Journal of eScience Librarianship
putting the pieces together: theory and practice

Editorial

Special Issue: 2018 Research Data Access and Preservation Summit

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Focus

The Journal of eScience Librarianship partners with the Research Data Access & Preservation (RDAP) Association to publish selected conference proceedings. This issue highlights some of the novel ideas, programs, and perspectives presented at the RDAP 2018 Summit.

How do you define the role of the library in research data management? Where is the current intersection of publishing and data? What can be done to preserve and access the data of underserved communities? The answers to these questions are as varied as the disciplines, communities, and individuals that ask them. But exploring these important topics—and many others—from a wide variety of viewpoints and experiences is one of the many strengths of the Research Data Access & Preservation (RDAP) Summit. In this special issue of the *Journal of eScience Librarianship*, we are pleased to highlight some of the extraordinary research presented at the 2018 Summit.

RDAP has hosted its annual summit since 2010 to gather leaders and practitioners, from labs to libraries, to collaborate and interrogate the emerging and evolving issues surrounding managing, preserving, and sharing research data. While the Research Data Access & Preservation Association is a newly independent, not-for-profit professional association, it started as an American Society for Information Science and Technology (ASIS&T) sponsored community. Quickly growing and evolving, the association strives to "support an engaged community of information professionals committed to creating, maintaining, advancing, and teaching best practices for research data, access, and preservation" (http://rdapassociation.org). By bringing together "data managers and curators, librarians, archivists, researchers, educators, students, technologists" from academic, government, and private sector organizations, across STEM, humanities, and social sciences domains, RDAP forms a vibrant community to learn from and build on one another's experiences.

At the annual two-day summits, RDAP participants have the opportunity to build their community network, learn from experts, and engage in a variety of poster, presentation, and workshop sessions. This year's summit was held in conjunction with the 2018 Information Architecture (IA) Summit on March 21-23, 2018 at the Chicago Hilton, and featured a kick-off keynote by Tom Schenk, Chief Data Officer for the City of Chicago. The programming for the summit was organized around six topics:

- Defining the role of the library in research data management within an institution

- FAIR vs. Friction

- Intersection of publishing and data

- Underserved data communities: Understanding access and preservation bias

- Research reproducibility: How data librarians are getting involved

- Data quality: Curation services, metadata, and metrics

Presented by a diverse selection of attendees, content ranged from educational approaches and roles, to data tools and curations services, demonstrating the wide variety of interconnectedness and importance of these topics. The highlighted articles further reveal the depth and breadth of the summit. In "Integrating Data Science Tools into a Graduate Level Data Management Course" by Pacuzzi and Sapp Nelson, the reader is presented with a novel course that provides graduate students with hands-on data management experience using robust tools. To help expand outreach activities, Murray and Carson share their work on creating a faculty-orientated RDM unConference as a means to strategically position the Library as both a location and partner for research data support. From the more technical side, Zhao and McShea offer insights into the successes and challenges working as a data curator on the Smithsonian's eMammal project, a data management system and archive for camera trap research projects. Lastly, Mannheimer's research interrogates the impact of DMPs on grant funded research practices, and offers guidance to help create stronger and more actionable plans.

This issue also includes two commentaries by RDAP attendees. Thielan graciously shares thoughts and insights as a first time RDAP attendee to encourage others to overcome their hesitations and benefit from attending RDAP's supportive and collaborative event. In the second, "Supporting the Proliferation of Data-Sharing Scholars in the Research Ecosystem", Krzton addresses researcher incentives for sharing data, and encourages librarians to advocate for a change in the ecosystem alongside the call for greater openness.

The papers in this special issue not only address the summit's themes, but continue to build on the existing knowledge base and applied skills of the RDAP community. While these papers are just a small sampling of the research presented, they are representative of the high-quality and engaging work that is presented at the summit. To see more of the presentation and poster materials, please visit the summit's open repository at https://osf.io/view/rdap2018.

We also enthusiastically invite you to join us at the 2019 RDAP Summit, May 15-17, 2019 at the University of Miami. This year's theme, "Building Communities", is sure to offer additional cutting-edge insights on the role of research data in society and how to best critically engage with research data systems, technologies, and practices for all of our communities.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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