

**RUresearch Data Team
Meeting Notes**

Thursday, August 15, 2013

Present: Kalaivani Ananthan, Isaiah Beard, Bonnie Fong, Karen Hartman, Ron Jantz, Rhonda Marker, Aletia Morgan, Jane Otto, Ann Watkins, Ryan Womack

1. **ARL SPEC Kit 334.** For those in the group who hadn't seen it yet, Ryan introduced the recently published ARL Spec Kit 334 covering the state of Research Data Management Services in academic libraries. The documents can be viewed or downloaded (at least on campus) at <http://publications.arl.org/ResearchData-Management-Services-SPEC-Kit-334/>. The document includes several detailed reviews of the various aspects of research data services, including organization structures, policies, staffing levels, data management planning services, and data repository resources. The document is based on the survey responses of 73 of the 125 ARL member libraries. Apparently, no survey response was submitted from Rutgers. Aletia is investigating who receives these notices from ARL. A similar survey of ARL institutions was conducted in 2010, and since it is likely that there will be another in the future, we want to make sure we participate in the next round.
2. **Update and Discussion on RUresearch Data Deposit Service Status.** Ryan and Aletia described the conversations that have taken place over the Spring and Summer to craft an RUcore deposit agreement for data. This question expanded to the question of general copyright and ownership of research data generated by Rutgers faculty researchers, and how that question relates to the ability of RUL and RUresearch to work with faculty. During those conversations, the existing and planned RUresearch processes were reviewed with Janice Pilch, RUL Copyright Librarian, who has then been working with Elizabeth Minott in the Office of the General Counsel to clarify whether to ensure that the RUL has the right to act as a depository for Rutgers-generated research data. Additionally, we discussed whether the policy issues could be simplified by limiting our activities to what Ryan and Aletia have been calling a "Basic" service model, one that is consistent with the simple project type that was approved for a streamlined review by RUL Cabinet in April. While these might avoid a detailed project review, the questions of ownership and validation of RUcore as a depository still remain. At this time, Elizabeth Minott of the OGC has determined that the university must create a university data policy that would clarify the ownership and preservation requirements and practices. With the arrival of the ARL SPEC Kit (see #1), Janice shared the document with Elizabeth, and they have identified the Johns Hopkins Univ. data

policy shared by Johns Hopkins as a possible model for a Rutgers policy. It was noted during the discussion on this topic that while we should be encouraging the development of institutional policies for research data, there is concern that we should not hold back on our services until such a policy is in place. The SPEC Kit survey appears to show that institutions are moving forward with preserving research data regardless of the state of institutional policies. Nearly 55% of respondents are actively preserving research data, while only 22% have such a data policy in place as of the date of the survey.

- 3. Planning for Fall activities.** Ryan described the on “Best Practices for Data Management” training he is planning to deliver in October. We should review this content, and work on making such training available more broadly. We are planning to review our services and resources with the new Senior Vice President for Research, Chris Molloy, and perhaps he can endorse a program of Data Management training from RUL.

Additionally, pending the development of a Deposit Agreement for data submissions to the RUcore Research Data Portal, Ryan will meet with Marianne Gaunt to review our existing commitments to various faculty members regarding the preservation of their research data, as well as to review the question of whether we should be modifying our current web site content. We will hear more about this.

- 4. Expansion of RUresearch Data Team Membership.** When the RUresearch Data Team was organized in 2011, all members completed the Metadata Training course that was organized by Grace Agnew and Ryan. Since then, we have had a new Chemistry librarian join RUL with a specific charge to support research data, while the UMDNJ merger includes two librarians who have an interest in Research Data. After some discussion, it was agreed that we should bring this up at the next CISC meeting, and assuming general agreement, invite these individuals to participate in the RUresearch Data Team with the expectation that in the near future some new training will be made available to them.

- 5. Next Meetings.** All agreed to continue the current schedule of meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month, at least through the calendar year.

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