



talis[®]aspire[™]



shared innovation[™]



A challenging climate



In this period of economic uncertainty and public finance constraints, the demand for higher education continues to grow, with competition for student admissions (and related funding) showing no sign of decreasing.

It is clear that those institutions with a commitment to enhancing the student experience will be best placed to succeed, and that strategies which recognise the growing importance of learner entitlement will enable universities to best respond to this challenging climate. At the same time, UK higher education is looking to strengthen its position as a world leader in both traditional university and online learning offerings, with e-learning a key strategic driver in developing the knowledge economy.

Talis' newly formed Education Division was created to develop technologies that address the entire e-learning life cycle, and that provide seamless access to education resources and pedagogical expertise. Building on over 40 years experience serving the higher education community, we make it our business to keep abreast of national agendas and initiatives, economic challenges and developments in education, so that we can continue to deliver innovative products and services.

Talis Aspire Learning, connected

“As a UK-wide shared service, Talis Aspire will connect academics and students with their peers from other universities, driving collaboration that reaches beyond the institution’s walls.”

Chris Clarke
Programme Manager, Talis Education Division



- Drives the uptake of e-resources with students directed to personalised content
- Simplifies the management of multiple learning resources and list compilation
- Encourages lecturers to take control of reading lists through increased academic and student engagement
- Integrates with existing ICT investments (VLEs, devolved authentication, student records systems, LMS, link resolvers)
- Streamlines library/academic workflows to simplify stock acquisition

Talis Aspire is a shared resource list management system that helps address the challenges currently facing higher education institutions. It overhauls the resource list experience, drives access to online resources, and removes the administrative burden of managing resource lists to improve collaboration between library, faculty and student.

Although technology has helped provide access to learning resources to a diversified student body, significant time is still tied to the maintenance of resource lists - a task frequently devolved to library staff. Talis Aspire simplifies

the compilation and management of resource lists, and facilitates engagement between all stakeholders to support teaching and learning excellence.

With Talis Aspire, academics can simply harvest resources from library catalogues, and also browse the web to automatically import resources from literally millions of e-Journal articles from prestigious sources such as IngentaConnect, Science Direct and SpringerLink.

Talis Aspire integrates with institutional systems such as the VLE, student portal, library

management systems, student registry and devolved authentication systems, helping you to exploit your existing investments. Talis Aspire is a software as a service solution, with no hardware or software to be managed locally, ensuring you benefit from continuous product updates with no service disruption.

Future developments will concentrate on harnessing the collective intelligence within the system, leveraging the connections between resources, lecturers and students to enable collaboration beyond the walls of the institution.

Freedom to realise your potential

The student experience is a key strategic driver across higher education. Talis Aspire delivers a superior resource list experience for students, helping learners to access the right material at the right time - an increasingly significant student satisfaction indicator.

Talis Aspire's modern, uncluttered interface and Web 2.0 capabilities meet the expectations of today's students. Features such as personalised study notes, instructor notes, local library availability and inline purchase options (for online and local campus bookstores) help students engage with their resources.

Through integration with your existing systems, Talis Aspire is a key part of delivering a personalised learning experience in which students see only those resources relevant to their own studies.

As a UK-wide system, Talis Aspire provides new opportunities for users to interact with their peers, supporting teaching and learning excellence.



“Talis Aspire will contribute to learning and teaching excellence. Resource lists go to the heart of the student experience, because they are the most direct way in which academics guide their students through the learning process.”

Mike Berrington

Deputy University Librarian (Customer Services), Nottingham Trent University

“Talis Aspire has proven to be a powerful tool for both staff and students in my faculty. Positive features include the interactivity elements and the possibilities Talis Aspire affords for sharing the development of resources across a wide range of modules.”

Will McBurnie

Acting Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Plymouth

Freedom to optimise

“Effective provision of resources that the lecturer recommends is central to the mission of the library, and Talis Aspire will help us to deliver against this crucial element of our students expectations.”

Lorraine Beard

Head of Information Systems, John Rylands University Library



At a time of shrinking budgets across higher education, it's essential to demonstrate the value that effective e-resource management can add to learning and teaching processes.

