

RUresearch Data Team

Minutes of November 20, 2014 Meeting

Present: Isaiah Beard, John Brennan, Bonnie Fong, Yu-hung Lin, Chad Mills, Aletia Morgan, Laura Mullen, Laura Palumbo, Minglu Wang, Ann Watkins, Mary Beth Weber, Ryan Womack, Yingting Zhang

1. Report on RUL Data Task Force

Laura Palumbo updated the group on the progress of the Data Task Force. The group's interim report was submitted to Cabinet. Based on a thorough review of 37 peer institutions, the report summarizes the current state of research data services across the US. Cabinet expressed a preference for mediated deposit of data, although most peers provide self-deposit for data. The Task Force's final report will be completed in December, and the final version will be shared with the group.

2. Discussion of Marketing and Social Media

The group has a blog address and a twitter account under the name rutgersdata. These have been essentially dormant awaiting further developments in research data. The group discussed whether to use these or other social media to communicate. Blogs were felt to require more organized, consistent, and sustained communication to be effective. Blogging should also be coordinated with SOAR and other scholarly communication initiatives for a coherent message. For these reasons, the group felt that it was not time yet to begin blogging activity specifically for research data.

On the other hand, the use of the twitter account was felt to be more of a lightweight and flexible communications activity. The rutgersdata name was considered to be appropriate. Ryan will investigate social media policies and develop a guidelines document for the scope of what might fall under rutgersdata and share the account information with the group. Group members would then be encouraged to tweet or retweet items related to research data topics so that the account begins to develop a presence again. The chair of the RUresearch Data Team will monitor the account.

3. SOAR and Data

The context documents for the open access policy mention the possibility of sharing supplemental data for publications, which can then be linked with publications. As part of the SOAR outreach, we can expect questions about supplemental data and will need to build this into education efforts for graduate students about best practices for open access over the long term. Previously published data that has already been publicly released via publisher websites represents a special case of pre-vetted data closely connected with article deposit. In the near term, the immediate recommendation of the group is that the Data Task Force investigate and make a recommendation regarding the deposit of previously published data associated with SOAR.

4. Announcements

Andrew Sallans of the Center for Open Science will be visiting Rutgers University Libraries on February 9th, along with a colleague, to present on Reproducible Research and related topics.

Visitors from Symplectic, a part of Digital Science (also owners of figshare and Altmetric), will also be visiting RUL on December 11th, 10 a.m. to demonstrate and discuss Symplectic Elements. Elements is of interest to the open access policy implementation discussions. Please contact Laura Mullen for more information.

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