

**Asia Alliance 2019**

# **PolyU's Journey in Digitizing University Research Management**

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THE HONG KONG  
POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY  
香港理工大學

Opening Minds • Shaping the Future  
啟迪思維 • 成就未來

# Agenda

- ❑ The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
  - ❑ Digital Transformation in PolyU
    - ❑ Research Management
      - ❑ Project and project
        - ❑ Sharing

# The Hong Kong Polytechnic University



1937

Government Trade  
School



1947

Hong Kong Technical College



1972

Hong Kong Polytechnic



1994

The Hong Kong  
Polytechnic University





# PolyU Today

Faculty of Applied  
Science and  
Textiles



Faculty of  
Business



Faculty of  
Construction and  
Environment



Faculty of  
Engineering



Faculty of Health  
and Social  
Sciences



Faculty of  
Humanities



School of  
Design



School of Hotel  
and Tourism  
Management



**161**

programmes



**5,316**

staff



**28,500**

students



**390,000+**

graduates

# PolyU Today

## Motto

To learn & to apply, for the benefit of mankind 開物成務 勵學利民

## Vision

Be a leading university that advances and transfers knowledge, and provides the best holistic education for the benefit of Hong Kong, the nation and the world

矢志成爲一所在開拓及轉移知識、提供優質全人教育方面均領先的大學，爲香港、國家及世界作出貢獻。

## Mission

To pursue **impactful research** that benefits the world

致力富有影響、造福世界的研究

To nurture critical thinkers, effective communicators, innovate problem solvers and socially responsible global citizens

培育敏於思辨、善於溝通、富於創見、精於解難，且勇於承擔社會責任的世界公民

To foster a University community in which all members can excel in their aspirations with a strong sense of belonging and pride

