



University of Pittsburgh

# Research Data Management at the University of Pittsburgh

Aaron L. Brenner

University Library System

@abrennr





# 2015-16: University-Level Data Management Committee Work

## Provost calls for Community Action on Research Data Management

The Provost has announced the creation of a new research Data Management Committee (DMC) which is charged with *"the mission of informing and catalyzing the university community in data management, sharing, and preservation"*. The Committee members comprise experts from a range of institutional research data stakeholder units including the Office of Research, Computing Services & Systems Development (CSSD), University Library System, Health Sciences Library System, School of Information Sciences, Department of Biomedical Informatics, and faculty representatives from the Department of Computer Science, School of Law and the University Center for Social & Urban Research.

<https://rdmc.pitt.edu/>



# RDM Stakeholders and Service Providers @ Pitt

- Computing Services & Systems Development (Enterprise IT)
- University Library System / Health Sciences Library System
- Office of Research
- School of Information Sciences
- Department of Computer Science
- Department of Biomedical Informatics
- School of Medicine
- Graduate School of Public Health
- University Center for Social and Urban Research
- Center for Simulation & Modelling
- Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center
- More...



# Data Management Components *i.e.*, what we hope to provide

1. Governance and Policy
2. RDM Support Staff
3. Computer Networks and Cybersecurity
4. Integrated Electronic Systems for Research Administration
5. Data Management Plans (DMPs)
6. Metadata Services
7. Active Data Storage
8. Data Analysis, Workflow & Visualization
9. Data Sharing and Reuse
10. Data Repository and Long-term Preservation
11. Data Management Advocacy and Education



Data Infrastructure Component	Awareness	Implementation & Deployment	Adoption	Comments
CRIS	Yellow	Red	Red	Under discussion
DMPT Tool	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	In progress
Box storage (small scale) sharing	Green	Green	green	
Storage (large scale)	Red	Red	Red	
Data Catalogue	Red	Red	red	
Metadata schema / ontologies	Red	Red	red	No institutional data schema in place; disciplinary standards present in some areas
Analysis tools	Green (everyone knows this is needed)			Check licensing arrangements
Visualization tools	Yellow	Red	Red	
DOIs	Yellow	Red	Red	
Deposit	Red	Red	Red	
Repository/ preservation	Red	Red	Red	Noted as a major gap 
Tracking tools	Red	Red	Red	
Training	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	4 classes offered by HSLs
Advocacy/ guides	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	In development by ULS, HSLs, CSSD



# What we heard:

- Landscape is fractured, awareness of some services is low and people are not sure where to seek help
- Low levels of data sharing: 33% sharing to others, 17% making data public
- More to do on storage infrastructure, but especially with personnel support
- Desire for “systematic training” and guidance for researchers, faculty, and students...
- ... but Researchers are wary of having procedures imposed on them
- Researchers are influenced by what their peers are doing, want to see examples/exemplars
- Researchers don’t have enough budget for data management and feel the University doesn’t subsidize it enough
- The term “data management” means different things to different people



## Some of What we recommended:

- Institutional RDM Policy
- Centralized front-end that coordinates the many service providers
- Embed RDM in research management administration
- More information gathering to support active data infrastructure
- Incorporate data publications and sharing into P&T process
- Embed RDM training into graduate programs across disciplines