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Interview guide

I will begin by giving a short overview of my project and describe what I know about research at your University (based on website information). I will ask you: to elaborate on, correct or revise my understanding of your University's strategic research activities and strengths (including research culture); and to provide a very brief description of the Library's role in research and teaching activities at your University. The questions will begin with current research activities and then look back to the period between 2001 and 2008. They are listed here in sets of related issues and your responses will determine how many and which questions are asked.

1. *Questions about your University's research office/unit in relation to strategic initiatives.* Such as: Did the improved 2008 RAE ranking influence how research was discussed/supported at your University? Was the library involved in the development of initiatives? Is the library represented on research committees? Is the library involved in implementing initiatives? Is there a culture of collaboration within the University? Is there a central system that manages research data? What data does it collect and who is responsible for it? Are there dedicated personnel (from the research office) who work with teams of researchers?

2. *Questions about current Library activities (since 2008).* Such as: What services, training, and support does the Library offer to researchers? Who provides these services and where are they located (in the Library or elsewhere)? Was additional training of Library staff undertaken to develop these services? Is subject specialisation important in staffing responsibilities? Has there been any increase in budget allocations for staffing and collections that feed into research support? If funding was re-allocated or increased to support research, what was changed and how/who made the decision? Does the Library have responsibility for the institutional repository? What is the role of other units in your University in the development and management of the IR?

3. *Questions about the role of the library between 2001 and 2008.* Such as: Do you believe Library services/support contributed to the University's success in 2008? Which services/support? Did the Library work with other areas of the University in the development of these services? Were there funding implications in the services provided? For staff positions/training and/or collections? Was the Library recognised as a contributor by other units in the University?

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4. *Questions about the perception of the Library (if not discussed elsewhere).* Such as: How do you think researchers at your University perceive the Library? Which services, resources, support are well-used? How do you think the research office at your University perceives the Library? Do you believe the relationship between academic staff and the Library in teaching support has/will flow into research support?

I would be grateful for any additional comments in relation to: A study conducted by CIBER of research intensive universities found that researchers: were not particularly interested in services relating to potential collaborators, such as databases of experts; were often resistant to institutional repository activities and unaware of positive outcomes; did not make use of information skills training by the library; made little use of virtual research environment tools (such as those described by JISC); had a strong email culture; did not seek advice about publication channels from the library; were unclear on a number of copyright and intellectual property issues and unaware of advice available to them.

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