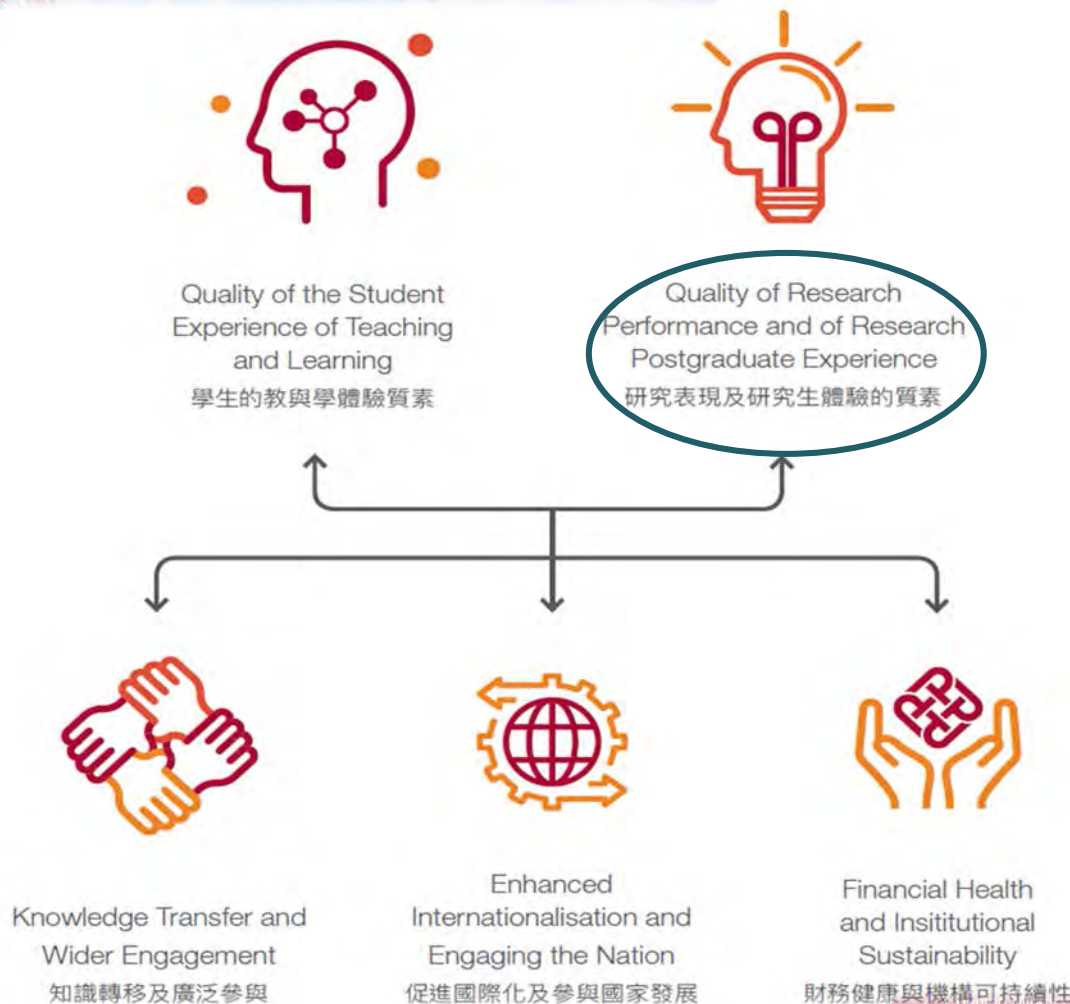
營造讓員生志存高遠、心有歸屬、樂於以大學爲榮的環境

# PolyU's Strategic Research Domains



# Strategic Plan

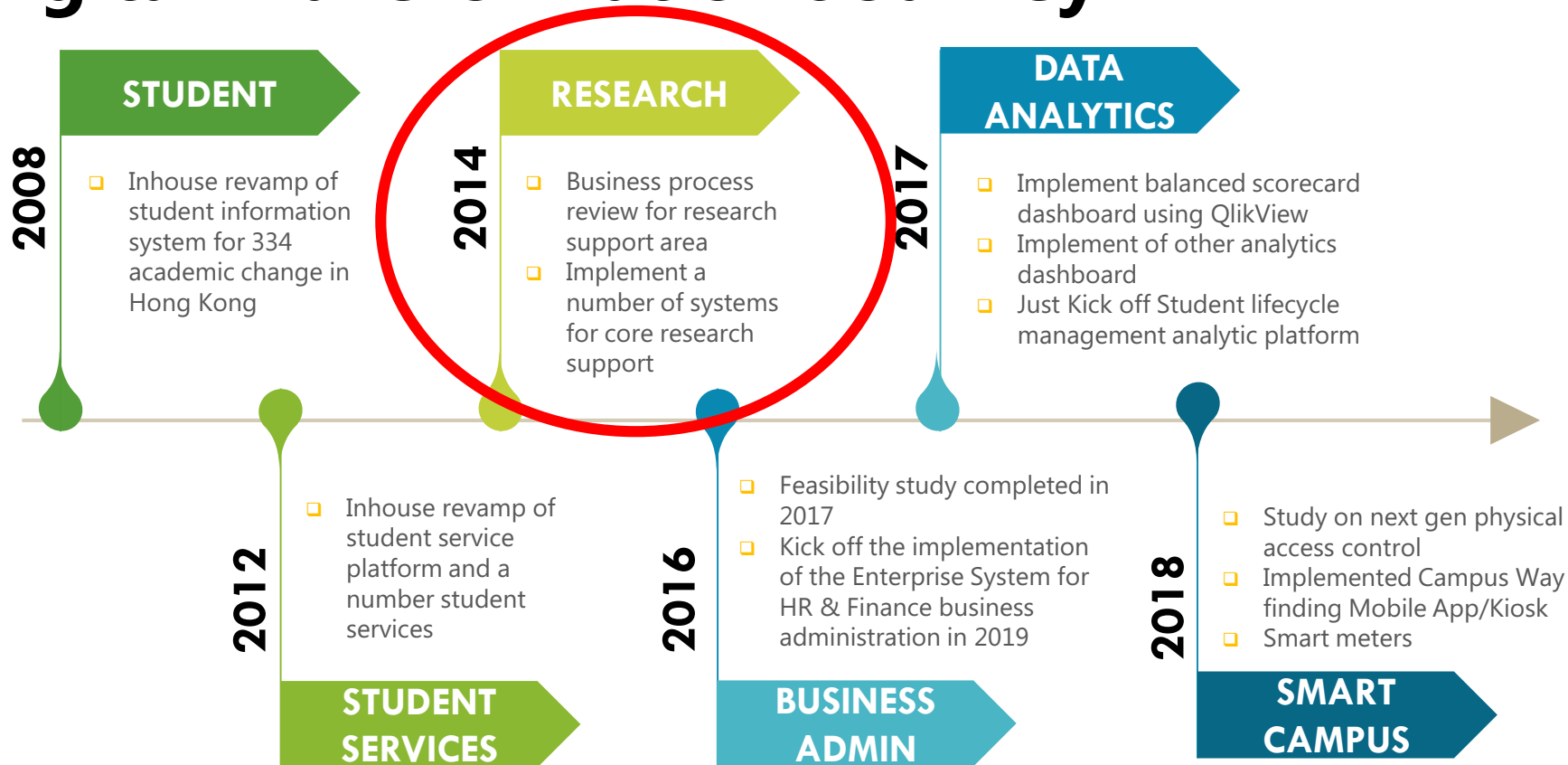
2019/20  
– 24/25



# How do **IT** support University Strategy ?



# Digital Transformation Journey



# Transformation in Research Management

# Research Management

- ❑ Limited support for research-related administration
  - ❑ Research Information System
    - ❑ managing projects and students
    - ❑ implemented 15 years ago using client server technology
  - ❑ Research Output System
    - ❑ web based, for internal and external reporting
- ❑ Managed by information and analytics
- ❑ Compliance requirement for research
- ❑ Visibility of PolyU research to community
- ❑ Increasing demands
  - ❑ source and amount of research funding
  - ❑ no. of research students and projects

# Senior Management Initiatives

- ❑ A holistic business process review for research administration
  - ❑ Vice President of Research Development
  - ❑ Head of Research Office
  - ❑ Director of Information Technology
- ❑ A business + technical solution -> Future State
- ❑ Expected to:
  - ❑ bring efficiency and accuracy
    - ❑ standardized, cross-functional, transparent, automated business processes
  - ❑ empower stakeholders
    - ❑ right people do the right things / Roles based model
  - ❑ facilitate research
    - ❑ searching, sharing, cross-silo Collaboration
  - ❑ leverage our assets
    - ❑ Equipment visible, shared and controlled among researchers
  - ❑ enable evidence-based decisions and planning
    - ❑ make compliance and monitoring easy

