Introduction to the Model Comparison Tool
Comments by the Model Refinement Team selected by Russell Consulting, Inc.

Upon conclusion of the second meeting of the PLSR Core Recommendation Collaborators’
group, the PLSR facilitators (Russell Consulting Inc.) requested that a small team attempt to
refine the two hypothetical structural models in such a fashion as to:

1. Create updated names for the models;
2. Incorporate recommended improvements from the CRC meetings into the models, and;
3. Provide the library community with a more effective means to compare the two models.

This “model refinement team” chose to focus its energy on developing a tool that would present
a side-by-side comparison of the two hypothetical models.\(^1\) The tool incorporates the content
from both original model documents along with feedback from the CRC process, and has been
reworded to advance the goals of clarity and comparison. In re-wording content, the refinement
team was requested to avoid introducing new ideas or model content. Both model authors were
consulted during the process of developing the tool for clarification and context, and the
group did its best to incorporate that feedback as clarifying comments and appropriate tweaks to
the language.

The model refinement team was not requested to dive deeply into funding. However, the team
did attempt to address general principles of funding that emerge in the model documentation.
The team anticipates that funding issues will be discussed in greater detail - perhaps facilitated
by the Funding and Cost Standards Subcommittee of Steering - during the PLSR Model
Development Summit and in an ongoing fashion by Steering itself.

Updated name choices for the models - like many of the issues related to PLSR - proved to be
challenging.\(^2\) Ultimately, the group decided that renaming the models as \textit{Model Green} and
\textit{Model Gold} held the most promise, and this is our recommendation.

The model refinement team hopes that this comparison tool will prove useful to the library
community. It is also hoped that this tool can help at the model development summit, and be a
general resource to the steering committee as well. The refinement team encourage everyone
to share feedback through any means available during - and after - the model comment period.

Respectfully submitted,

-The Model Development Team

\(^1\) The reasoning for this choice was twofold. First, the group felt a keen sense of urgency from the library
community that a better means of conceptualizing and comparing the models is needed. Second, creation
of any future narrative versions of the models would be easier if mapped-out in the form of a matrix.
\(^2\) The group chose to stay away from names that could create a perception of preference between the two
models.