

Asia Alliance 2019

PolyU's Journey in Digitizing University Research Management

30 Apr 2019

By Cirus Tsang, Shirley So

**Information Technology Services Offices
Hong Kong Polytechnic University**



**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 Health
and Social
Sciences



161

programmes

Faculty of
Business



Faculty of
Humanities



5,316

staff

Faculty of
Construction and
Environment



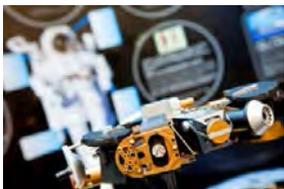
School of
Design



28,500

students

Faculty of
Engineering



School of Hotel
and Tourism
Management



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

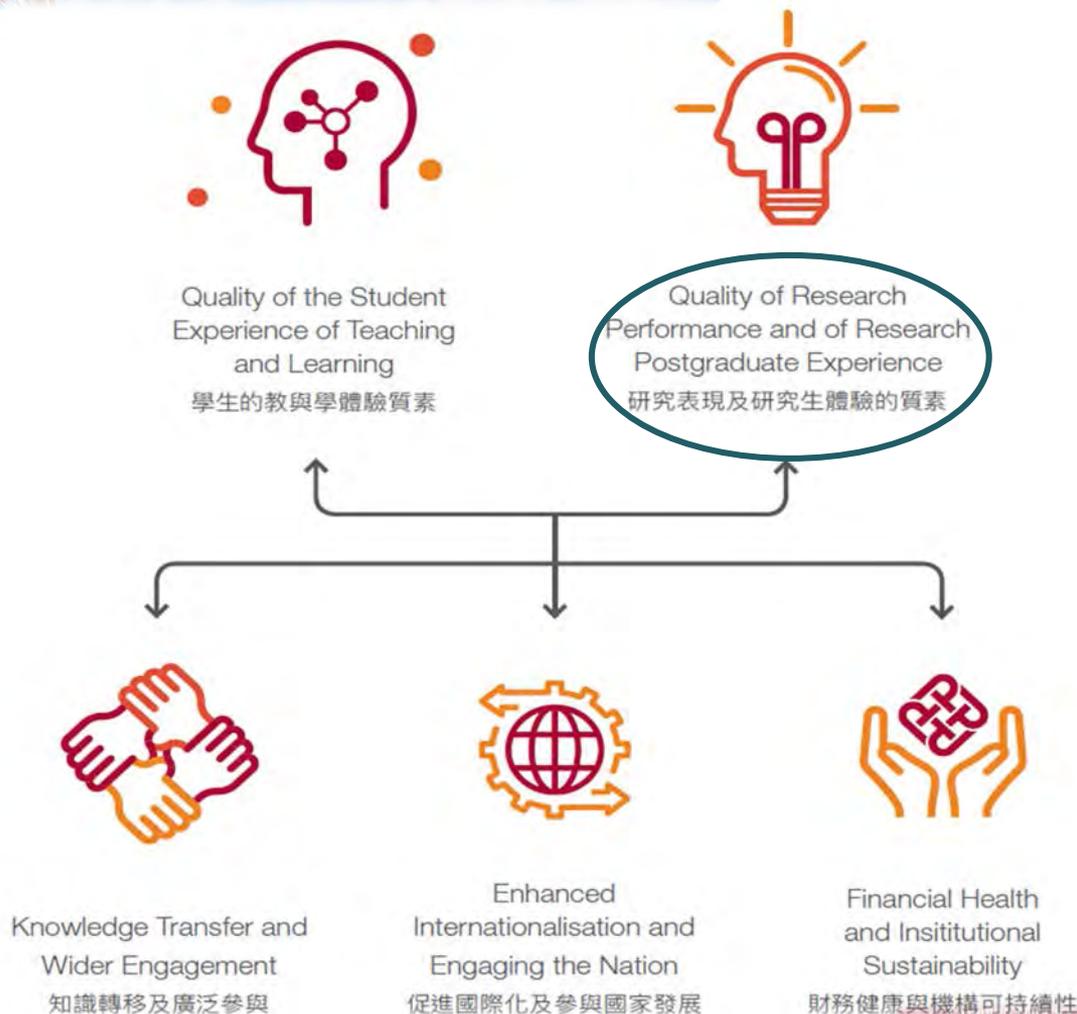
營造讓員生志存高遠、心有歸屬、樂於以大學爲榮的環境

PolyU's Strategic Research Domains



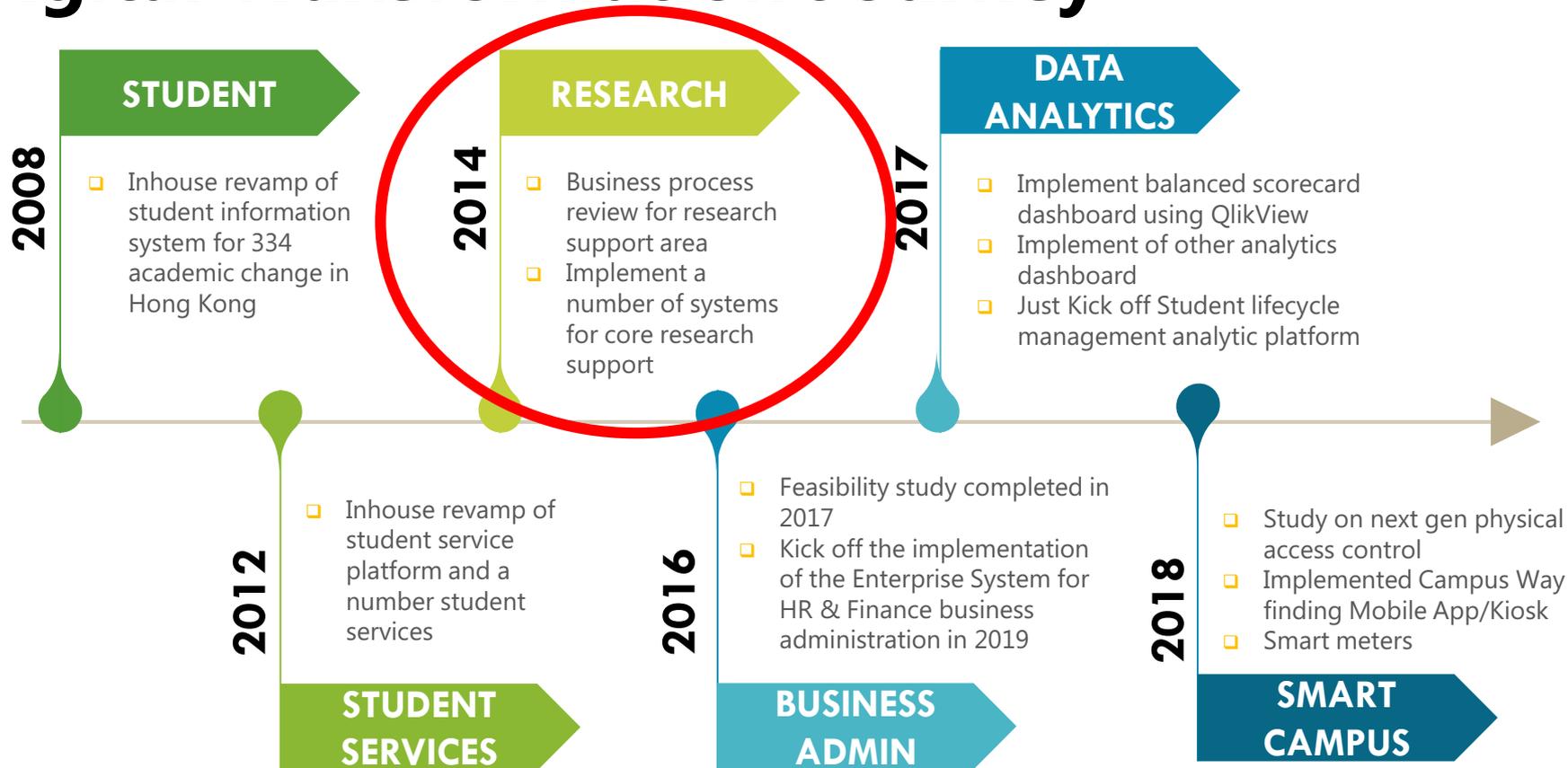
Strategic Plan

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

