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**Implementing a next-gen repository mid-REF cycle...madness or  
a stroke of genius?**

**Evans, J.**

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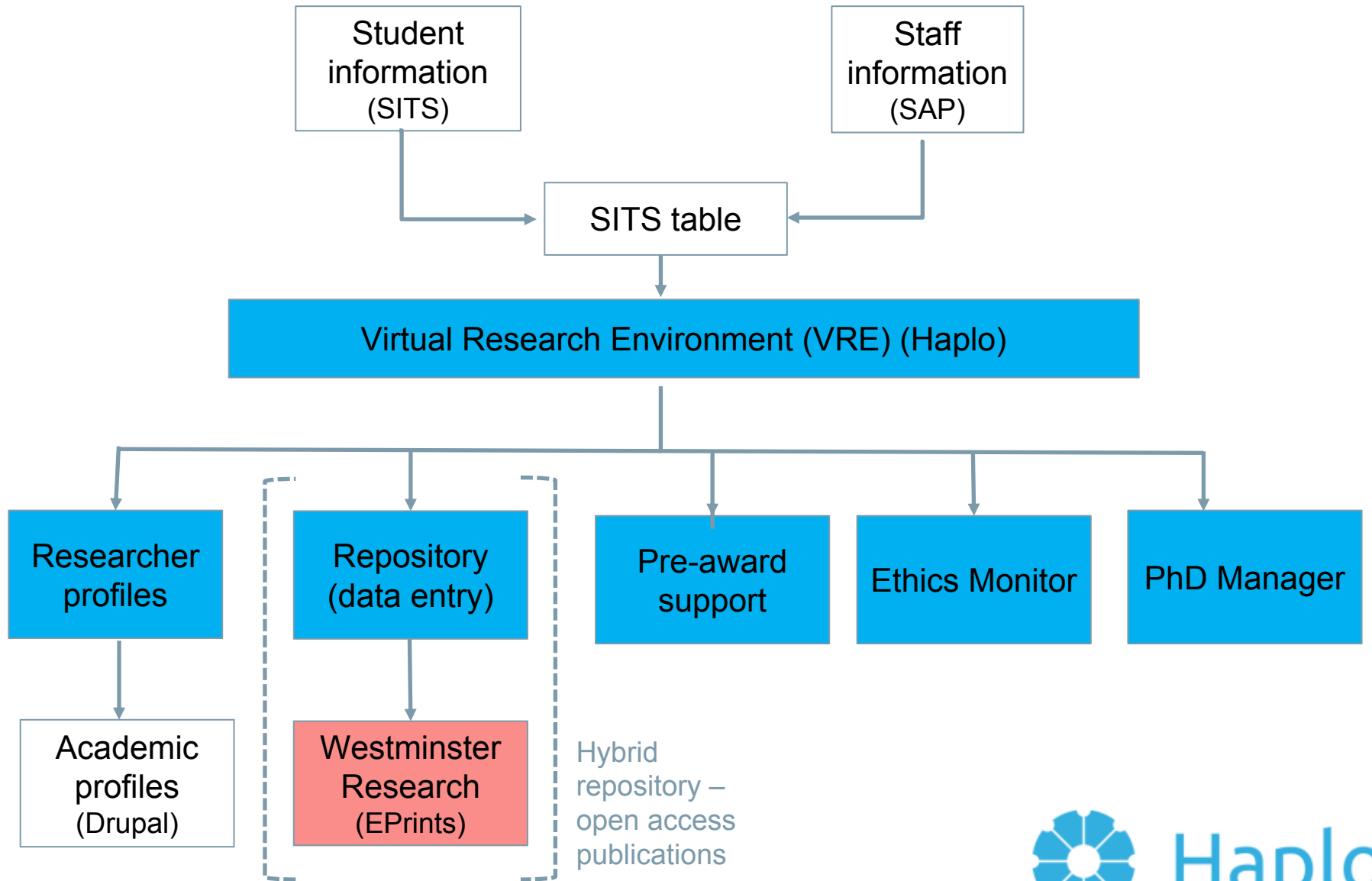
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# Implementing a next-gen repository mid-REF cycle...madness or a stroke of genius?

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# Virtual Research Environment (VRE)



# Building the business case...addressing perceived risks and concerns

## Of going ahead

Risk of not being able to submit REF return

Loss of access to EPrints community and related developments

Security of supplier hosting sensitive data

All our eggs in one basket?