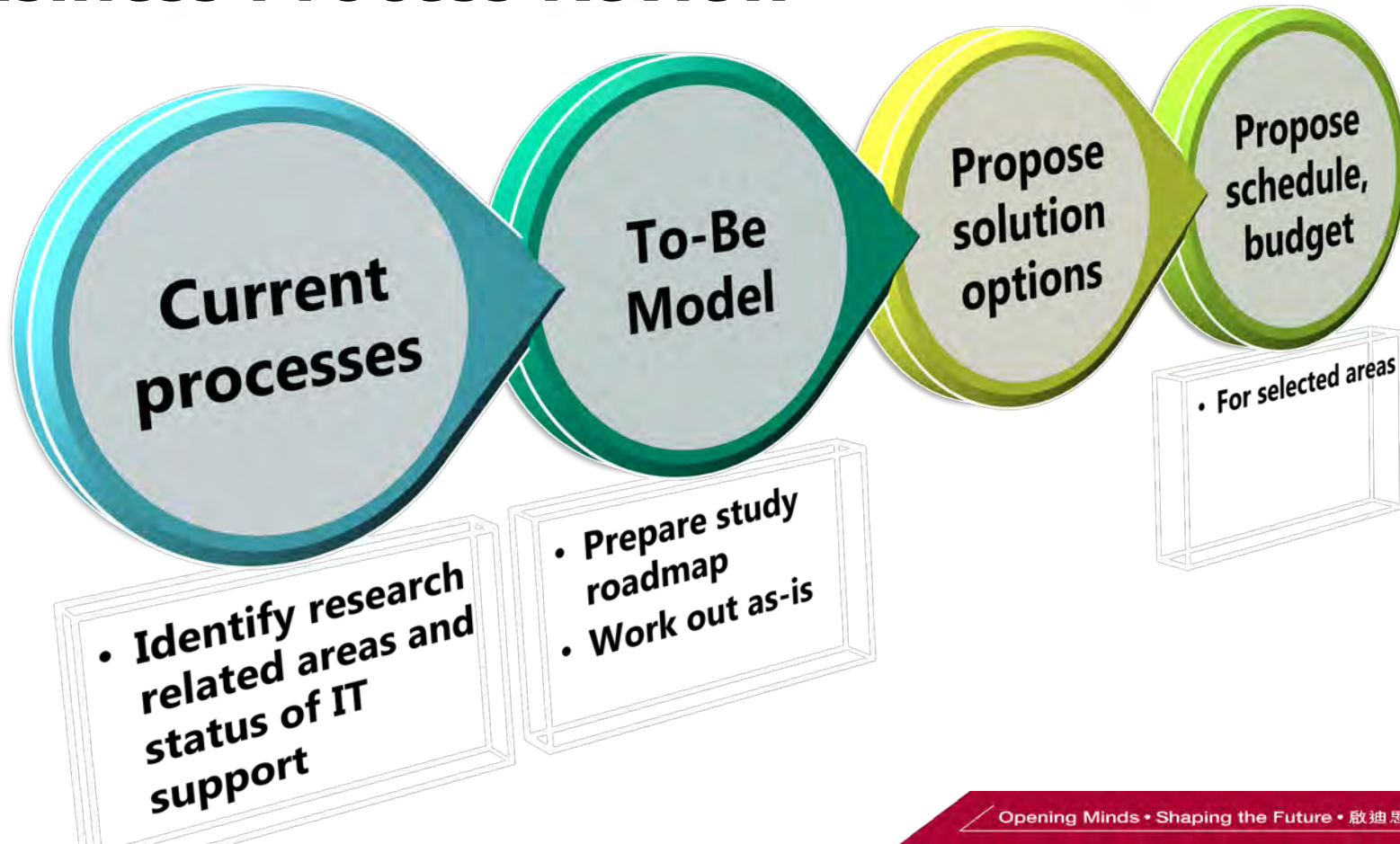


# Research Transformation



**Business Process Review**

# Business Process Review



# Research Related Areas Identified

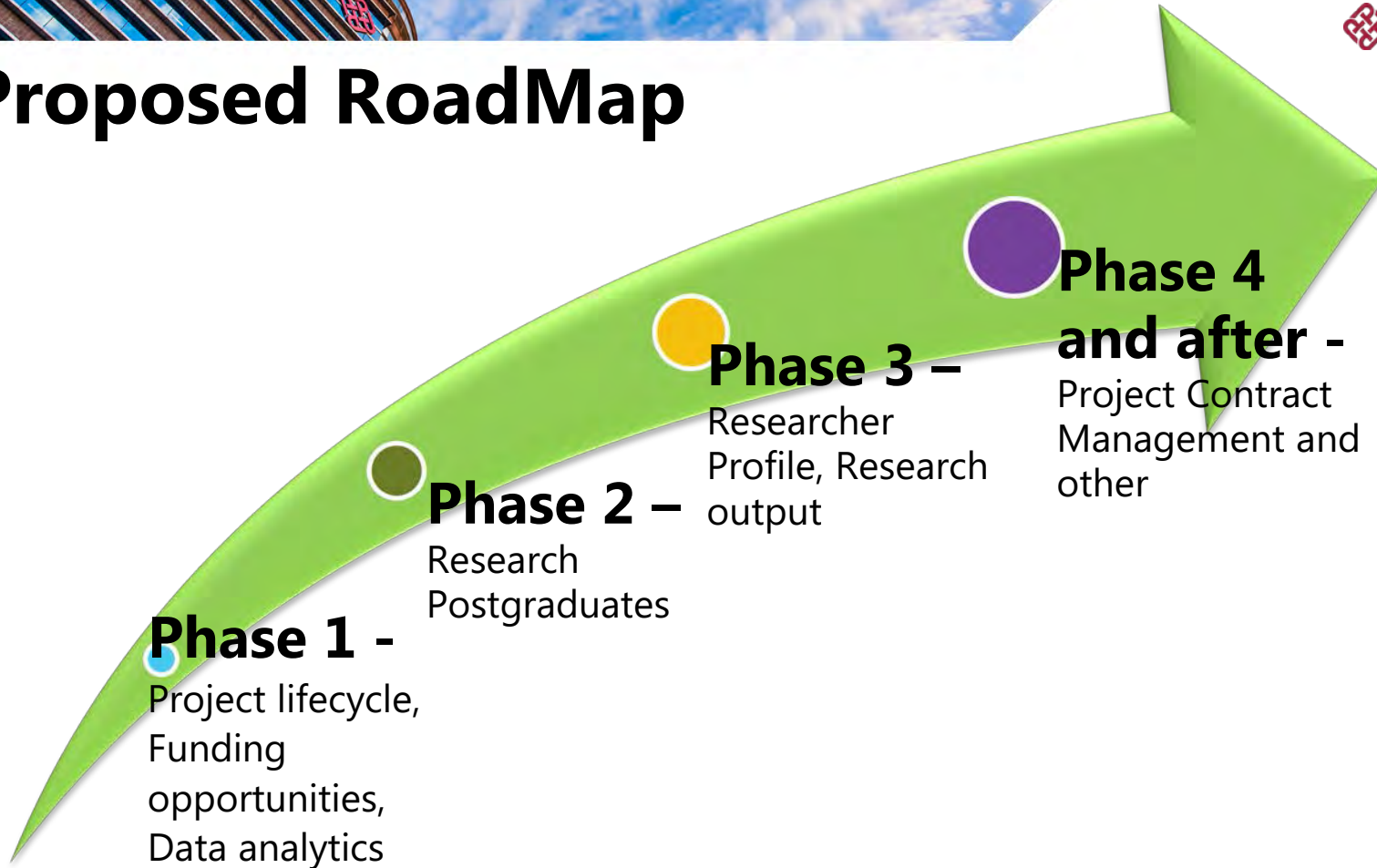


# Priority Areas





# Proposed RoadMap



# BPR – Research project life cycle

**Oct 2014**

- ❖ Worked out holistic views of PolyU Research
  - Business view,
  - Process view

01

02

**Nov 2014 – Feb 2015**

- ❖ Interviewed researchers
- ❖ Interviewed stakeholders
- ❖ Conducted **16** BPR workshops with Research Office, Finance Office, Human Resource Office

03

04

**Mar 2015**

- ❖ Completed TO-BE process models for Research project management and funding opportunity

**Mar 2015 – Q4 2015**

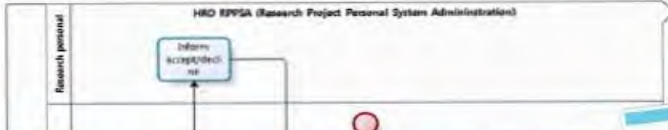
- ❖ Sourced solutions

# Workshops

Research workshop (20141210).docx 29 December 2014

**Process Re-engineering Workshop – AS-IS & TO-BE  
"Project in Progress – HR Closing"**

Workshop date/venue – 10-Dec-2014 9:30am Z407

<b>1. Agenda</b>	
	Define AS-IS & TO-BE Project Change process models
<b>2. Notes</b>	
	<b>AS-IS HR Process</b>
a)	Existing HR acceptance of offer process
	

## Ground Rules I

- All participants are equal
- One person speaks at a time
- Silence means consent
- Listen to what other people are saying

## Ground Rules II

- Respect each other
- Be on time coming back from breaks
- Consider all possibilities
- Start on time

## Business Process Modelling

# Senior Management Support

- ❑ Approved budget for Phase 1 in 2016
- ❑ Started off project for implementing a projects and grants management system
- ❑ In 2016, Management decided to use the Student Information System (SIS) for taught programmes to handle research postgraduates, transfer project started off
- ❑ In 2017, started off procurement and implementation for a centralized research information management platform



# Project and Project

# Timeline

2014

2015

2016

2017

2018

2019

2020

**Projects & Grants  
Management**

BPR

Solution  
sourcing

Tender

**Funding**

Station

**Projects**

**Transfer RPg  
Students  
Administration**

Gap analysis

Implementation

**Students**

**Open Platform for  
University Scholars**

**Researcher  
Profile**

**Mgt info & Decision  
Support**

Implementation

Implementation  
(phase 2)

