Curating Research Data in DRUM: A workflow and distributed staffing model for institutional data repositories

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Curating Research Data in DRUM
A workflow and distributed staffing model for institutional data repositories

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**DRUM Submission Workflow**

- U of M researcher submits their data to DRUM using a custom submission workflow in Dspace.
- DRUM coordinator receives notification and performs pre-acceptance appraisal.
- Coordinator determines the type/discipline of data and assigns the submission to the appropriate DRUM curator.
- Data curators open and review files. Detect missing information, validate software code, and create custom documentation.
- Curators work closely with the author to augment the files and bring in the library liaison as needed.
- Curators finalize the submission in DRUM and publish the dataset with a DataCite DOI.

**Data Repository for the University of Minnesota (DRUM) [http://z.umn.edu/drumposter](http://z.umn.edu/drumposter)**

- Open access IR-based data repository
- Beta launch November 2014
- Official campus launch March 2015
- Accepts datasets from our large and diverse academic community (no fees)
- All datasets are curated based on established procedures\(^1\)
- DRUM staffed by a distributed staffing model for data curation of the wide variety of data sets.

**Distributed Data Curation**

Curators are assigned incoming submission based on subject area and data type; they review the data for usability and quality issues and work directly with the data authors to enrich the submission. Curation skills include generating custom metadata, arrangement and description of the objects, software-specific expertise, and file transformation for preservation needs.

**Curated DRUM Submissions (Blue) vs. Uncurated Dataset Holding in Institutional Repository (Red) by Publication Date**

**Feedback from DRUM Submitters Post-Curation (n=17)**

- Allow others free access
- Obtain persistent link
- Long-term preservation
- Curation assistance
- Full-text discoverability
- Track download statistics
- Monitor access to data
- Fulfill grant requirements
- Add CC License
- Would you recommend DRUM to a colleague at the U of M?
- Preparing the files for upload
- Preparing data documentation

**Reference**


**Conclusion**

An institutional data repository has the burden of collecting a diverse array of digital data, but, with appropriate staffing and careful procedures, each dataset (regardless of its’ distinctiveness) can be enriched for dissemination and reuse.