Research Support at University of North Carolina at Greensboro:

Research Support Without a Research and Data Support Coordinator



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Why Reassess Data Services?

- Substantial population Over 17,000 students and 2,500 faculty and staff
- Substantial activity Carnegie "high research" classification, \$35 million in grants awarded annually
- Increase in data management plan requirements from funding agencies
- 2013 Faculty Research Survey showed unmet faculty needs:
 - Data storage
 - Meeting requirements for data sharing
 - Assistance with DMPs
 - Cost estimates for data storage and retrieval
 - Applying metadata to research data
- Loss of dedicated Data Support Librarian position







What Have We Been Doing?

Data Services/Government Info Librarian has been the main point person, with Metadata Cataloger

- Data Management LibGuide
- Consulting with Faculty about Data Services
- Raising awareness of IR (NC DOCKS)
- Interacting with external entities, eg Odum Institute
- Advising on metadata for data sets



Consulting with Faculty but more passive- done when requested. Raising awareness by attending and presenting at departmental faculty meetings. Odum Institute has partnership with NC Docks- allows storage of data





Meetings with Departments

- Liaisons met with individual departments to determine:
 - Data management needs
 - Storage and archival practices
 - Data Management Plan procedures
- Many need help with:
 - DMPs and DMP tools
 - Data storage suggestions/space
 - Identifying available internal and external services
 - Best practices in storage/naming conventions



Questions on Data Support for Science Departments

- What kinds of secondary data do you need/use, and have you had any issues finding or
- · What kinds of format/data types are you using? (ie. images, spreadsheets, databases, genetic data, etc)
- About what size are these data sets you produce? Gigabytes? <u>Terrabytes</u>?
- Where do you store data during the project? How often are backups made?
- · What methods do you use to organize the data?
- · Where do you store data after the research is completed?
- · How long do you plan to keep your data?
- Do your funding agencies require data management plans?
- Are you involved with the generation of data management plans? If so, do you use any kind of data management plan tools?
- . Who else assists faculty and researchers in your department?
- . Do you share your data inside/outside the institution? If so, how do you do it? If not,
- · What services can the library provide?





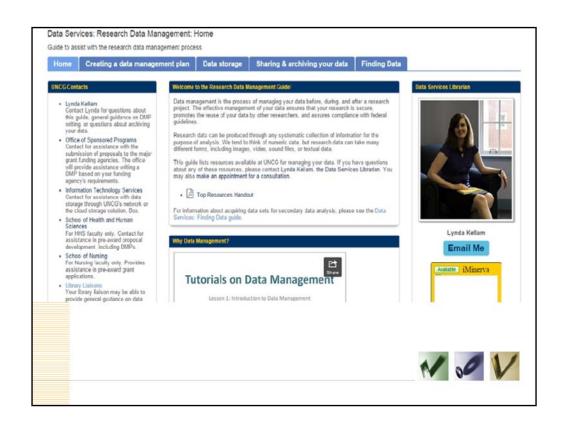


Initiatives

- Identifying and building relationships with campus entities already offering data management services (campus IT, departments, research and grants people)
- Enhancing Data Management LibGuide
- Building data services skills in liaisons
- Identifying and recommending storage solutions and best practices
- Exploring Tiered Triage model



Train/educate fellow liaisons about the support services likely to be available and the needs of their researchers so that they can be point people for their assigned liaison units. Lynda and Anna planned next tier of support. In planning process.



Challenges

- No clear campus-wide data support structure
 - Campus-wide services for research integrity, research grants, and some research computing
 - Other services vary by school
- Varying levels of faculty awareness of:
 - Support structures
 - Requirements of funding agencies
 - Best practices for data management
- Some hesitation to share research data
- Substantial staff time and expertise needed



Embargos vital for protecting research, dichotomy between need to keep research in a silo and funding requirements of agencies. Mention Box, which is IN PROCESS. IRB, grants, and "research computing" (ITS already offers consultations to researchers about their computing needs) Substantial staff time and expertise needed to meet some of the data support needs expressed by faculty

Conclusions

- Data services increasingly important to researchers
- Must assess researcher needs before implementing data support services
- Identify/partner with internal and external entities
- Liaisons can play vital front line advisory role
- Service model must be sustainable
- Keep in mind that health sciences researchers have additional legal and ethical challenges in sharing data



Thank you! Questions? Contact: Karen Grigg ksgrigg@uncg.edu Lea Leininger laleinin@uncg.edu