Teaching Research Data Management: An Undergraduate/Graduate Curriculum

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Learning Objectives
• Identify the types of data
• Identify the various ownership levels of research data
• Describe the typical data life cycle
• Categorize data storage requirements in terms of size/amounts
• Evaluate and appraise data publishing and storage options
• Indicate the various descriptors of raw data
• Record project identifiers for specific research data
• Define various naming conventions
• Recognize data format importance for long-term access needs
• List and select various ways to assure the security of their data
• Recognize data privacy requirements
• Identify data sharing and reporting requirements

Project Overview
With funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the University of Massachusetts Medical School Library and Worcester Polytechnic Institute Library collaborated on a plan to expand the scope of science library practices and promote, among medical and graduate and undergraduate science students, the preservation of scientific data in relevant repositories and archives. This poster outlines curriculum frameworks and learning needs for research data management instruction that can be delivered through a variety of methods. Individual modules are based on faculty and student interviews, as well as a comprehensive literature review.

Mix and Match Modules to Meet Researcher Needs

Undergrad Working on First Research Project
New Graduate Student in a Lab
Librarian Leads Workshop For New Faculty
Medical Student Collects Personal Data

LEARNING MODULES

Introduction
The data management module focuses on various forms of data and the plan of the researcher to collect, store, retrieve and disseminate their data to collaborators according to policies and standards.

Security
This module employs various measures to establish adequate data integrity and protection. Including: keeping data safe from corruption and insuring that access to it is suitably controlled.

Sharing
Gaining timely access to data for scholarly research from any computer using a simple, universal set of protocols and formats — while respecting policies of funding agencies, institutions and publication venues.

Describing & Accessing
This module covers the creation of descriptive, structural or administrative metadata for researchers’ data with an emphasis on deciding how or who will create the metadata for a given set of research data.

Privacy & Restrictions
Information privacy and the relationship between the collection and dissemination of personally identifiable data are covered in this module.

Life Cycle
Appropriate life cycles of specific research data are discussed in this module, along with the different time-dependent values of data and its management in different phases of its life cycle.

Naming Conventions
This module covers the importance of rules which when applied to data, could result in a set of data elements which are described in a standardized and logical fashion.

Storage
Coding of words, descriptions, figures, still or moving images, and sounds into digital format and onto an array of repositories that can be accessed by authorized users with standard search protocols.

Project Team
Steering Committee
UMMS: Elaine Martin, D.A.; Mary Plourde and Donna Kafel (Project Manager) WPI: Tracy Leiper-Homby and Siamak Najafi

Education Committee
UMMS: Lisa Palmer, Myrna Morales, David Lapointe and Patricia Franklin; WPI: Christine Drew, Laura Hanlan, Glenn Gaudette, John Sullivan and Erica Stokes

External Consultants

Project Sponsors

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