With Talis Aspire, you're not just adding a valuable resource list dimension to your portal, VLE or library management system. As an integrated service, Talis Aspire drives the uptake of your e-resources, with students seamlessly directed to relevant content - optimising your existing investment in expensive e-resources.

With libraries under increasing pressure to extend student services and increase strategically important academic liaison activities, Talis Aspire minimises the burden of list maintenance by encouraging lecturers to manage their own resource lists. Along with the reassurance provided by workflows that deliver reliable data for acquisitions, library staff are freed from time-intensive administrative tasks.

“An effective and efficient system is now in place to support a three-way partnership of the library, the academic and the student in the production and management of learning resource lists.”

Rob May

Academic Liaison Team Manager, Nottingham Trent University

Freedom to manage

Talis Aspire's intuitive 'drag and drop' approach empowers lecturers to take control of their learning resources by making it easy to create and maintain their own resource lists, whilst ensuring the library have the critical information necessary to manage stock efficiently.

Talis Aspire removes the reliance on manual input, and enables lecturers - with literally a few mouse clicks - to instantly pull the bibliographic metadata from millions of print and electronic resources. Because Talis Aspire automatically recognises content from library catalogues and e-content providers, lecturers can quickly construct high quality error-free lists.

Of course, enabling lecturers and librarians to focus on their core strengths isn't just about providing the right features. The reporting options that allow library staff to identify the relative importance of resources (and that provide valuable data to feed into acquisition processes) is just one example of how we've worked closely with stakeholders to streamline entire workflows, ensuring the library is able to confidently engage with their faculty colleagues.



“The bookmarking tool in Talis Aspire is a pleasure to use. Not only can I add most resources to the system with a couple of clicks, but I can be sure that the metadata that is automatically harvested is accurate and comprehensive, giving students all the details they need.”

Dr Sharif Mowlabocus
*Lecturer in Media and Digital Media Studies
University of Sussex*



Freedom to integrate

Talis Aspire seamlessly integrates with your existing VLE, student record systems, portals and link resolvers. It also works with all leading library management systems and displays inline purchase options from suppliers such as Amazon, Blackwell and John Smith's campus bookstores to make it easier for students to acquire the books they need.

Talis Aspire is delivered as a software as a service solution, so there are no associated hardware, installation or maintenance costs. As a subscription based service, all benefit from continuous product enhancements, improved security and no service disruption - with SLAs guaranteeing levels of availability.

Talis Aspire uses your institution's SAML-compliant devolved authentication system to provide single Sign-on and integration with the student record and enrollment systems, to present a personalised view of modules and lists tailored for each individual student. In addition, Talis Aspire's local look and feel, systems integration, permissions and data access controls can all be customised to reflect your institution's requirements. You can style the user interface using standard CSS, or use the Talis Design Team's web development and design expertise to ensure your resource list experience is fully integrated with your institutional branding.

Provided that data is supplied in a standard format, we can help you migrate data from your existing reading list and citation manager tools - contact us using aspire@talis.com for more information.

“Talis Aspire gives us a reading list experience that meets the needs of all of our stakeholders: academics, tutors, library staff and most importantly our students.”

*Fiona Grieg
E-Resources Development Manager, University of Plymouth*



Contact Us

If you'd like to find out more about Talis Aspire, and see how it's already transformed the resource list experience for institutions across the country, please visit talis.com/aspire

Here you can:

- Watch videos
- Read case studies
- Browse the FAQs
- Read and comment on the Talis Aspire Blog
- Keep track of the latest Talis Aspire developments
- Sign up for future Talis Aspire events and webinars

Alternatively, please call us on 0870 400 5000, or send an email to aspire@talis.com



talis[®]aspire[™] Learning, connected





Talis
Knights Court
Solihull Parkway
Birmingham Business Park
B37 7YB
United Kingdom
talis.com

Telephone: +44 (0)870 400 5000
Fax: +44 (0)870 400 5001
Sales: +44 (0)870 400 5090
Support: +44 (0)870 400 5400