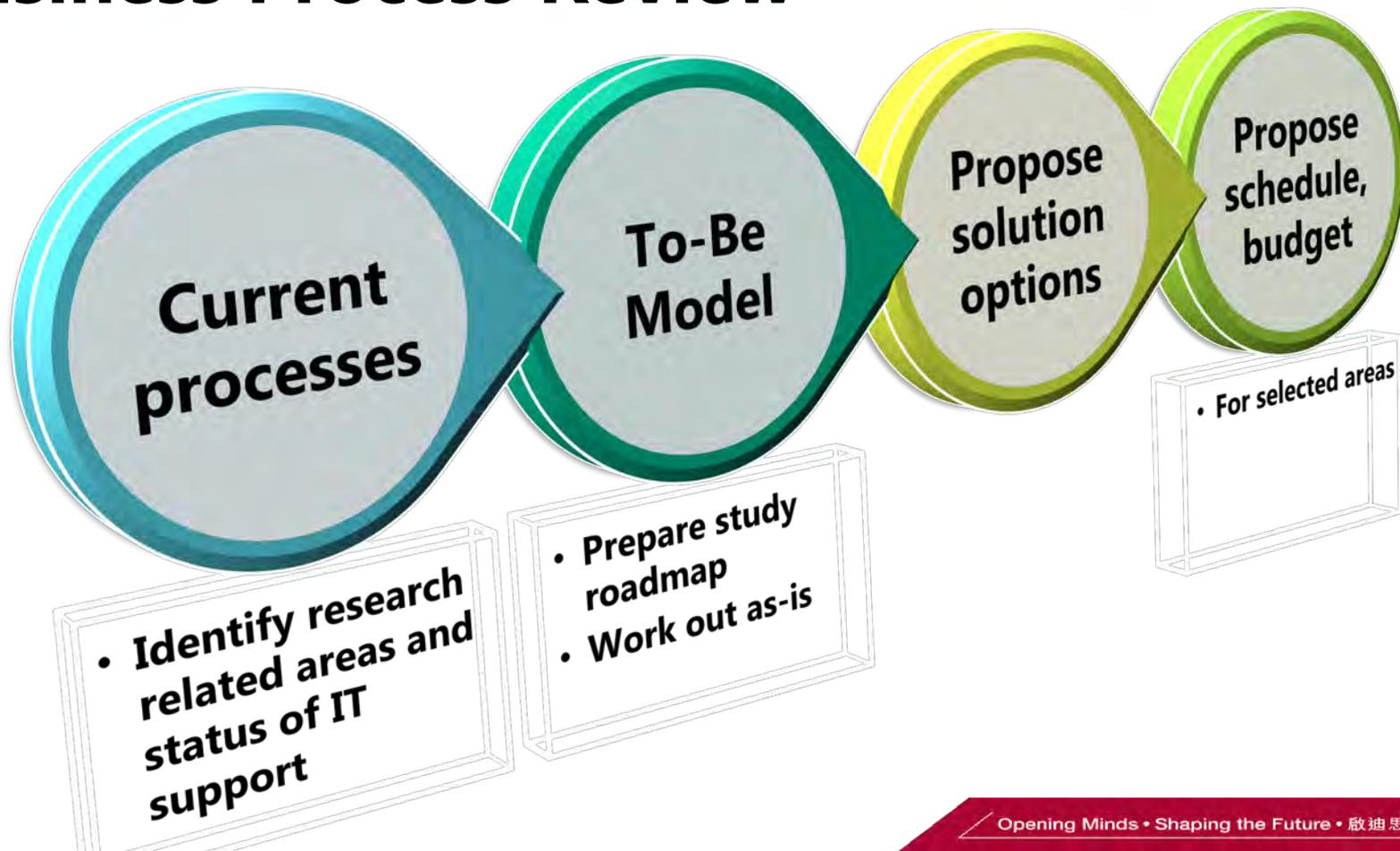
- ❑ A holistic business process review for research administration
 - ❑ Vice President of Research Development
 - ❑ Head of Research Office
 - ❑ Director of Information Technology
- ❑ A business + technical solution -> Future State
- ❑ Expected to:
 - ❑ bring efficiency and accuracy
 - ❑ standardized, 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



