrichment
- o Dynamic linking to full text, directly or through the Alma link resolver
- o Esploro events on the Alma task list
- o Shared analytics and cross-reports
- o User management
- **Primo: Integrated discovery workflows**
  - o Research content discoverable in Primo
  - o Research information directly captured via Primo Central
- **Rosetta: Integrated preservation**
  - o Two-way metadata synchronization
  - o Using Rosetta as a preservation backbone for research-related content
- **Reference management tools**
  - o Integration with Reference management tools including RefWorks, Mendeley, and Zotero to easily export information and manage citations
- **Leganto: Unified view for instructors**
  - o Unified view for managing research and learning materials
  - o Enhance researchers' profile with disseminated learning materials
- **ProQuest Dissertations & Theses**
  - o Automated capture of research content

Esploro Early Adopters Program

The Esploro Early Adopters Program provides an opportunity for customers to be involved in bringing Esploro to life and influence its direction for the future. The early adopter framework has proven extremely successful in the development of other Ex Libris products over the past few years.

By joining the program, early adopters from a number of academic institutions will work together in a thought-leadership role at the forefront of the industry.

For the full details of the program, please refer to the *Esploro Early Adopters Program* document.

Summary

We hope that we have succeeded in providing you with a clear understanding of how Ex Libris Esploro can help fulfil your vision for managing research activities. We look forward to continuing this discussion and welcome your questions and comments in order to address any unique challenges and specify the exact ways in which Esploro can address your needs.