Library Workshop

Research Data Management: The Basics

Thursday, November 2
3-4 PM
L950

Presented by Sandra Cowan and Emma Black, U of L Librarians
1. Introductions
2. What is research data?
3. Why is it important to manage your research data?
4. How to get started?
5. Data Management Plan Assistant – hands-on practice
6. Summary and resources
What is research data?

“Data that are used as primary sources to support technical or scientific enquiry, research, scholarship, or artistic activity, and that are used as evidence in the research process and/or are commonly accepted in the research community as necessary to validate research findings and results. All other digital and non-digital content have the potential of becoming research data. Research data may be experimental data, observational data, operational data, third party data, public sector data, monitoring data, processed data, or repurposed data.”

- Casrai Dictionary  http://dictionary.casrai.org/Research_data
  (adopted by Research Data Canada and Tri-council)
What is RDM?

Organization, documentation, storage, preservation, and accessibility of research data throughout the research lifecycle.
Why is it important?

• Find your files
• Keep track of different versions of your data
• Organize and compile information at the end of a project
• Reproduce your work (if required for a journal or patent)
• Pass on your work to another researcher
• Share your work
• Satisfy grant requirements
• Satisfy journal requirements
• Satisfy research ethics board requirements
“The agencies believe that research data collected with the use of public funds belong, to the fullest extent possible, in the public domain and available for reuse by others. They also strongly support the creation of a robust and efficient environment for data stewardship in Canada...” (2016).

http://www.science.gc.ca/eic/site/063.nsf/eng/h_83F7624E.html
Open Data

- From Open Definition, a project of Open Knowledge International:

  “Open data and content can be freely used, modified, and shared by anyone for any purpose”
  - http://opendefinition.org/

What Kinds of Open Data?
How to get started?

Questions to ask:
• What data will you collect or create?
• How will the data be collected or created?
• What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?
• How will you manage any ethical issues?
• How will you manage copyright and intellectual property rights issues?
• How will the data be stored and backed up during research?
• How will you manage access and security?
• Which data should be retained, shared, and/or preserved?
• What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?
• How will you share the data?
• Are any restrictions on data sharing required?
• Who will be responsible for data management?
• What resources will you require to implement your plan?
How to maintain best practices?

Best Practices for Data Management:
- File naming & organization
- Metadata & Documentation
- File Formats
- Get Credit
- Storage & Backup
- Copyright & Intellectual property
- Confidentiality & Privacy
Resources

Sample DMPs:
Digital Curation Centre (UK)
http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resources/data-management-plans/guidance-examples

University of California Curation Center of the California Digital Library
https://dmptool.org/public_dmps

Good practice guides:
Good Enough Research Data Management Guide – Barsky:
Digital Curation Centre Checklist for DMPs:
http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resources/data-management-plans/checklist

Organizing Data:
MIT Data Management: http://libraries.mit.edu/data-management/store/organize
Data Management Plan (DMP) Assistant

https://portagenetwork.ca/
Coming soon...

- **Dataverse North**
  - Community of practice to coordinate data infrastructure using Dataverse system

- **FRDR/DFDR – Federated Research Data Repository**
  - National platform for digital research data management, preservation, and discovery
  - Partnership of CARL, Portage, and Compute Canada
  - Anticipated April 2018
QUESTIONS?