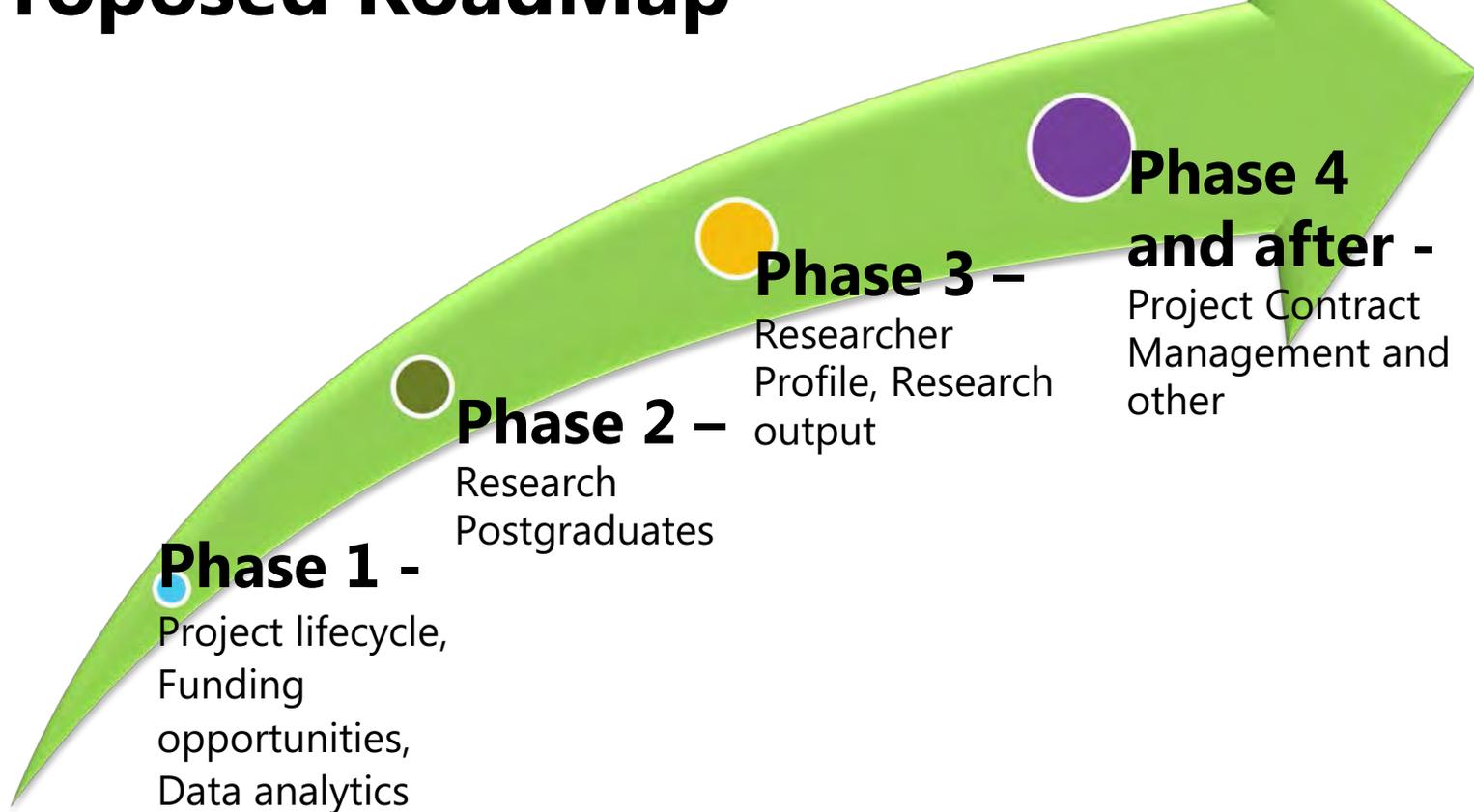
Research Related Areas Identified



Priority Areas



Proposed RoadMap



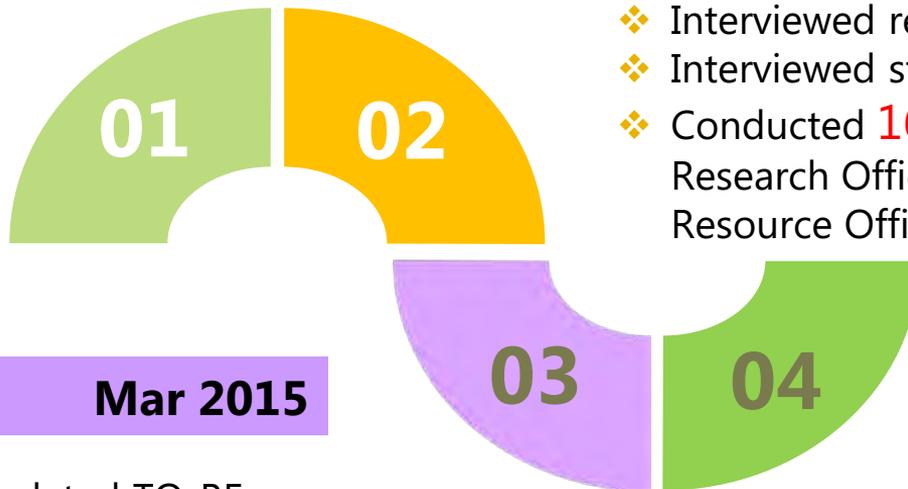
BPR – Research project life cycle

Oct 2014

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

Nov 2014 – Feb 2015

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



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

1. Agenda

- Define AS-IS & TO-BE Project Change process models

2. Notes

AS-IS HR Process

a) Existing HR acceptance of offer process

```
graph LR
    subgraph "AS-IS HR Process"
        direction TB
        subgraph "Research personal"
            A[Inform acceptance of offer]
        end
        subgraph "HRD EPPSA (Research Project Personal System Administration)"
            B[Inform acceptance of offer]
        end
        A --> B
    end
```

