

Research Data Finder: An Institutional Metadata Repository

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Service Vision

Research Data Finder (<http://researchdatafinder.qut.edu.au/>) is the discovery service for research data created or collected by researchers at the Queensland University of Technology. Research Data Finder promotes the visibility of QUT research datasets by displaying descriptions about shareable, reusable datasets.

Using the Registry Interchange Format-Collections and Services (RIF-CS) Schema, interlinked web pages explicitly connect descriptive information about: **datasets**, **researchers** or **research groups**, **projects**, **publications** and **software** or **web services**.

“Users can link from a dataset description to a profile of one of its owners; from there, research projects that the data owner is a participant in can also be found.”

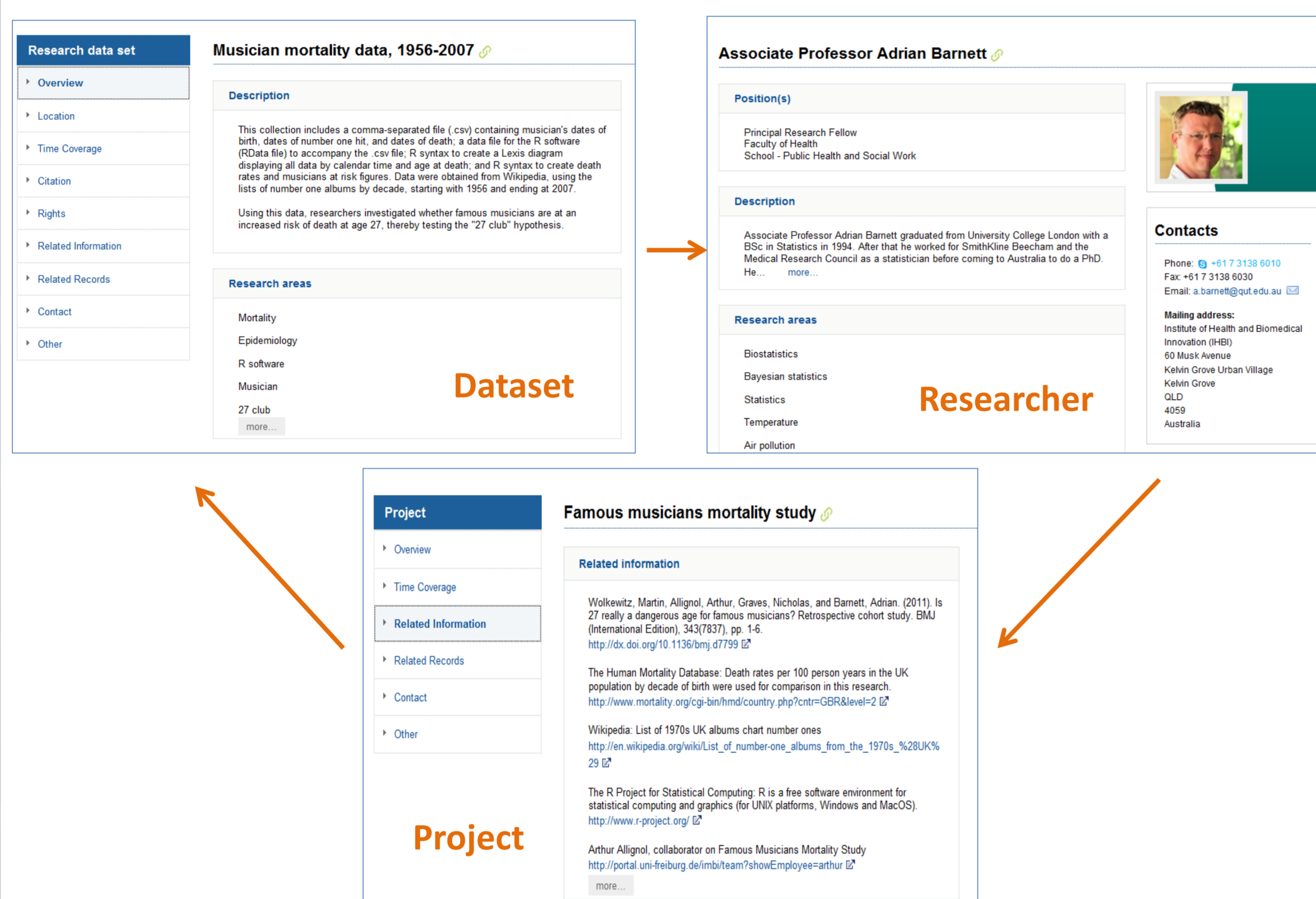


Figure 1. Related Research Data Finder records for the 'Musician Mortality Data, 1956-2007' dataset.

System Integration

Information stored in QUT Research Data Finder is exposed to a wider research audience through selected external harvesters, including the Australian National Data Service (ANDS) (<http://www.ands.org.au/>) through their discovery service, Research Data Australia (RDA) and the National Library of Australia (NLA) through Trove, the NLA's digital information portal, as well as being highly indexed by Google and other search engines.

