

*“ReConn’s work is very timely. Now more than ever, we need new assessment tools.”*

— Jared L. Cohon, President, Carnegie Mellon University

Research Connector is the custom Activity Reporting platform from ReConn. It takes existing reporting processes and makes them more useful.

The outcome is a searchable, highly detailed **directory of expertise** that can be deployed across multiple institutions to facilitate and enhance collaboration.

*What is Activity Reporting?* Every university tracks the individual progress of faculty, usually on an annual basis. Common activities tracked include courses, grants and publications.

*How does Research Connector work?* Research Connector is web-based software that pulls information from existing sources and **pre-populates user profiles**. The software collects information from private databases as well as the public internet. Research Connector can also collect and analyze users’ publications to find trends.

*Benefits for deans and administrators* Research Connector collects highly reliable performance data. Because the software is custom-tailored for each client, administrators get exactly the information they need. The software includes an elegant query builder that supports on-the-fly analysis of faculty data, as well as templates for common reports.

*Benefits for faculty* Annual Reports on Research Connector are fast, easy and completely customized to fit each institution’s reporting needs. Also, Research Connector helps faculty increase exposure through auto-generated research profiles and homepages.

*Benefits for research teams* Research Connector stimulates interdisciplinary collaboration at multiple stages:

*Forming new teams*

Research Connector creates highly searchable researcher profiles based on report data and statistical text analysis. Also, the software mines its own database and suggests new cross-cutting teams.

*Facilitating Collaboration*

Research Connector is also a communications platform. Researchers can interact with new collaborators through built-in document sharing, messaging, and blogging.

## *About Us*

*Mission* **Our mission is to improve the quality of research** by supporting scientists and stimulating interdisciplinary collaboration.

*Team* Director Jacob Wilcock has consulted for Singapore Airlines and Barclays Capital. His business experience includes leading internal projects for several American and European financial institutions. He has lectured in Aviation Safety at Carnegie Mellon University, where he earned a BS and MS in Information Systems.

Ripta Pasay, Director of Technology, brings software engineering expertise from five years of managing Information Architecture at Lunarpages, a leading web hosting company. He has developed college courses in software engineering and designed the electronic medical records database used by Indonesia's largest hospital. He holds degrees in Statistics and Information Systems from Carnegie Mellon University.

## *Implementing Research Connector*

*Product structure* Research Connector is offered as hosted Software as a Service (SaaS) with an annual contract. Locally hosted licenses can be negotiated as well. Annual contracts include support, routine maintenance and software updates.

*Interoperability* Research Connector is flexible: it can easily coexist with current reporting databases, or replace them entirely.

The software can share data with any administrative database using a standard Web Services API. Research Connector can import or export data files in universal formats.

*Security* Research Connector uses all industry standard security protocols including 128-bit SSL encryption and point-in-time backup. Our servers are stored in a secure facility with redundant power and data connections. Research Connector software has undergone external attack and penetration testing and we welcome further security audits from client institutions.

*Continuity* Research Connector was designed to support phased implementations and can be configured as completely redundant and parallel to existing business processes.

We welcome third-party continuity agreements and code escrow services. Clients own their own data, and are welcome to make database backups at any time.