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	Projects	
Transfer RPg Students Administration			Gap analysis		Implementation	Students	
Open Platform for University Scholars			Researcher Profile	Mgt info & Decision Support	Implementation (phase 2)	Products	
Intellectual Property Management		Tender	Implementation				
Animal Subjects Ethics Application			Implementation			Governance & Compliance	
Application for Research Safety Approval					Implementation		
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

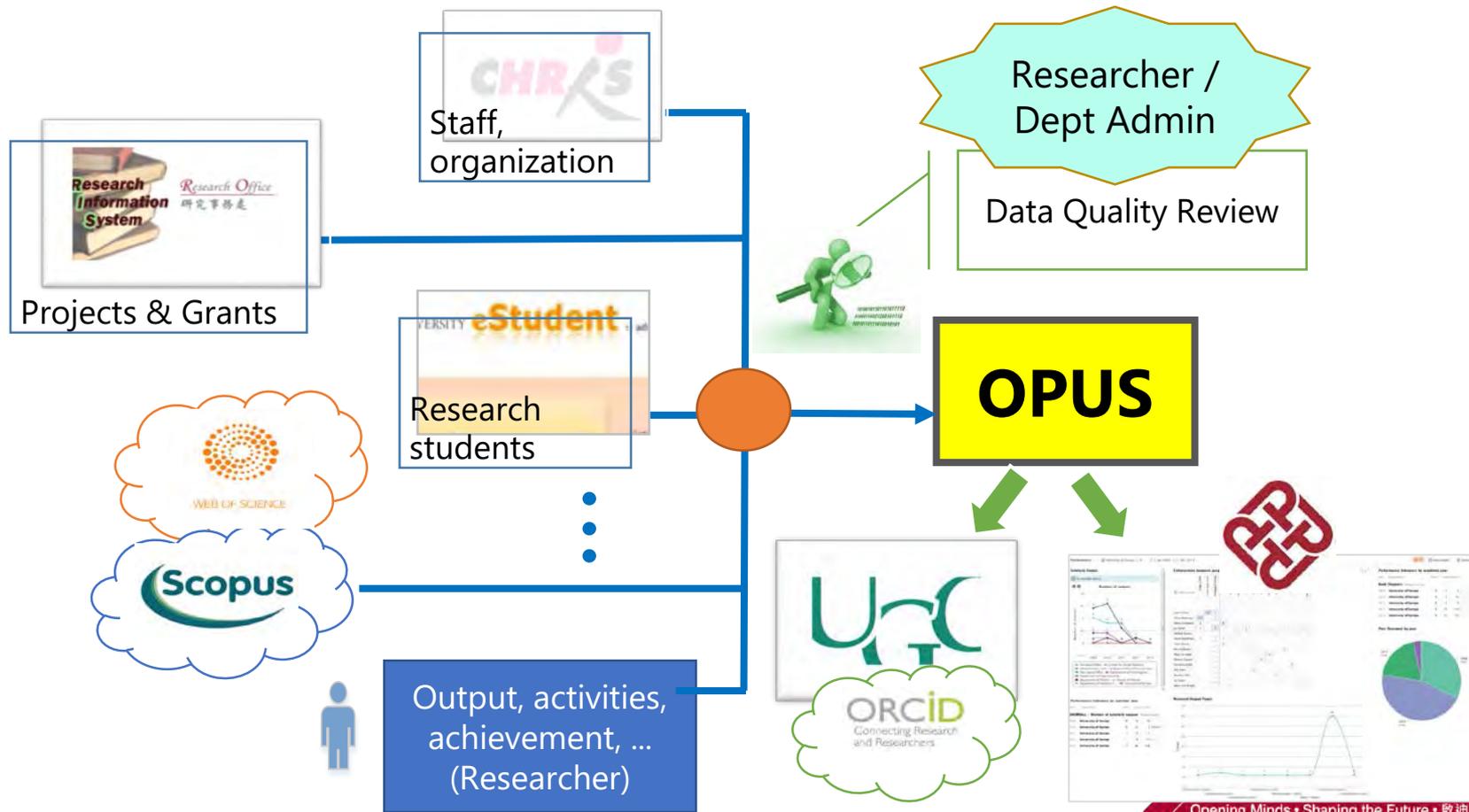
Dynamic, always up-to-date reporting for unique requirements

