

# **space for listening: using a library unConference as an alternative method of engagement**

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To view the original poster presentation from Research Data Access and Preservation Summit 2018, please go to <https://osf.io/arzwn/>

This document includes the handouts (including schedule) and assessment form provided during the unConference, as well as facilitator questions.

## What is an unconference?

An unConference is a participant-oriented event where attendees choose the topics and structure the interactions, emphasizing conversations over formal presentations. After talking about the topics for discussion, you can move between conversations in an environment intended to foster networking and connection building, ending with a group follow-up and feedback session.

This unConference is for researchers, faculty, and staff of all disciplines interested in learning more about research data management practices and resources. We're offering an opportunity to hear from campus partners, engage in discussions on topics related to your data needs, eat lunch with colleagues, and learn more about research data management.

## What is research data?

All researchers work with data, though there is no one definition of what “data” is. Different disciplines and subdisciplines have their own definitions, but for our purposes data is any information used in your research. Your data can be qualitative or quantitative and digital or physical.

Research data may include primary sources or texts, survey results, interviews, spreadsheets, images, laboratory notebooks, audiovisual files, computer programs and scripts, methodologies and workflows, and more.

## What is data management?

“Research data management (or RDM) is a term that describes the organization, storage, preservation, and sharing of data collected and used in a research project. It involves the everyday management of research data during the lifetime of a research project (for example, using consistent file naming conventions). It also involves decisions about how data will be preserved and shared after the project is completed (for example, depositing the data in a repository for long-term archiving and access).”

*Definition from University of Pittsburgh's Research Data Management LibGuide,  
<http://pitt.libguides.com/managedata>*

## How the unConference Works

### Choose Your Discussion Topics

You have been given four circle stickers (the colours do not matter). On the right hand wall of the room there are six possible research data management categories that can be discussed today. These were the most popular topics as submitted by participants as part of the RSVP. Vote for which ones you want to discuss by putting your stickers on your top four choices.

1. Security and Privacy
2. RDM Tools and Techniques
3. Research Data Management Plans
4. Storage and Preservation
5. Teaching Research Data Management
6. Sharing and Reuse of Data

### **Voting closes at 11:30.**

Once you have voted, feel free to get some food, talk with your colleagues, and listen to our guest speakers. During the lightning talks, we will count up the number of votes for each session and the four most popular will be announced.

### Roundtable Discussions

Four different topics will be chosen through the voting process. Each of these four will then be discussed at a specific table located in one of the corners of the room.

A “session” is 25 minutes; at that point, we suggest that you get up and move to another session. However, do not feel limited by that time restriction. If you want to get up and move to another table sooner do that, we won’t be offended. If you want to stay at the same table through all three sessions, you are free to do that as well.

### Wrap-Up Session

After the discussions, we’ll get everyone back together for a final processing and wrap-up session. This is a chance to talk about what you learned, what you didn’t learn, any specific topics about Research Data Management you want to touch on, or Q&A about the event itself. Grab some food on your way out. Stay and chat with someone interesting you met. Continue these conversations outside of the unConference!

11:00 - 11:30	Food; voting on discussion topics
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11:30 - 12:00	Introductions and lightning talks: Sue Wainscott - A Graded Approach to Data Management Planning Lori Olafson - DMPs and Federal Agencies Rebecca Gill - Learn to Play with Data: Some Practical Resources at UNLV Thomas Padilla - Data Curation in the Humanities Joe Lombardo - National Supercomputing Institute Overview
12:00 - 12:25	Roundtable discussion slot one
12:30 - 12:55	Roundtable discussion slot two
1:00 - 1:25	Roundtable discussion slot three
1:30 - 2:00	Wrap up: Takeaways and evaluation

## Lightning Talks

### **A Graded Approach to Data Management Planning**

*Sue Wainscott - sue.wainscott@unlv.edu*

Sue Wainscott is the Engineering Librarian for UNLV, and holds an MLIS from San Jose State University and an MS in Biology from Illinois State University. She has also served as the Adaptive Management Coordinator for the Clark County Multiple Species Habitat Program, where she regularly reused data from other researchers to inform land management decisions and track the status of rare and threatened species.

### **DMPs and Federal Agencies**

*Lori Olafson - lori.olafson@unlv.edu*

Lori Olafson is the Associate Vice President for Research, the Executive Director for the Office of Research Integrity, and a professor in the Department of Educational Psychology and Higher Education. She joined the faculty in 1999 after receiving her PhD from the University of Calgary.