**Products**

**Intellectual Property  
Management**

Tender

Implementation

**Animal Subjects  
Ethics Application**

Implementation

**Application for  
Research Safety  
Approval**

Implementation

**Governance &  
Compliance**

**University Data  
Platform**

Implementation

# Implementation in progress/completed

## Projects and Grants



- ☐ Outsourced development
- ☐ Oracle DB, WebSphere
- ☐ Workflow engine

## Research Information Management



- ☐ Cloud package: Pure of Elsevier
- ☐ Microsoft Azure
- ☐ Pure wiki, Microsoft TEAMS for collaboration

## Research Postgraduate Admin



- ☐ Move to an existing SIS with enhancement
- ☐ Decentralised admin to academic departments
- ☐ Oracle DB, WebSphere

## Intellectual Property



- ☐ On premise package: Memotech of CPAGlobal
- ☐ Oracle DB

## Compliance to animals ethics



- ☐ In-house development
- ☐ Oracle DB
- ☐ Workflow engine

## Compliance to Safety



- ☐ In-house development
- ☐ Oracle DB
- ☐ Workflow engine

# **OPUS – a centralised research information management platform**

# Open Platform for University Scholars (OPUS)

## Objectives



Implement a centralized information platform for managing information and conducting analysis of research activities at individual, departmental, and institutional levels



Support institutional reviews of strategies related to research development and activities, policy and support services provided to research for forward planning



Streamline business processes in supporting and showcasing research activities in PolyU



# OPUS Features

## Interconnected data

- Persons, organization units, projects, activities, research outputs, prizes, media mentions, metrics

*Reduce data proliferation and centralize information management*

## Integrating platforms

- Integration with internal and external systems such as CHRIS, SciVal, Scopus, ORCID etc

*Automate data extraction and rigorous validation*

## Profiles management

- Researcher profiles managed by researchers themselves

*Comprehensive, flexible, and always-available*

## Reporting

- Dashboards, reports at researcher, department, faculty and institutional levels, and standardized CVs

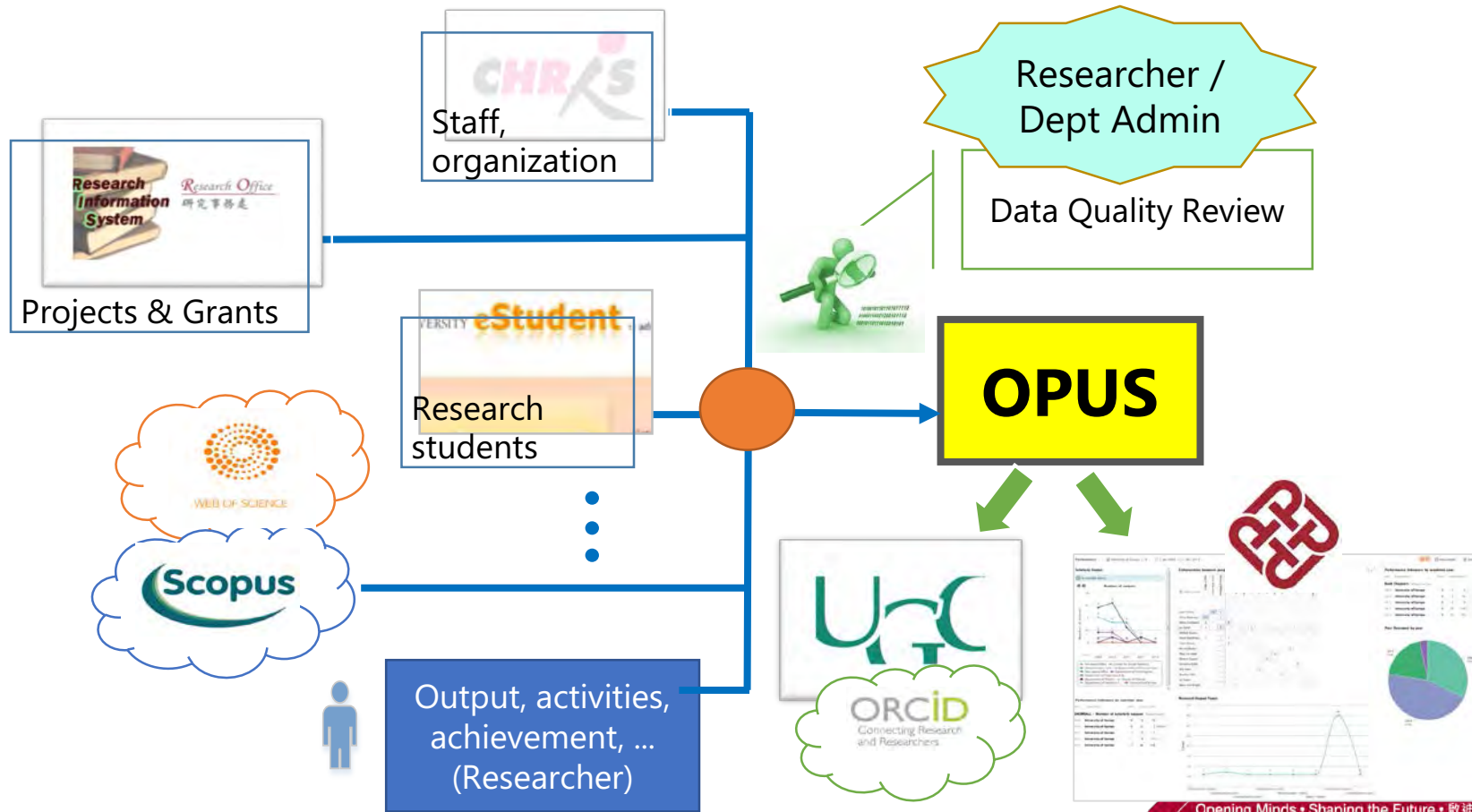
*Dynamic, always up-to-date reporting for unique requirements*