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

4398 Citations **35** h-Index **200** Journal article **16** Literature review **2** Conference article **1** Review article

1990 2018 

[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

PLUMX

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 early 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. & Cunnington, 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



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

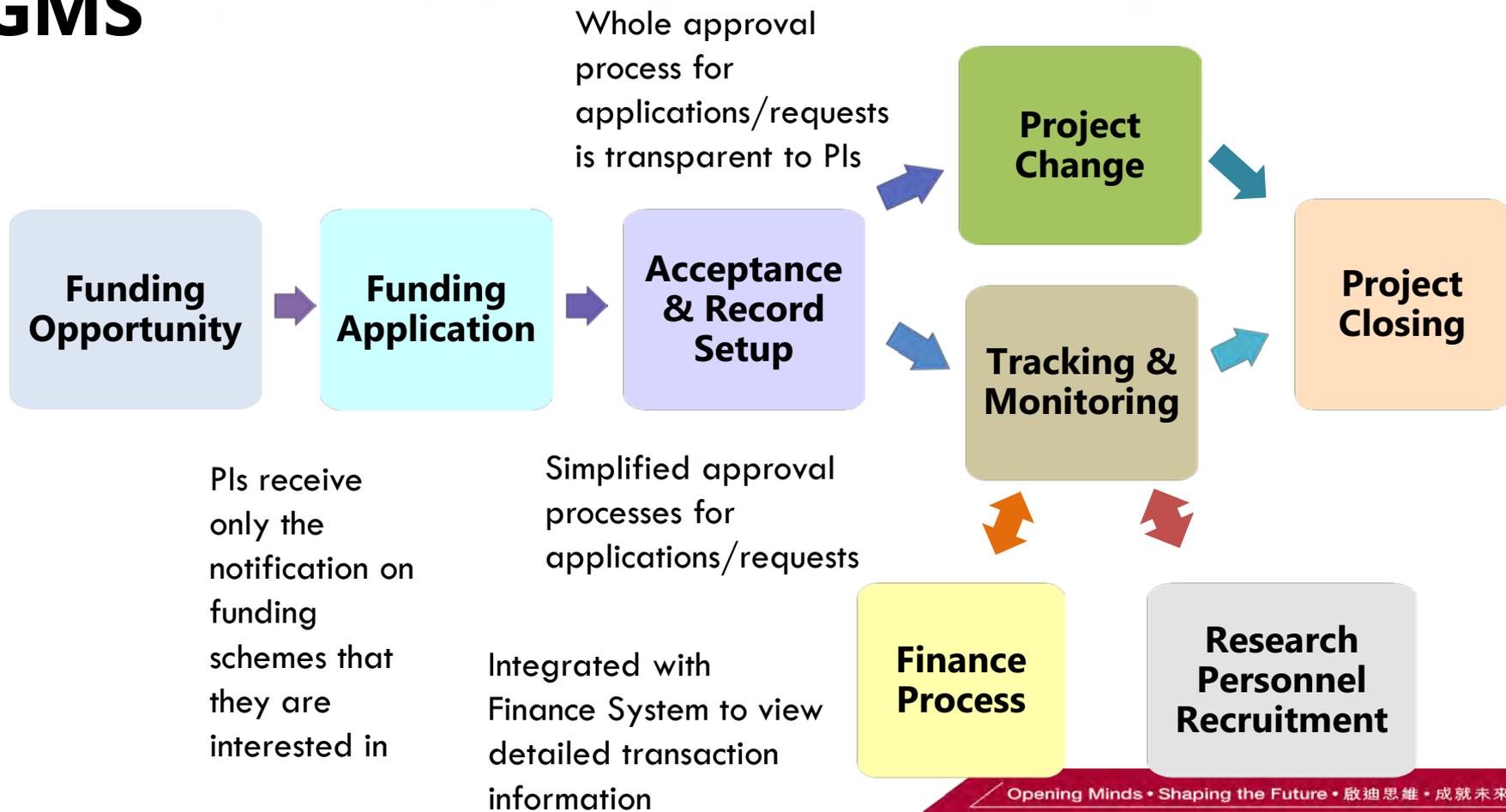


Improve accuracy and efficiency and standardize practice



Decentralize operations to departments, allowing self-service

PGMS



PGMS



Home

Funding Opportunity

Funding Application

Project Record

System

Notification

User Maintenance

User Maintenance

