Research Data Management at Monash University: an update

CAUL, 3 April 2009

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Objective:

• Ensure that the data generated by Monash University’s research is actively managed, preserved and accessible to peers and the broader community …

• … particularly in the context of the Code for the responsible conduct of research
What we’ve been doing

- Policy and planning
- Data Management Committee
- Data Management Coordinator
- DARE project
- Tools and services
- Involvement with ANDS
Operational plan: five ‘themes’

- Governance, policy and planning
- Communications, advocacy and outreach
- Data management in practice
- Skills and expertise
- Collaboration
Governance, policy and planning

- Research Data Management Subcommittee
  Senior representatives from Library, e-Research Centre, ITS, Research Office, Monash Research Graduate School and ANDS
- Research Data Management Advisory Group
  Representatives from all faculties and relevant service providers
- Draft Policy → Procedures → Guidelines
Monash University relationships

Data
- Created
- Acquired
- Used
- Analysed
- Shared
- Protected
- Described
- Archived
- Published
- Reused

Researchers
- Contact librarians
- e-Research Centre
- ITS
- Archives & Records
- Faculties
- Academic units
- Research Office
- Graduate School

Providers
- DMC

Library
- Advice
- Training & professional development
- Storage
- Collaboration environments
- Digital asset management
- Documentation / metadata
- Publishing / dissemination

Services
Communications, advocacy, outreach

• Formal communication plan
  • Stakeholders
  • Channels
  • Messages

• Priorities
  • Website
  • Seminars and workshops
  • One-on-one interactions
The Australian Code for Responsible Conduct of Research outlines the responsibilities of individual researchers and their institutions for the good management of research data. Monash University is committed to improving the way research data in all formats is created, stored, managed and disseminated.

This website provides guidance on common research data management issues and highlights the portfolio of advisory and technical support services that are available to researchers.

Research data management guidelines
Data management planning
Ownership, copyright and IP
Ethical requirements
Durable formats
Storage and backup
Sharing data and controlling access
Documentation and metadata
Retention and disposal
Secure destruction
Deposit in a repository or archive
Quicklinks
Contacts
FAQs
Resources
Services
Send an email inquiry to the University's Data Management Coordinator.
Data management in practice

• Identify and work with early adopters (individuals and groups)
• Raise awareness of policy framework
• Support data management planning
• Increase uptake of tools and services (e.g. storage in LaRDS, disseminating via ARROW)
• All carrot, no stick at this stage
DARE project

• DARE = Data, Archives, ARROW, Research, Repositories, ePress

• Contact librarians and CSIRO librarians
  – building on specialist knowledge and relationships with researchers
  – program to develop knowledge and skills
  – data planning interviews and feedback
  – advice, referrals and awareness raising
  – developing librarians’ role
Research data management checklist

• Click-through to policies, guidelines, etc
• Sections
  – Ownership, copyright, intellectual property
  – Ethical requirements
  – Durable formats
  – Storage and backup
  – Documentation and metadata
  – Retention – minimum periods
  – Permanent retention / archiving
  – Deposit in a repository or archive
• DOCUMENTATION AND METADATA

• I/we have considered what documentation and/or metadata (information about the data) are required to ensure data can be found and used over the research lifecycle.

• The following will be applied:
  • Inventory of data assets
    – Details: ........................................................................
  • Protocols for file naming
    – Details: ........................................................................
  • Metadata standards
    – Details: ........................................................................
  • Markup standards
    – Details: ........................................................................
  • Protocols for document structures
    – Details: ........................................................................
  • Other documentation or metadata requirements
    – Details: ........................................................................
Kartomi Collection of Traditional Musical Arts in Sumatra

- Stored in LaRDS
- Accessed through ARROW
- The collection consists of
  - 136 Audio files
  - 30 Still images (slides)
  - 5 moving images (video recordings of performances)
  - 3 data holding (field notes)
Skills and expertise: researchers

- Current focus on research graduate students, early career researchers and early adopters
- Inductions, seminars and workshops
  - Research Graduate School exPERT seminar series, supervisor training
  - Go8 Future Research Leaders' Program
  - Faculty/department/team sessions on request
- Online resources e.g. podcasts
Collaboration

• Formal and informal collaboration with other Australian and overseas research institutions
  • ANDS participants
  • CSIRO
Tools and services

• Large Data Store (ITS)
• ARROW Repository (Library)
• Sakai/AAF (eResearch Centre and ITS)
• DARE (Library)
Looking forward: end of 2009

- Policy framework endorsed by Research Committee
- Increased use of data storage, management and dissemination tools
- Greater awareness amongst researchers, research managers and other professional staff
- Extended contact librarian role in research data management through DARE project
- Identify new research data resources to be added to
  - the ARROW institutional repository
  - Large Research Data Store (LaRDS)
What makes a difference?

• Determining KPIs
  – Counting activity
  – Instances of better data management
• Influencing institutional policy and practice
• Informing national policy and practice
Questions?