## Pure Portal

- Showcase achievements and resources, promote researchers, and explore collaboration

*A unified, outward facing hub to showcase activities and resources*

# Envisioned research activities with OPUS



# OPUS – Pure Portal



Research Output

1990 ..... 2018

4398

Citations

35

h-Index

200

Journal article

16

Literature review

2

Conference article

1

Review article

A comparison of laboratory, clinical, and self-report measures of prospective memory in healthy adults and individuals with brain injury

Raskin, S. A., Shum, H. K. D., Ellis, J., Pereira, A. & Mills, G., 28 May 2018, In : Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology. 40, 5, p. 423-436 14 p.

Research output: Journal publication > Journal article > Academic research > peer-review

**OPUMX**

**Usage**  
Downloads: 27  
Abstract Views: 3

**Captures**  
Readers: 8

**Social Media**  
Tweets: 2  
see details



An attempt at revisiting the factor structure of the Dysexecutive Questionnaire in the Chinese setting

Yang, Z.-Y., Sun, S.-F., Lui, S. S. Y., Shi, H.-S., Xie, D.-J., Xie, W.-L., Wang, Y., Cheung, E. F. C., Shum, H. K. D. & Chan, R. C. K., 1 Mar 2018, In : PsyCh Journal. 7, 1, p. 25-30 6 p.

Research output: Journal publication > Journal article > Academic research > peer-review



Metrics always updated

Changes in neural activation underlying attention processing of eye movements following treatment with positive search training in anxious children

Waters, A. M., Cao, Y., Kershaw, R., Kerbler, G. M., Shum, H. K. D., Zimmer-Gembeck, M. J., Craske, M. G., Bradley, B. P., Mogg, K., Pine, D. S. & Cunningham, R., 1 Apr 2018, In : Journal of Anxiety Disorders. 55, p. 22-30 9 p.

Research output: Journal publication > Journal article > Academic research > peer-review



1  
Citations  
(Scopus)



# **PGMS – projects & grants management system**

# Projects & Grants Management System (PGMS)

## Objectives



Strengthen governance and ensure compliance



Distribute timely and appropriate information to researchers



Simplify application and reporting processes for researchers



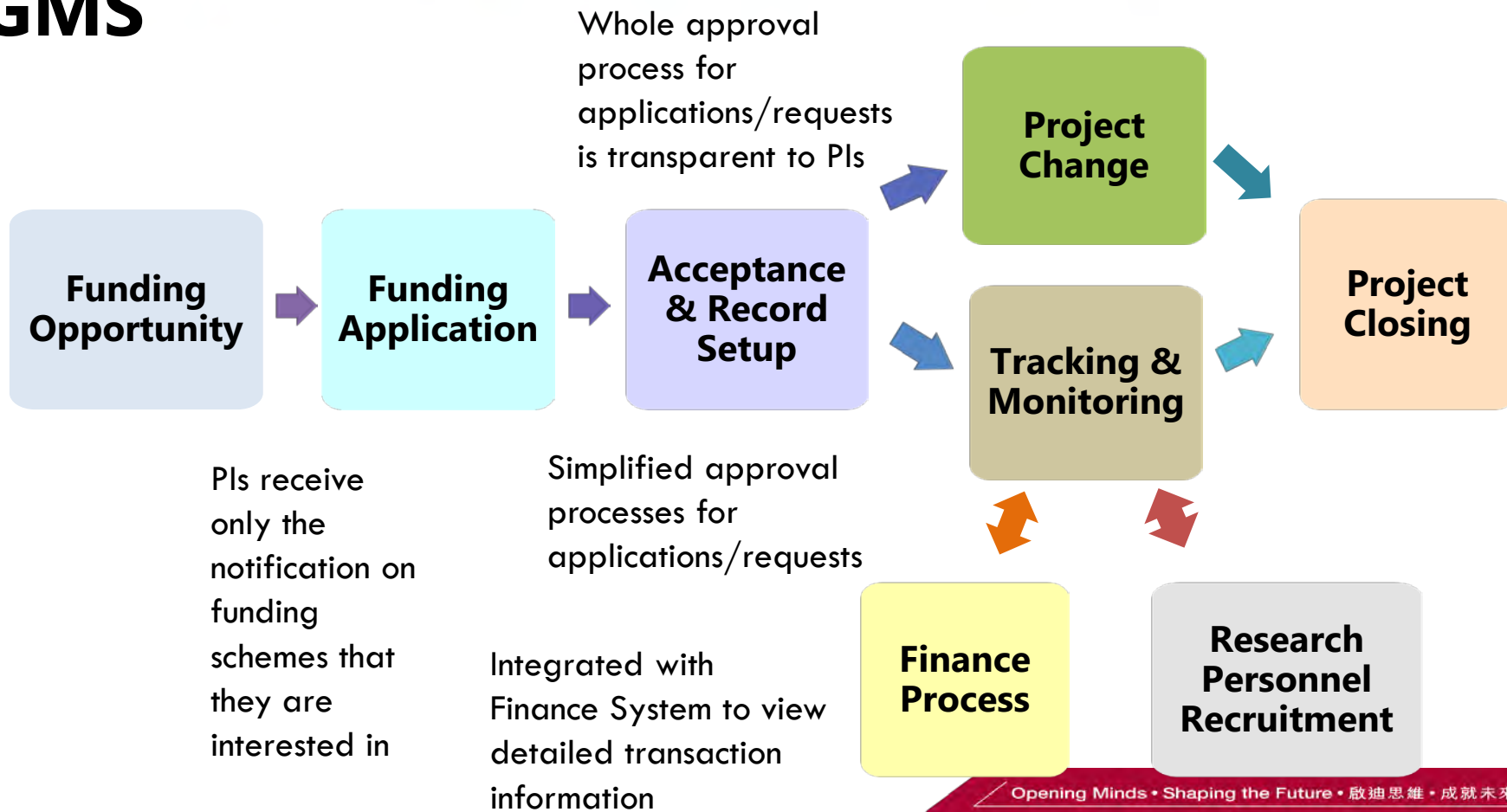
Improve accuracy and efficiency and standardize practice