User Maintenance

User Maintenance

User Maintenance



Home

Funding Opportunity

Funding Application

Project Record

System

Notification

User Maintenance

User Maintenance

3

Funding Scheme

3 funding schemes to be completed

Funding

130

120

110

100

90

80

70

60

50

Jan 01

Search Funding Opportunity

Home / Search Funding Opportunity



Home

Funding Opportunity

Funding Application

Project Record

System

Notification

User Maintenance

User Maintenance

User Maintenance

User Maintenance

User Maintenance

Project Record - New Project

Home / 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

B *I* U ~~ABC~~ **S** **X²** **X₂** 13- **A** **≡** **≡** **T!**

Chinese Version

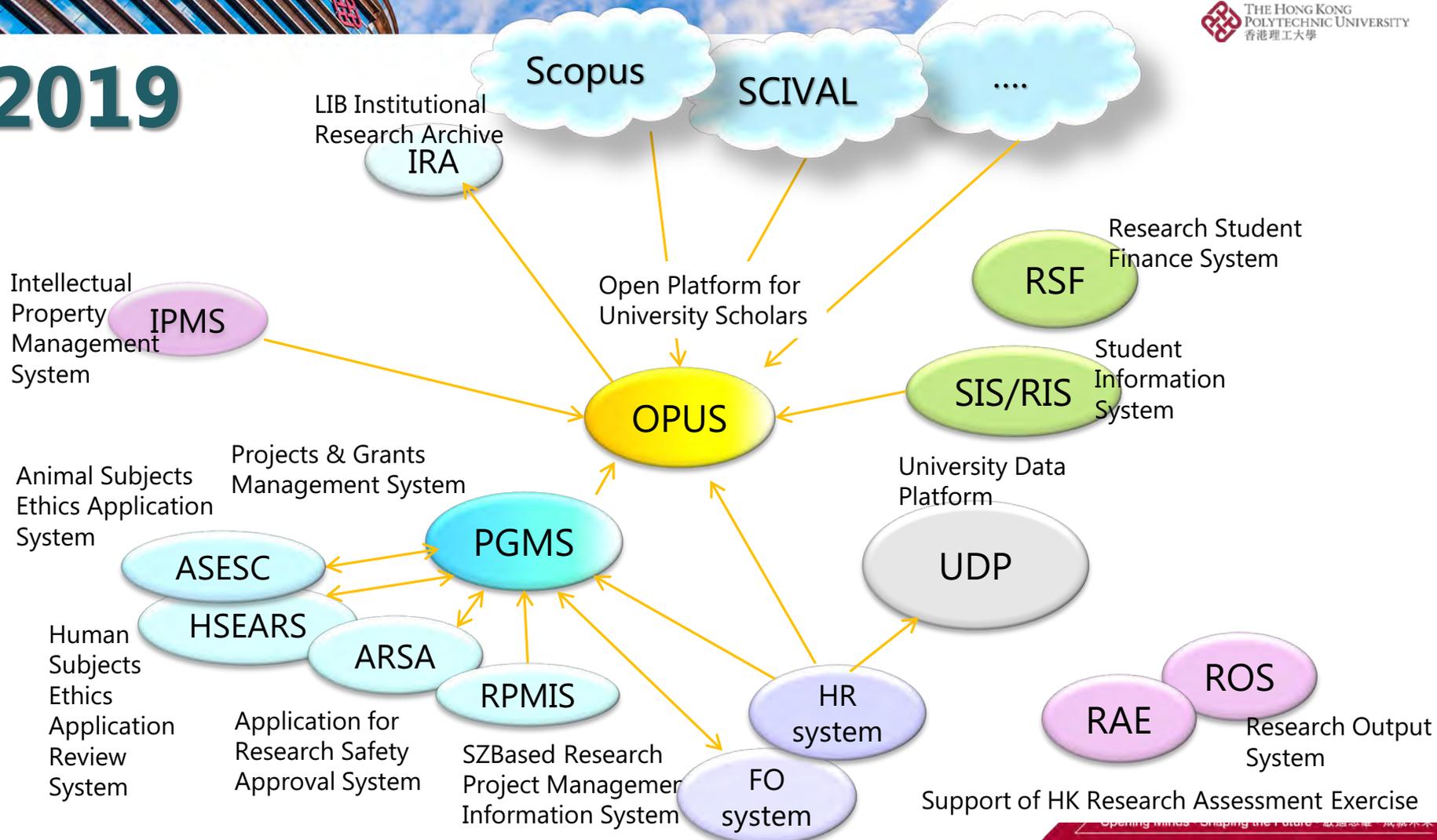
B *I* U ~~ABC~~ **S** **X²** **X₂** 13- **A** **≡** **≡** **T!**