### **Learn to Play with Data: Some Practical Resources at UNLV**

*Rebecca Gill - rebecca.gill@unlv.edu*

Dr. Gill is an Associate Professor of Political Science and the Director of the Women's Research Institute. Her recent research focuses on gender and judging in the United States and Australia. She is the recipient of a multi-year National Science Foundation grant to study gender and race bias in performance evaluations of state judges. Dr. Gill's courses are mostly about judges, law, and empirical research. She teaches seminars in quantitative research methods and empirical legal studies, and was the founding coordinator of the Social Science Methods Certificate program.

### **Data Curation in the Humanities**

*Thomas Padilla - thomas.padilla@unlv.edu*

Thomas Padilla is the Visiting Digital Research Services Librarian. He publishes, presents, and teaches widely on digital scholarship, digital collections, Humanities data, data curation, and data information literacy. He is Principal Investigator of the Institute of Museum and Library Services supported, *Always Already Computational: Collections as Data*.

### **National Supercomputing Institute Overview**

*Joe Lombardo - lombardo@nscee.edu*

Joseph Lombardo currently serves as Executive Director of the National Supercomputing Institute located at UNLV. He is core PI on an NIH COBRE Award in collaboration with the Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health to advance the understanding of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases; has served as a PI and administrative lead, been a consultant to private industry, academic and government laboratories, and served as an expert witness for the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation "Subcommittee on Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness."

UNLV Research Data  
Management unConference

Discussion:  
Topic:

<p><b>What's something I learned?</b></p>	<p><b>What are others doing that I can learn from?</b></p>
<p><b>What are my needs that aren't being addressed?</b></p>	<p><b>Who do I need to talk to?</b></p>

## Research Data Management unConference Assessment

Thanks for attending our unConference! To help University Libraries plan successful workshops and sessions in the future, please answer the following questions.

1. **Is there anything you didn't talk about today that you wish you had?**
  
2. **What is the most important thing you took away from this event?**
  
3. **After participating in this event, what do you think is the biggest problem related to research data that faculty at UNLV are facing?**
  
4. **What resources or follow-up, if any, would help you with Research Data Management?**
  
5. **How interested would you be in UNLV Libraries hosting more Research Data Management events?**

Negative      1      2      3      4      5      Positive

**6. Rank the following aspects of the unConference:**

Discussion groups Least Useful - 1 2 3 4 5 - Most Useful	Lightning talks Least Useful - 1 2 3 4 5 - Most Useful
Topic voting Least Useful - 1 2 3 4 5 - Most Useful	Wrap up session Least Useful - 1 2 3 4 5 - Most Useful
Networking opportunities Least Useful - 1 2 3 4 5 - Most Useful	

## Discussion Topic Prompts/Questions

### **1. Security and Privacy**

What's your biggest concern when thinking about the security of your research data?

How do you ensure the security of your research data after you have completed your research?

How do you decide whether your data should be confidential or not?

For those working with human subjects, where does the IRB fit into this process?

How do you anonymize data if you are sharing it?

Who owns your data? What happens to your data if you move institutions?

### **2. RDM Tools and Techniques**

What are your best practices regarding research data management?

Who is responsible for data management in your research projects? How is this decided?

Are there particular tools you use to keep track of data while you're working with it (versioning software, etc.)? What about afterwards?

How do you decide what to keep? Do you keep everything?

Do you have plans for a "hit by a bus" scenario?

Where do you store/backup your data during the research process?

Who do you ask for help?

### **3. Research Data Management Plans**

Have you created a Data Management Plan? Why?

Do you work from a template when you create RDM Plans? Where did you find it? Did you make one?

What is a "good enough" RDM Plan? What does an "excellent" RDM Plan cover that a "good enough" one doesn't?



If you have created a Data Management Plan, did you follow through with what you said you would do?

How do you address funding requirements for data management services (space in a data center, eg)? Staff time?

Who do you ask for help?

#### **4. Storage and Preservation**

How do you decide what data you need to keep once you've completed your research?

How do you decide how long your research should be stored?

Where do you store your research data after you have finished your research?

What do you do with research data not linked to a publication?

Do you think about formats when considering long term preservation and access? Software used to create the data or derivatives?

How do you budget for storage and long-term access? Are there maintenance funds included in your grant proposals?

#### **5. Teaching Research Data Management**

What did you not learn in school about RDM that you wish you had?

What documentation standards do you use in your own research? How do you teach your student assistants to apply them?

How do you talk to students about the need for managing and sharing research data?

Do you teach RDM in a classroom setting?

How do you ensure you and your research partners are on the same page in regards to research data management? Do you share techniques with colleagues?

#### **6. Sharing and Reuse of Data**

Have you ever used a dataset created by someone else? How did you find it? What information about the data that wasn't included would have been useful?

How/where do you share your data?

How can you ensure that your data is reusable? Do you think about formats or metadata when considering sharing and reuse of your data?

What kind of legal or ethical concerns do you have about data reuse and sharing?