Decentralize operations to departments, allowing self-service



# PGMS



## Project Record - New Project

Project ID	To be generated	Project Status	Draft
Associated Application ID	N/A	Parent/Child Project Indicator	N/A
Funding Body Ref. No:	<input type="text"/>	Parent/Child Project ID	N/A
Collaborative Research	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	Record Setup Date	<input type="text" value="4 Apr 2019"/>
Engaged By PolyU SZRI	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No		

### Project Title

English Version

Chinese Version

Official Language Indicator ☒ English ☐ Chinese

Create a project record

# PGMS



Home



Funding Opportunity



Funding Application



Project Record



System



Notification



User Maintenance



Notification



User Maintenance

3

Funding Scheme

3 funding schemes to be completed

Funding

130

120

110

100

90

80

70

60

50

40

30

20

10

0

Jan 01



Home



Funding Opportunity



Funding Application



Project Record



System



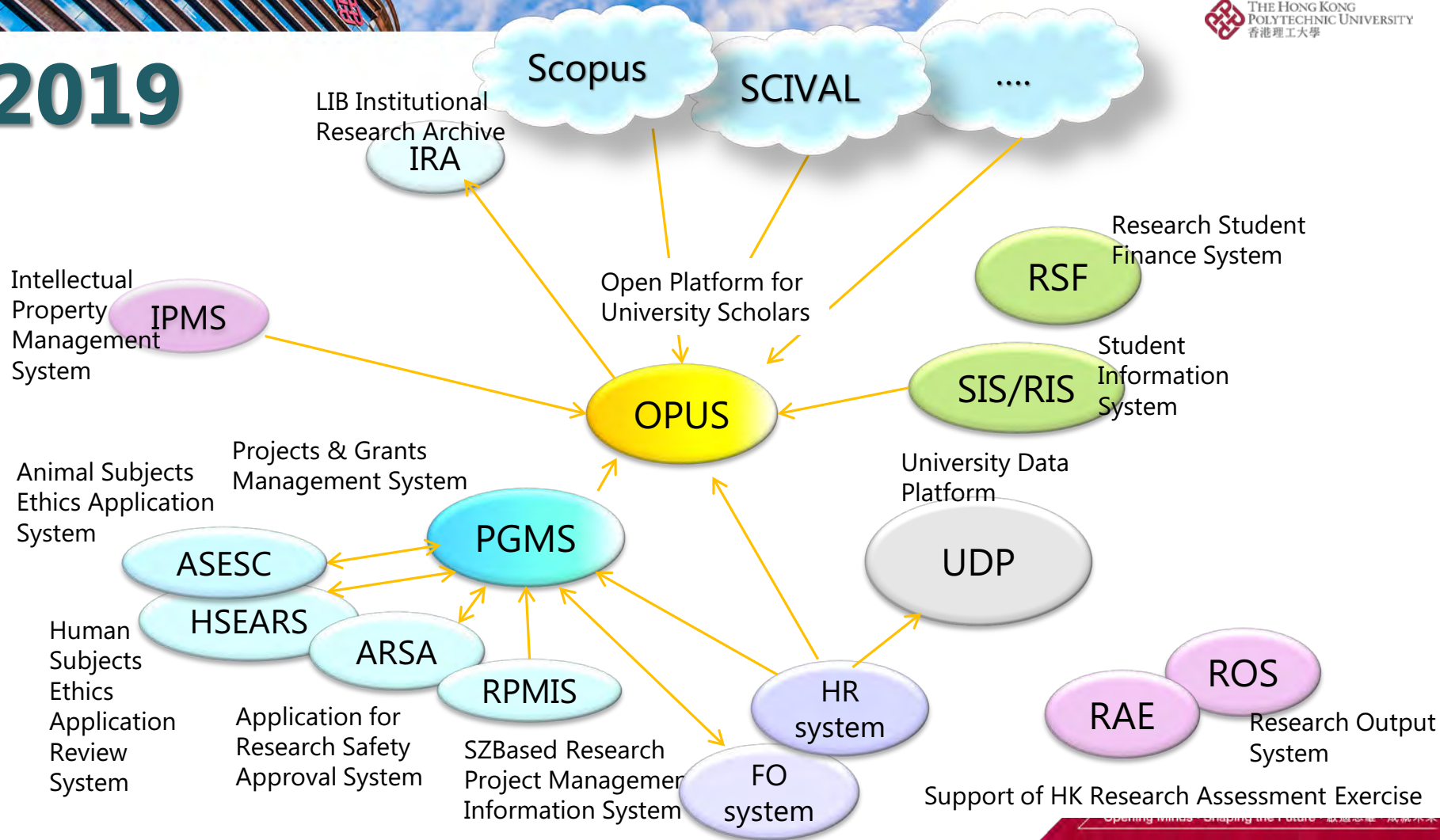
Notification



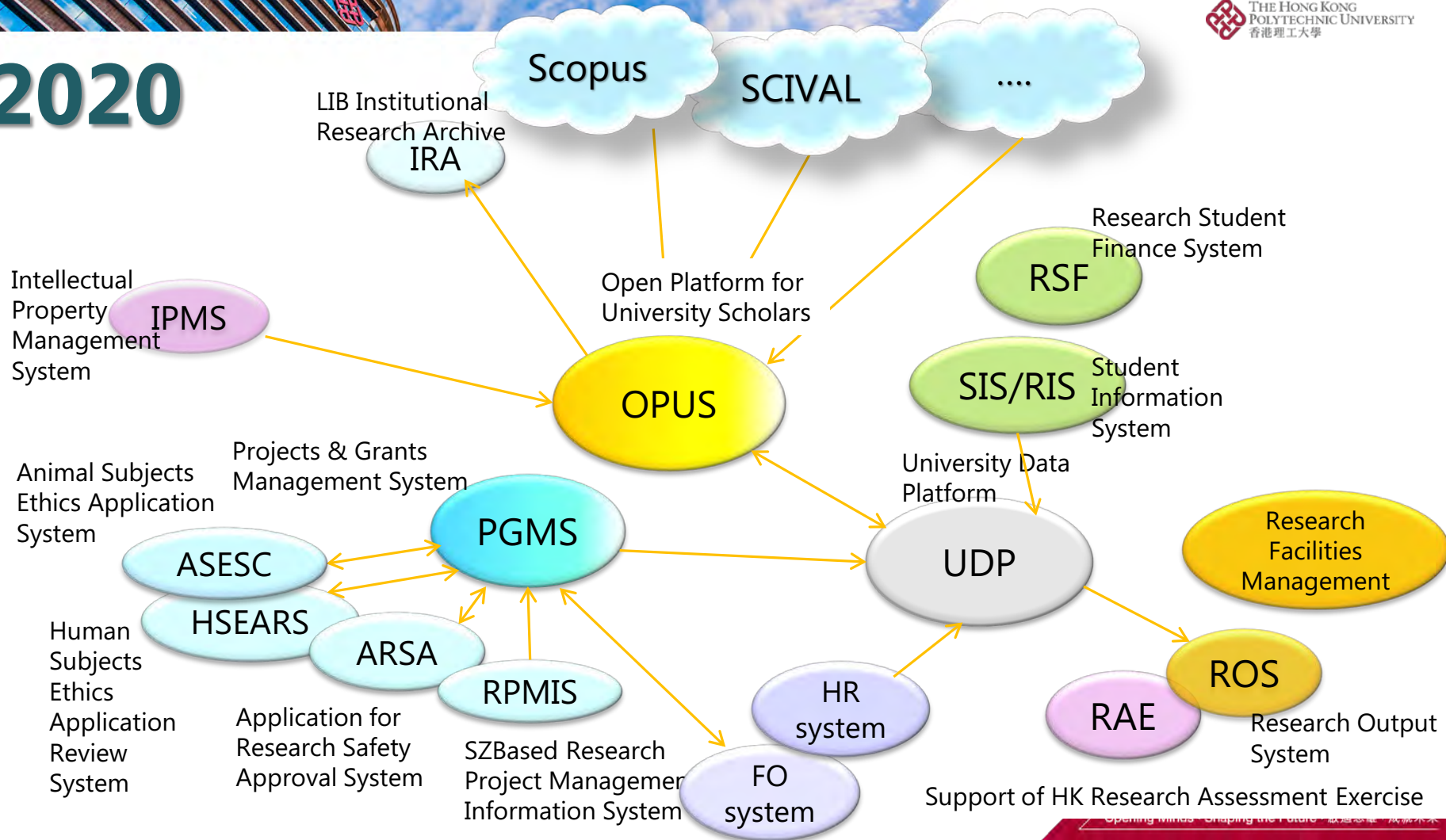
User Maintenance

# Latest Status

# 2019



# 2020





# Ultimate Research Management Services



# Research Management

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- ❑ Increasing demands
  - ❑ source and amount of research funding
  - ❑ no. of research students and projects

# Major challenges

- ❑ Difficulties in engaging many stakeholders
- ❑ Lesson from BPR
- ❑ Solution approach
- ❑ Parallel projects

**Thank You!**

