University Data Policies and Data Services

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Ask Yourself These Questions
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• Who owns your data?
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• Who owns your data?

• How long should you keep your data after the end of a project?
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• How long should you keep your data after the end of a project?

• What happens to your data when you leave your institution?
Ask Yourself These Questions

- Who owns your data?
- How long should you keep your data after the end of a project?
- What happens to your data when you leave your institution?
- Who can you go to locally to get help in this area?
These Are Important Questions
These Are Important Questions

But they don’t always have clear answers
How are universities supporting research data management?
Support Systems Examined

• Library data services
  • Data services
  • Data librarian
  • Institutional repository accepting data
  • Data repository

• University data policy
  • Type of policy
  • Policy contents
Which types of universities support data better?
University Metrics

• Carnegie Classification
• ARL membership
• Research expenditure
• Faculty size
• Student population
• Public/private
Study methods
Methods

- 206 US-based universities
  - Carnegie “Very High” or “High” classification
- Student assistants gathered basic information on universities
  - Cleaned and grouped for easier analysis
- Reviewed library website for services
- Searched for publicly available data policy
  - Keyword search on university websites
- Coded policies by content and type
Categories of Data

- University Type
- Library Data Services
- Policy Type
- Policy Contents
Correlations

University Type

Policy Type

Library Data Services

Policy Contents
Results
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University Type</th>
<th>Policy Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Library Data Services</td>
<td>Policy Contents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Library Data Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library Service</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data Services</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Librarian</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Repository</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Repository</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repository (Either Type)</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Library Data Services

• Numbers increased since Tenopir et al. study in 2012
  • >20% data services
  • <10% data librarians

• Repositories
  • Small number of data repositories
  • Large number of IRs accepting data
    • Even more than have data services
Basic data management support

- Universities with more research offer more data services
  - Higher Carnegie Classification
  - ARL membership
  - Higher research expenditure
  - Larger faculty size

- Services saturated at top research levels
  - Will it soon be expected for all academic research libraries to provide data services?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University Type</th>
<th>Library Data Services</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Policy Type</td>
<td>Policy Contents</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# University Data Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Policy Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Has Data Policy</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Under IP Policy</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standalone Data Policy</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
University Data Policies

- Difference since DataRes project (2013)
  - 18% existence of [standalone] policy
  - Difference in study method but at least some is likely growth
Data Policy

- Universities with more research more likely to have a standalone data policy
  - Higher Carnegie Classification
  - ARL membership
  - Higher research expenditure
- No significant difference for data falling under an IP policy
Data Services and Policy

- Universities with data services or a data librarian are more likely to have standalone data policy
  - Data repository numbers too small to find significant difference
- No significant difference for data falling under an IP policy

- Could there be a link between the growth in data services and the growth in standalone data policy?
Policy Contents

• Universities focus on legal repercussions of research data
  • IP policies covering data are concerned with data ownership
  • Standalone policies cover access, retention, separation, etc.

• Difference in institutional data policy contents and funder data policy contents
  • NIH focuses on data sharing and NSF on disseminating results (DataRes)

• More analysis to do here
Conclusions
Conclusions

• Recent growth in both data services and data policy
  • This is coming from the top, so will there be an expectation for libraries at all research universities to have services in this area?
  • Is there a correlation?

• More likely to have a standalone data policy if
  • University conducts more research
  • Library has data services or a data librarian
How are Universities Supporting Research Data Management?

• Universities’ significant concern is ownership and legal issues
  • Provide important clarity where policies exist

• Libraries doing increasingly more data support
  • Librarians have a role in policy development
Thanks!
References