## Of staying with current hybrid solution

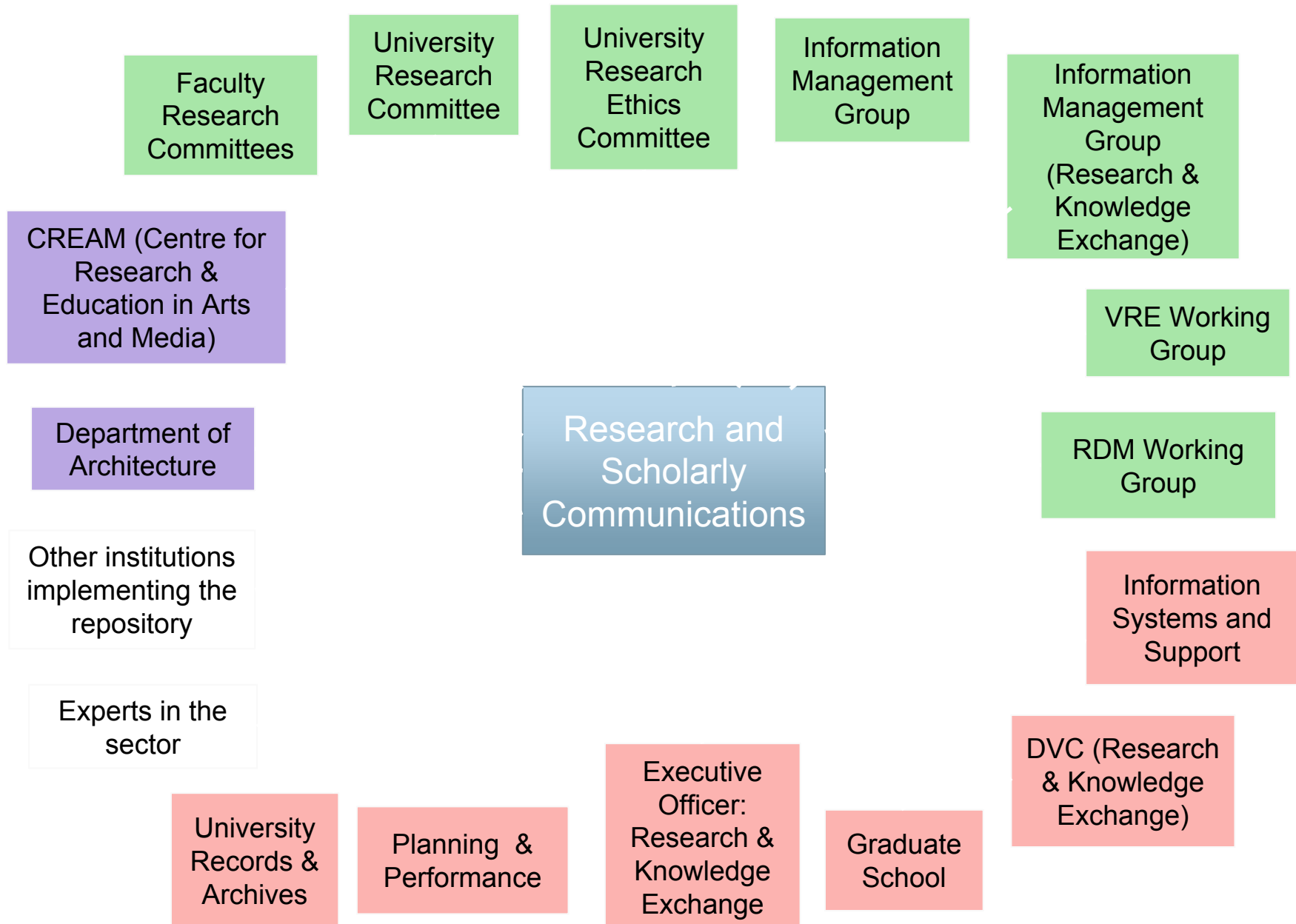
Not capturing practice-based research outputs

Unable to take advantage of EPrints developments nor to develop existing repository

Costs involved including multiple subscriptions



# Stakeholder engagement



# Features of an 'All Haplo' repository

One repository system to maintain

Secure platform for safe management and sharing of sensitive data

Fine grained permissions

Streamlined ingest workflow

Highly flexible metadata

Repository integrated into the rest of the VRE

# Benefits of an 'All Haplo' repository

Traditional research outputs and data in the same system

Improved security and managed access to data

Better support for practice-based research

Systematising data capture

Improved reporting e.g. for mini-REF exercises

Researchers only have to use one system

Better engagement with researchers

Increased visibility of Westminster's research outputs





# What worked well?

- Right people involved - core project team and everyone else!
- Fantastic relationship building exercise
- Engagement with our practice-based researchers
- Working closely with Haplo and with the two other institutions who will be implementing a Haplo repository to share requirements
- Review of \*all\* of the metadata
- Systematising data capture for mini-REF exercise
- Able to fix many of the problems we've had with the repository
- Now that we have a test system – seeing workflow diagrams come to life

# Lessons learned...

- Really is a full time job
- Take advantage of all offers of support
- You will need longer than you think
- Workflow diagrams very helpful for articulating requirements
- Co-ordinating stakeholders like herding cats
- There will always be more metadata requirements
- Have to draw a line on functionality



# Next steps?

- Got test system V2, test system 2.1 will include collections and practice based research
- Test system V3 will include integrations
- Go live planned for early Sept 2018
- Planning advocacy and training material
- Post-go live – review the roadmap
- Jisc Research Data Shared Service pilot 2018-19 to test preservation workflows (Archivematica and Arkivum) and integrations

