



Princeton University  
**LIBRARY**

# Research Data Management

## Can Librarians Really Help?

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# Research Data Management Lifecycle (UK Data Archive)

What is data management?

Differences among disciplines



# Princeton University

- Undergraduate Enrollment - 5,260
- Graduate Enrollment - 2,845
- Faculty - 1,261
- Student to Faculty Ratio - 5:1
- Areas of Study: Humanities, Natural Sciences, Social Sciences, Engineering and Applied Sciences
- Princeton University Library - 10 branches, over 7 million books



Image Credit: Denise Applewhite  
Princeton Office of Communications

# Data Management Planning

Librarians can:

- Raise awareness on funder mandates and the benefits of planning
- Assist in creating data management plans or recommend templates
- Educate on good data management practices
- Offer customized support for specific projects

# Collecting Data

Librarians can:

- Provide data reference
- Collect, purchase, and license data sets
- Determine best practices for research file organization and naming
- Advise on documentation and data level metadata schema
- Educate or refer on legal or ethical issues with collecting data
- License or support electronic lab notebooks or qualitative tools such as Redcap or Nvivo

# Processing and Analysing

Librarians can:

- License data analysis tools
- Offer training on data analysis methods and visualization
- Advise on data documentation and processing metadata
- Provide guidance or support on storage, back-up, and versioning
- Educate on different software formats for preservation

# Publishing and Sharing

Libraries can:

- Provide and recommend options for publishing and sharing including relevant repositories
- Host and manage open access repository
- Help researchers understand and comply with funder public access mandates
- Curate data
- Assist with public dissemination and marketing of data
- Instruct on data rights management

# Curating/Preserving

Libraries can:

- Offer mid-term and long-term preservation strategies
- Advise on/Monitor file formats
- Generate permanent identifiers for data and files
- Run file identity checks



# Re-using

Librarians can:

- Provide support in Geographic Information Services and GIS data
- License pre-existing data sets
- Collaborate on departmental data archiving policies
- Instruct on data citation
- Educate or refer on legal or ethical issues with collecting data

# Challenges and Opportunities

## **Challenges:**

- Staffing
- Expertise
- Technology

## **Opportunities:**

- Increase library's integration to research
- Development of new courses in MLS programs

## **Opportunities in Princeton University Library:**

- Collaborative mini course for graduate students - January 2018
- Opening for Director of Research Data Services
- Collaboration with other campus partners, such as OIT and Office of Research

## Final Message

- Libraries are able to provide a spectrum of support
- Resources (personnel and monetary) are needed for providing such support
- But you don't have to wait, you can start with basic services and build up from there
- It's never too late to start Data Management Services

## Works Cited

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