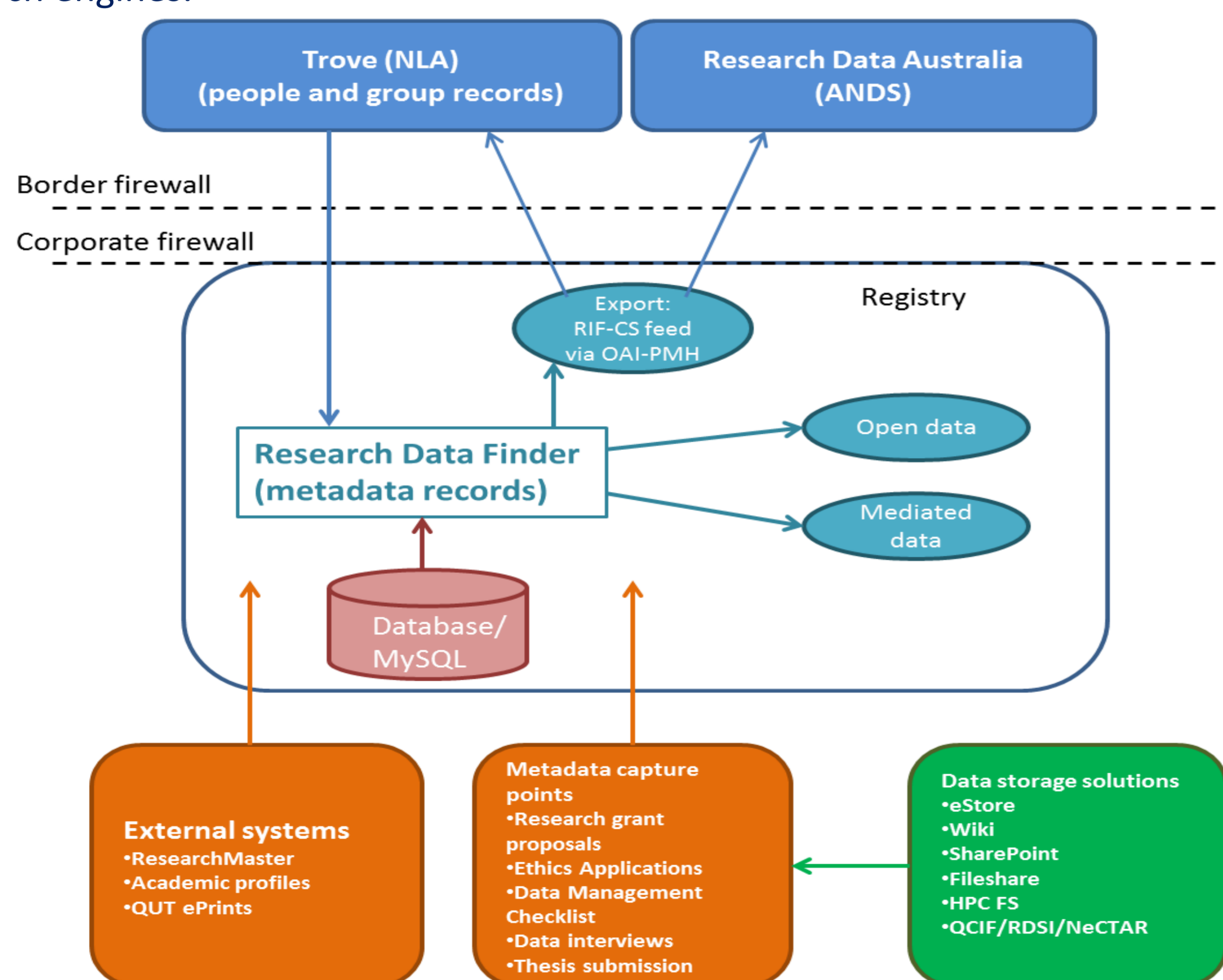


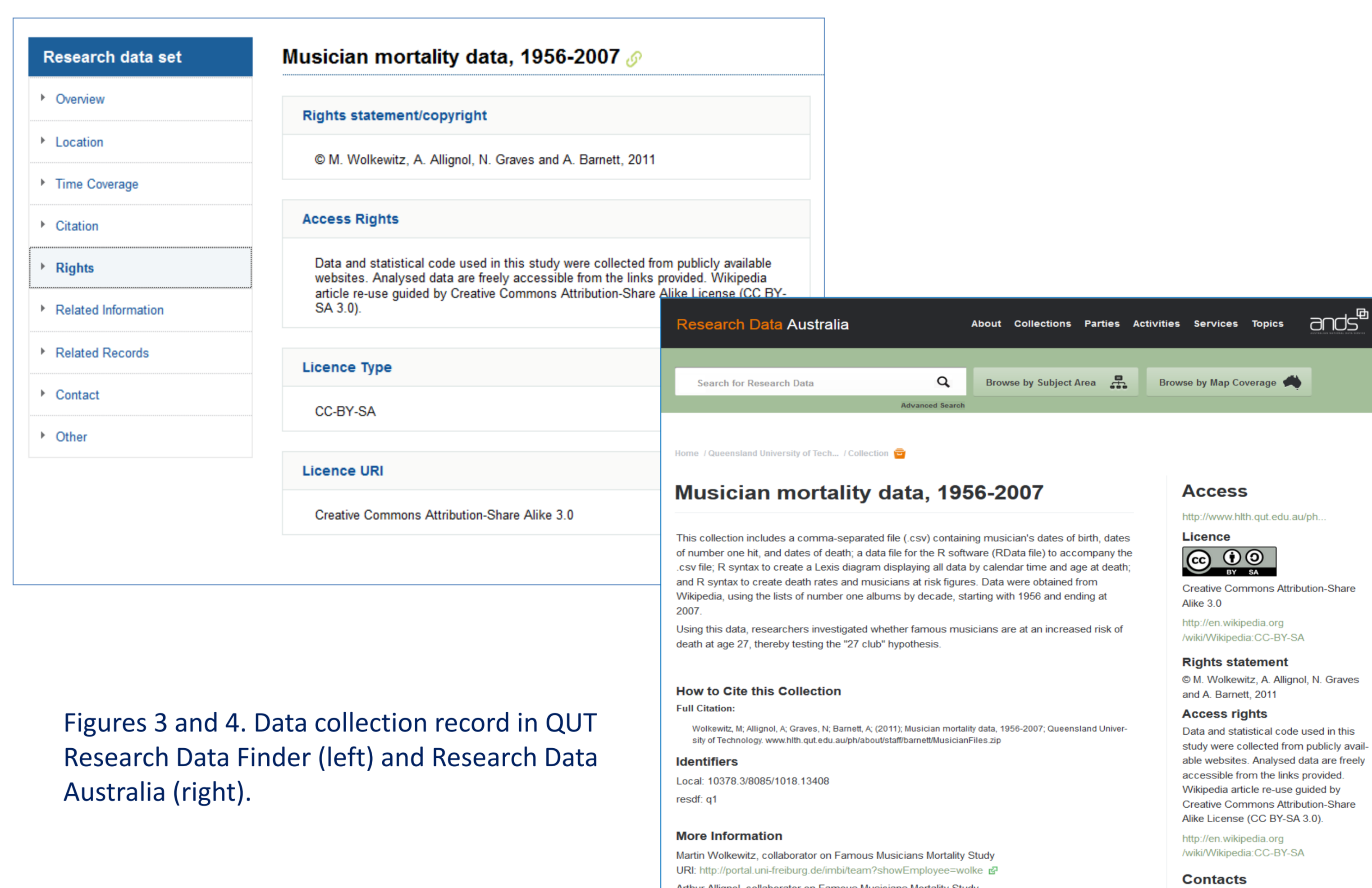
Figure 2. QUT research data architecture

Workflow

Research Data Finder is populated with *research project information* from quarterly reports provided by QUT's Office of Research. The reports contain information on completed grants that were part of the Australian Competitive Grant Register (Category 1 grants), including those funded by Australian Research Council (ARC) and National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

Research Data Finder already contains 1,782 *people records* that were ingested from QUT's Academic Profiles System. Where relevant, the researchers' profiles (people records) have been linked with the completed projects (activity records) to produce 'skeleton' records. The relevant researcher can supplement these records with contextual information, including dataset descriptions and related links e.g. publications.

In addition to these two automated ingests, Liaison Librarians can manually create records within the system. Once records have been published within Research Data Finder, a feed of records is harvested by ANDS and the records displayed in the national dataset discovery service, Research Data Australia (<http://researchdata.ands.org.au/>).



Figures 3 and 4. Data collection record in QUT Research Data Finder (left) and Research Data Australia (right).

Tracking Impact of Datasets

Research Data Finder will enable the University to track the existence and location of research datasets associated with completed QUT research projects. It will promote the visibility of QUT research datasets, by providing descriptions of all datasets, including those that are *shareable* and *reusable*. Similar to our institutional repository, QUT ePrints (<http://eprints.qut.edu.au/>), researchers will self-deposit descriptions of software, code, activities and people/groups related to their research data.

A feature of the registry is its ability to create and assign Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) to datasets. Through dataset DOIs, citation counts can be tracked and counted in a similar way to bibliometrics measures. Data citation statistics, similar to those enabled in the QUT ePrints statistics dashboard (<http://eprints.qut.edu.au/statistics/>) may be used as supporting evidence of impact.

About ANDS

Funded by the Australian Commonwealth Government's Department of Industry, Innovation, Science Research and Tertiary Education (DIISRTE), the Australian National Data Service (ANDS) has been engaged with Australian universities to ensure that research data is better described, more connected, more integrated and organised, more accessible and more easily used for new purposes. One of the chief goals of ANDS is to build the Australian Research Data Commons, a cohesive collection of research data outputs from all Australian research institutions.

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