Official Language Indicator English Chinese

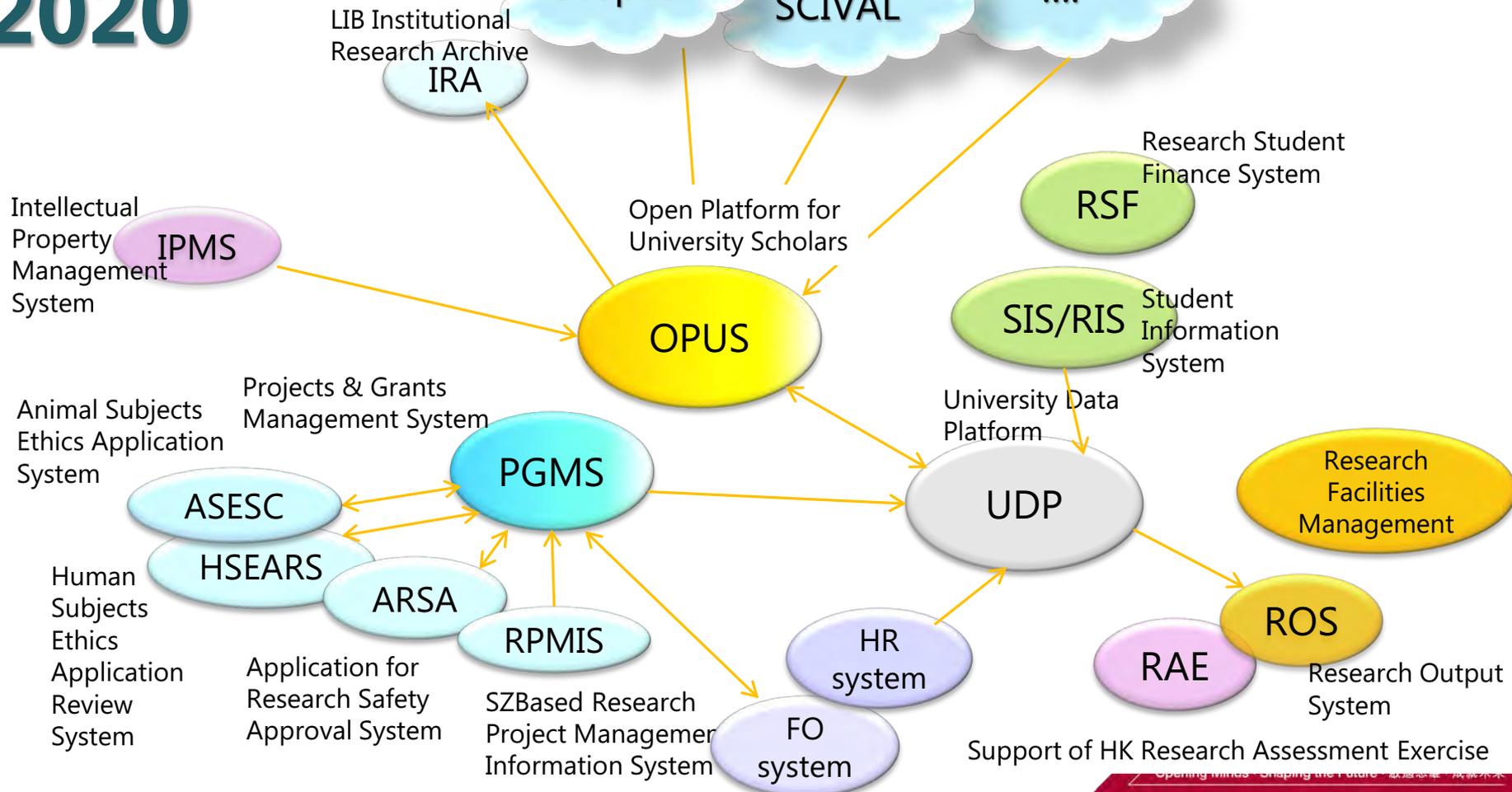
Create a project record

Latest Status

2019



2020



Ultimate Research Management Services



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

Major challenges

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

Thank You!

