A Hands-On Metadata Workshop for Research Data Management

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Zachary W. Painter, Dawn E. Gross, Elizabeth M. Winiarz
Claire T. Carney Library

2015 Objectives
2014 Library began reviewing Data Management Plans.
2015 Library offered Data Management Workshop Series

2016 Objectives
To focus on the areas where researchers expressed greatest need – such as metadata.
Offer individually marketed classes, meaning less pressure to commit to a full series from which we expect wider and greater attendance.

2015 Results
The 2015 courses had poor attendance; possibly due to scheduling, time constraints, or material covered.
A critique was that lessons were too broad and theoretical rather than a hands-on activity.

2016 Materials and Methods
Learners will be provided a sample data set for the in-class activities. After a brief lecture, the class will import their dataset into OpenRefine.
Once the data has been cleaned, participants will be given a Dublin Core reference handout. After demonstrating how to document and structure fields, participants will have approximately 30 minutes left to apply the concepts to their own datasets.

2016 (Expected) Results

Conclusions
Dublin Core was a natural choice for an introductory, general audience workshop.
Cross-department collaboration is a key to success, with two different liaison librarians and a cataloger for content expertise.

References
New England Collaborative Data Management Curriculum Editor: Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School
http://library.umassmed.edu/necdmc/index

Dublin Core User Guide Contributors: Stefanie Rühle, Tom Baker, Pete Johnston

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