Apr 9th, 12:00 AM

A Comparison of Student and Faculty Attitudes on the Management and Sharing of Research Data at UMMS

Rebecca Reznik-Zellen  
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Lisa A. Palmer  
University of Massachusetts Medical School

Nancy E. Harger  
University of Massachusetts Medical School

See next page for additional authors

Follow this and additional works at: https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/escience_symposium

Part of the Scholarly Communication Commons

Repository Citation

This material is brought to you by eScholarship@UMMS. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Massachusetts and New England Area Librarian e-Science Symposium by an authorized administrator of eScholarship@UMMS. For more information, please contact Lisa.Palmer@umassmed.edu.
Presenter Information
Rebecca Reznik-Zellen, Lisa A. Palmer, Nancy E. Harger, Sally A. Gore, and Donna Kafel

Keywords
Research Data Management, Data Sharing

Comments
This poster was awarded "Best Overall" at the 2015 e-Science Symposium.

Creative Commons License
This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-Share Alike 3.0 License.

Rights and Permissions
Copyright the Author(s)

This poster is available at eScholarship@UMMS: https://escholarship.umassmed.edu/escience_symposium/2015/posters/14
A Comparison of Student and Faculty Attitudes on the Management and Sharing of Research Data at UMMS

Rebecca Reznik-Zellen, Lisa Palmer, Donna Kafel, Sally Gore, Nancy Harger -- Lamar Soutter Library, University of Massachusetts Medical School

Objectives & Method
In the Spring 2014, the Lamar Soutter Library distributed a survey to UMMS medical and graduate students to gauge their attitudes toward and awareness of research data management best practices. Similarly, in the Fall of 2014 and using the student instrument as a guide, the library surveyed UMMS faculty to gauge their attitudes and practices around research data management. Using both of these sources of data, we compared student and faculty attitudes on the management and sharing of research data at UMMS. Our goal was to identify differences in attitude between students and faculty as well as common areas of need among them.

Demographics
The response rate for students was 12.6% (n=141). Of these respondents, 58% reported that they are actively involved in research. The response rate for faculty was <1% (n=84). Of these respondents, 61% report that their primary responsibility is to conduct research.

Results
Average self-score (1-100 scale) for familiarity with Data Management Activities:

- Faculty: 68.36
- Students: 57.15

Average self-score (1-100 scale) for awareness of Data Management Best Practices:

- Faculty: 49.91
- Students: 41.09

Time Spent on Data Management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Spent</th>
<th>Faculty (n=84)</th>
<th>Students (n=140)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt;10 hours per week</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-10 hours per week</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1 hour per week</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-5 hours per week</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Management Challenges

- Submitting data: 52% (Faculty), 55% (Students)
- Versioning: 26% (Faculty), 29% (Students)
- Locating/retrieving files: 50% (Faculty), 51% (Students)
- Security: 57% (Faculty), 58% (Students)
- Writing DMPs/planning: 56% (Faculty), 59% (Students)
- Sharing: 53% (Faculty), 55% (Students)
- Preserving/archiving: 52% (Faculty), 54% (Students)
- Collecting: 55% (Faculty), 58% (Students)
- Documenting/describing: 51% (Faculty), 53% (Students)
- Storing/backing up: 49% (Faculty), 51% (Students)

Data Management Training Topics

- Locating/retrieving files: 57% (Faculty), 60% (Students)
- Versioning: 26% (Faculty), 29% (Students)
- Submitting data: 42% (Faculty), 45% (Students)
- Security: 57% (Faculty), 58% (Students)
- Writing DMPs/planning: 56% (Faculty), 59% (Students)
- Collecting: 55% (Faculty), 58% (Students)
- Preserving/archiving: 52% (Faculty), 54% (Students)
- Documenting/describing: 51% (Faculty), 53% (Students)
- Storing/backing up: 49% (Faculty), 51% (Students)

Conclusion
Faculty and student responses to data management surveys at UMMS point to potential service areas for data management support and opportunities for institutional collaboration. This feedback has been instrumental in informing the library’s Strategic Agenda for Library-based Research Data Support Services.

For example, data management education emerged as a strategic area due to the lack of uniformity of training opportunities and the lack of training received by students. To this end, the library has developed two training tools: a for-credit Flexible Clinical Experience elective offered through the School of Medicine on “Research Data Management Fundamentals,” and an online instruction tutorial developed with the Quantitative Methods Core on preparing “Analysis-Ready Data Sets” (beta).

To continue to build on the environmental data that we have collected, future research might include a survey of lab-specific data management practices and training procedures, and a more detailed investigation into the data management practices of the students who report being actively involved in research.

Where questions were unaltered between the two surveys, combined results are shown; where questions were modified between the two groups, results are shown for each group.