Virginia Data Management Bootcamp: A Collaborative Initiative in Data Education

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Virginia Data Management Bootcamp: A Collaborative Initiative in Data Education

Presented by Margaret Henderson, Virginia Commonwealth University

The first Bootcamp was a partnership between University of Virginia and Virginia Tech. The university libraries at these two research universities took the lead, and built partnerships with groups outside of the libraries, to design and offer a Bootcamp to educate early career researchers about issues and best practices in research data management.

Since the first Bootcamp in 2013, it has grown from the original two institutions to now include, in 2015, five additional institutions: George Mason University, James Madison University, Old Dominion University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the College of William & Mary. The group has grown as librarians share information at local and national meetings, and as libraries add data librarians or data responsibilities to existing positions, there are more people able to join in the teaching and organizing.

Attendance has grown as well.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bootcamp Attendance: 2013-2015</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>BOOTCAMP</strong></td>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td>2014</td>
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<td>2015</td>
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**Challenges**
- Coordinating technology in 7 locations – presentation, transmission, shared documents.
- Finding the right mix of sessions and levels to interest a mixed group of attendees.

**Opportunities**
- Share expertise.
- Librarians learn from each other and can compare resources.
- Students have a variety of topics and presenters.

**Conclusions**
Clearly, the Virginia Data Management Bootcamp presents a successful case in which multiple institutions collaboratively engage in developing and offering data education.

**2013**
University of Virginia
Virginia Tech

**Day 1**
Graduate Student Research Lifecycle
Understanding Research Data
Data Management Plans
Organizing Data
File Formats/Transformation

**Day 2**
Documentation and Metadata
Storage and Security
Data protection/rights/access
Preservation/sharing/licensing

2014
UVA and VT
George Mason University
James Madison University
Old Dominion University

**Day 1**
What is Data/Why Manage Data/Why Share Data/Barriers to Sharing
Researcher testimonial
How to think about managing data
Workbook Overview
Operational Data Management
Organizing data
Documentation/ metadata

**Day 2**
File Formats/ Transformation
Storage/Security/Encryption
Funding + DMP Tool
Rights and Licensing
Protection, Privacy, Confidentiality (de-identification)
Preservation and Sharing

2015
UVA, VT, JMU, GMU, ODU
Virginia Commonwealth University
College of William & Mary

**Day 1 afternoon**
local intro before 1 pm “What is research data?”
Finding data (data reuse)
Metadata & Documentation
Why Data Management is Important

**Day 2**
Intellectual Property
Scholarly Communication: Creative Commons, Fair Use
Organization
Data Wrangling
Version Control & Cloud Storage
Database Session

**Day 3, morning**
Archiving and Preservation
DMPTool
Local wrap up and possible data consultations

**Future**

**2016**

Additions?
Planning starts with new organizing committee in April 2015.

Considerations
Each year, the participants have been surveyed after Bootcamp to assess the usefulness of the camp as well as the various sessions. Of course some respondents say a particular session is too detailed, while others love it, or think it isn’t enough.

Based on evaluation results, topics have been added and more hands-on exercises are now included.

Time for local sessions has been built in to allow for explanation of institutional resources for data management.

**Bootcamp organizers:** Andrea Denton, Sherry Lake, and Andrew Sallans, University of Virginia; Andi Ogier, Virginia Tech; Debby Kermer, Wendy Mann, and Joy Suh, George Mason University; Yasmeen Shorish and K.T. Vaughan, James Madison University; George J. Fowler and Topher Lawton, Old Dominion University; Margaret Henderson, Virginia Commonwealth University; Lauren Goode, College of William & Mary