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Keynote Presentation: Data Work: Research Data Services in Canada & the U.S.

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Data Work: research data services in Canada & the U.S.

UMASS & New England Area Librarian e-Science Symposium
April 6, 2016

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## Research Data Services Surveys & Scans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Formation</th>
<th>Web, What is Covered</th>
<th>Admin, RDS Services Offered</th>
<th>Librarians, RDS roles</th>
<th>Researchers, What they want</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Data Policies</td>
<td>RDS Strategic Plan</td>
<td>Policy &amp; Advocacy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Outreach</td>
<td>Consultation &amp; Instruction (DMP, etc.)</td>
<td>Information Consultation (DMP, metadata, reference, training)</td>
<td>Support &amp; Training (librarians &amp; researchers)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Analysis &amp; Training</td>
<td>Processing &amp; Analysis</td>
<td>Technical Services (RDS systems, preparing de</td>
<td>Auditing &amp; Data Repository (technical support)</td>
<td>2/3+ preserve, organize and manage their own data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tools &amp; Infrastructure</td>
<td>Deposit, Repositories, Storage</td>
<td>Storage, Archiving, Preservation</td>
<td>De-accessioning Data</td>
<td>10% or less rely on libraries (&amp; publishers)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collaborations (internal &amp; external, regional)</td>
<td>DMPtool/builder (shared tool)</td>
<td>RDS &amp; Research Collaboration</td>
<td>Research Collaborator</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Tenopir/ACRL 2012, 2015  
3. Gold 2007  
4. Cox & Pinfield 2013 UK focus  
5. ITHAKA S&R 2016 Straumsheim & Schonfeld 2016
Data Service or Data Collaboration?

- **Data Service**
  - emphasizes & privileges central role of certain types of
    - traditional research &
    - researchers in academia

- **Data Collaboration**
  - emphasizes & privileges central role of certain types of
    - traditional research & potentially emergent forms and digital methodologies
    - librarians as researchers in academia
    - OR as data workers contributing something of different buy equal value (curation, digital platform or database creation, etc.)

For more on influence of this shift within DH and T&P, value of ‘data curation’ projects see Siddiqui N. (2015) *Data Assemblages: A Call to Conceptualize Materiality in the Academic Ecosystem* in DHQ: Digital Humanities Quarterly, 9(2).
Other Models of Collaboration

Digital Scholarship or Humanities Centers
Archives & Special Collections
Researcher/Society Databases & Data Collections
Museum Collections Data Liberation Initiative
Social Science Data Archives
What is Digital Infrastructure? How Does Infrastructure Impact Research?

- Industry/Corporations
- Professional Associations
- Super Computing
- Data/Digital Laborors
- Legal & Policy Frameworks
- Fiber-optic Networks
- Electric Grid
- Regional Consortia
- National Funders
- Data / Knowledge Workers
Political & Economic Context

- National Funders
- Science & Educational Policy
- Globalization 2.0

- Fall of Berlin Wall
- Culture Wars

- OECD Signatories
- Neoliberal Governance
- Reagonomics

- Deregulation
- Open Access Movement

- International Treaties
- Transnational ‘Entities’
Futures?

• More People, Professions, Interests
• Context & Scale
• Political and Economic Factors
• Privacy and Data Ethics
• Data as commodity
• Data Work/Digital Labor
• Power Relations in Infrastructure and Data Assemblages
Who defines the problem and decides on the solution? Who is missing from the conversation?
Works cited


Kouper, Inna et. al. (forthcoming) (Research Data Services Maturity in Academic Libraries.


Thank you!

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