The Realities of Research Data Management

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The Realities of Research Data Management

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The Realities of Research Data Management

- Research data: key part of evolving scholarly record
- How universities acquire RDM capacity:
  - Context, influences, choices
- Key decision points:
  - Deciding: 1) to act 2) what to do 3) how to do it
- Case studies:
• Framework
• RDM as a bundle of services
• Scope of the RDM capacity in each of the four universities
• Specific services in each cluster
• Institutional problem to be solved
• Internal and external incentives
• Build or buy? Local or external?
• Below, above or at institution-scale?
Framework
Research Data Management Service Categories

**EDUCATION**
Raise awareness of RDM's importance, encourage RDM skill-building, and disclose RDM tools and resources

**EXPERTISE**
Decision support for, and customized solutions to, specific research data management problems

**CURATION**
Technical infrastructure and related services that support data management throughout the research cycle

“RDM Service Categories” by OCLC Research, from The Realities of Research Data Management, Part One: A Tour of the Research Data Management (RDM) Service Space (https://doi.org/10.25333/C3PG8J), CC BY 4.0
“... it is important to emphasize that full coverage of all three components of our RDM framework should not necessarily be the goal of every institution setting out to acquire RDM capacity; nor should the lack of services in one or more categories be construed as a mark against the quality of RDM support at a particular institution.”
"RDM Service Bundle Highlights" by OCLC Research, from The Realities of Research Data Management Part Two: Scoping the University RDM Service Bundle (https://doi.org/10.25333/C3PG8J), CC BY 4.0
RDM Service Bundle Highlights
University of Edinburgh

EDUCATION
MANTRA
Courses & Workshops
RDM MOOC
Customized Training

EXPERTISE
General Email Contact Point
Staff Contact Information
Digital Curation Centre

RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT

CURATION
DataStore
DataVault
DataSync
Pure
DataShare
“RDM is not a monolithic set of services duplicated across universities; it is a customized solution shaped by a range of internal and external factors operating on local decision-making.”
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PART THREE

Incentives for Building University RDM Services

Rebecca Bryant, Brian Lavoie, and Constance Malpas

Incentives
Compliance with external policies is a strong driver in some locales.

Evolving scholarly norms are not uniform, disciplinary diversity is also a challenge.

Institutions built services in anticipation of rather than response to researcher demands.

Developing RDM expertise may be part of an institutional strategy to increase library support for research workflows.

“Incentives to Acquire RDM Capacity” by OCLC Research, from The Realities of Research Data Management Part Three: Incentives for Building University RDM Services (https://doi.org/10.25333/C3562F), CC BY 4.0
“An RDM service bundle includes not just what is built and deployed locally, but the full range of services, sourced locally and externally, that the institution manages, or to which it brokers access.”
Framing Sourcing and Scaling Choices for RDM Services

RDM Service

4TU.DataCentre
DANS-EASY
Pure/NARCIS

DMP review and consultation

Education in partnership with Graduate Schools
Framing Sourcing and Scaling Choices for RDM Services

- Data Curation Network
- Customized DMPTool
- Illinois Data Bank

SCALING (consumption)

SOURCING (provision)

RDM Service

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Strategic Sourcing of RDM Capacity in Four Case Study Universities

- **Build**
  - Maximize control, customization

- **Partner**
  - Share development costs, scale expertise

- **Buy**
  - Manage costs, relinquish some control
“It would be a mistake to imagine that there is a single, best model of RDM service capacity, or a simple roadmap to acquiring it.

The appropriate value-maximizing strategy for institutions of different types … will vary; choices about sourcing RDM capacity and scaling its deployment will inevitably be driven by local institutional incentives.”
Thank you.

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