

Data Management Overview for Instruction Librarians

Sarah Sheehan
George Mason University
ssheehan@gmu.edu
@sarah4libraries



This work is licensed

Libraries Collect Data

- **Door Count**
- **Circulation Stats**
- **Reference Desk Stats**
- **Instruction Stats**
- **Collection Stats**
- **Institutional Research & Reporting**
- **Accreditation Agency**
- **ARL/ACRL**

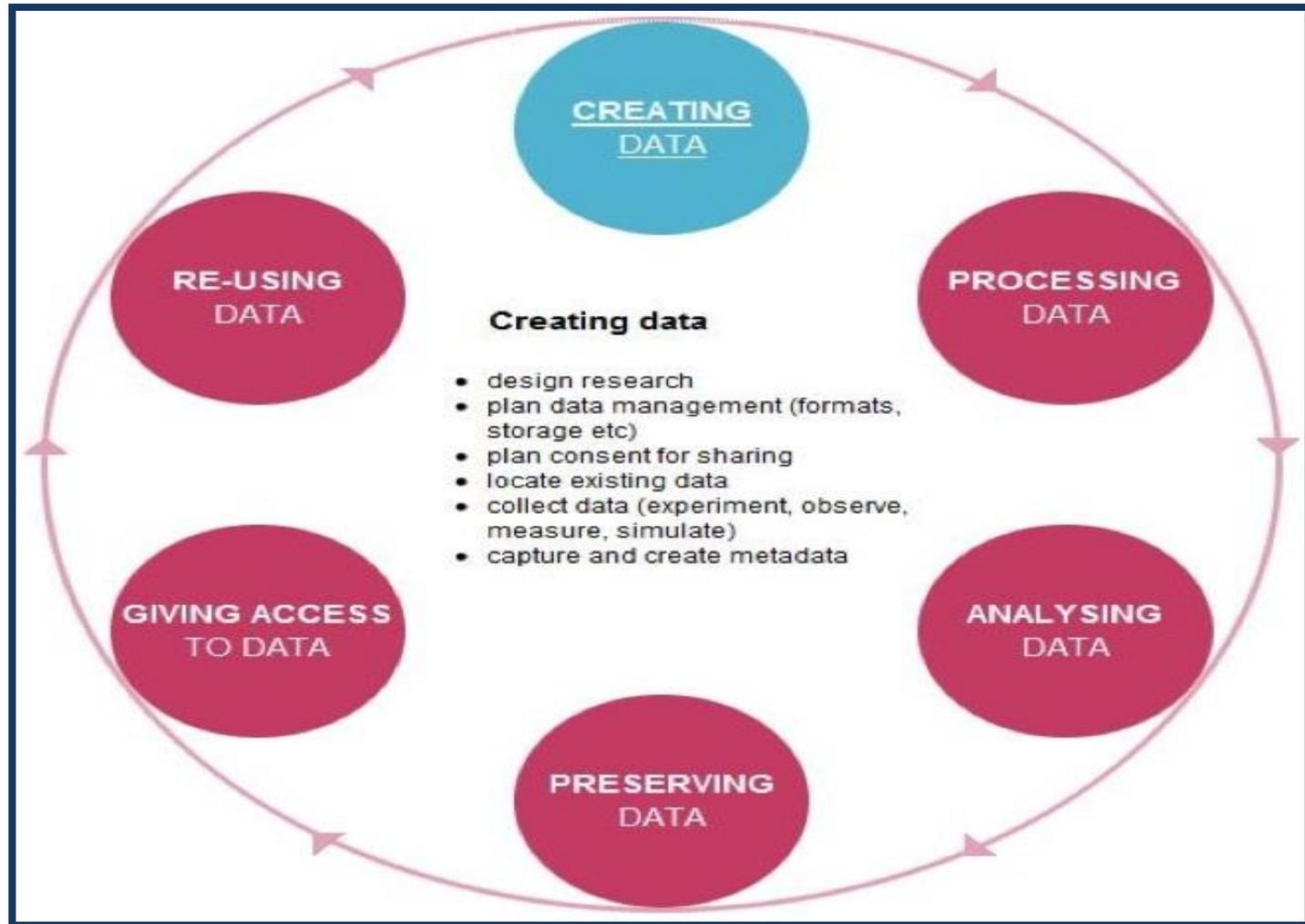


Data Management & Sharing Mandates

- Journals – PLOS, Nature, JDAP partners
- Funders – NSF, NIH
- Office of Science & Technology Policy mandate, February 2013



Data Life Cycle



Source: Boston University Libraries, Research Data Management
<http://www.bu.edu/datamanagement/background/data-life-cycle/>

Benefits of Managing Data

- **Ensuring research integrity and reproducibility**
- **Ensuring research data and records are accurate, complete, authentic and reliable**
- **Saving time and resources**
- **Enhancing data security and minimizing the risk of data loss**
- **Preventing duplication of effort by enabling others to use your data**
- **Facilitating the analysis of change, by providing data with which data at other points in time can be compared.**

What is a Data Management Plan?

A document that describes what
you will do with your data
during your research
and after you complete your project

DMP is a Living Document

- Start with what you know NOW
- Use as a guide for daily activities
- Share your plan with co-workers/supervisors
- Will not be perfect the first time through
- Keep your plan current & incorporate changes

Components of a Basic DMP

- 1. Types of Data**
- 2. Data & Metadata Standards**
- 3. Policies**
- 4. Plans for Preservation**
- 5. Budget**

1. Types of Data

- **Types of data produced**
- **Format and volume of data produced**
- **How/when/where will the data be captured or created?**
- **How will the data be processed?**
- **Quality assurance, quality control measures, version control**
- **Who will be responsible for data management during/after project?**

1. Types of Data: Organization

- **File name structure**
 - include file name structure in DMP
 - Share file name structure with team
- **Date is important in file names**
 - ISO 8601 Standard, yyyyymmdd
- **File name is dependent on users**
 - Too long or nested names can be great for some/not for others

1. Types of Data: Documentation

- **Create a Read-Me file**

- Lives outside the data
- Why & How was the data created
- What is the data about
- How was the data analyzed/what did you do
- Includes file names, variable names and abbreviations
- Version of software used
- Can be basic to complex

1. Types of Data: Documentation

- **Code Books – common in social sciences**
- **Data Dictionary – very structured, can be a table**
- **Lab Notebooks**
- **Programming Code**

2. Data & Meta Data Standards

- **What metadata are needed to make the data meaningful?**
 - Describe the resource
 - Enable discovery
- **How will you create or capture these metadata?**
- **Why have you chosen particular standards and approaches for metadata, i.e. Dublin Core**

2. Data & Meta Data Standards

- **Talk to your Cataloger!**

- Good example: Itunes

- Colectica – add on for Excel

- More Info

<http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resources/metadata-standards/list>

3. Policies for access, sharing, re-use

- Does your institution have a data management policy?
- Are you under any obligation to share data?
- How, when, & where will you make the data available?
- What is the process for gaining access to the data?
- Who owns the copyright and/or intellectual property?
- Privacy issues, embargo periods for political/commercial/patent reasons
- How should your data be cited?

3. Policies for access, sharing, re-use

**Never work with
the original data**

3. Policies for access, sharing, re-use

- **Keep a pristine, untouched document in a safe place; always work with a copy**
- **Work with the most recent version**
- **Use version control**
 - **Subversion; Beanstalk, Git, Mercurial**
 - **Allows roll back to previous version**
- **Document what you did to the data and why**

3. Policies for access, sharing, re-use

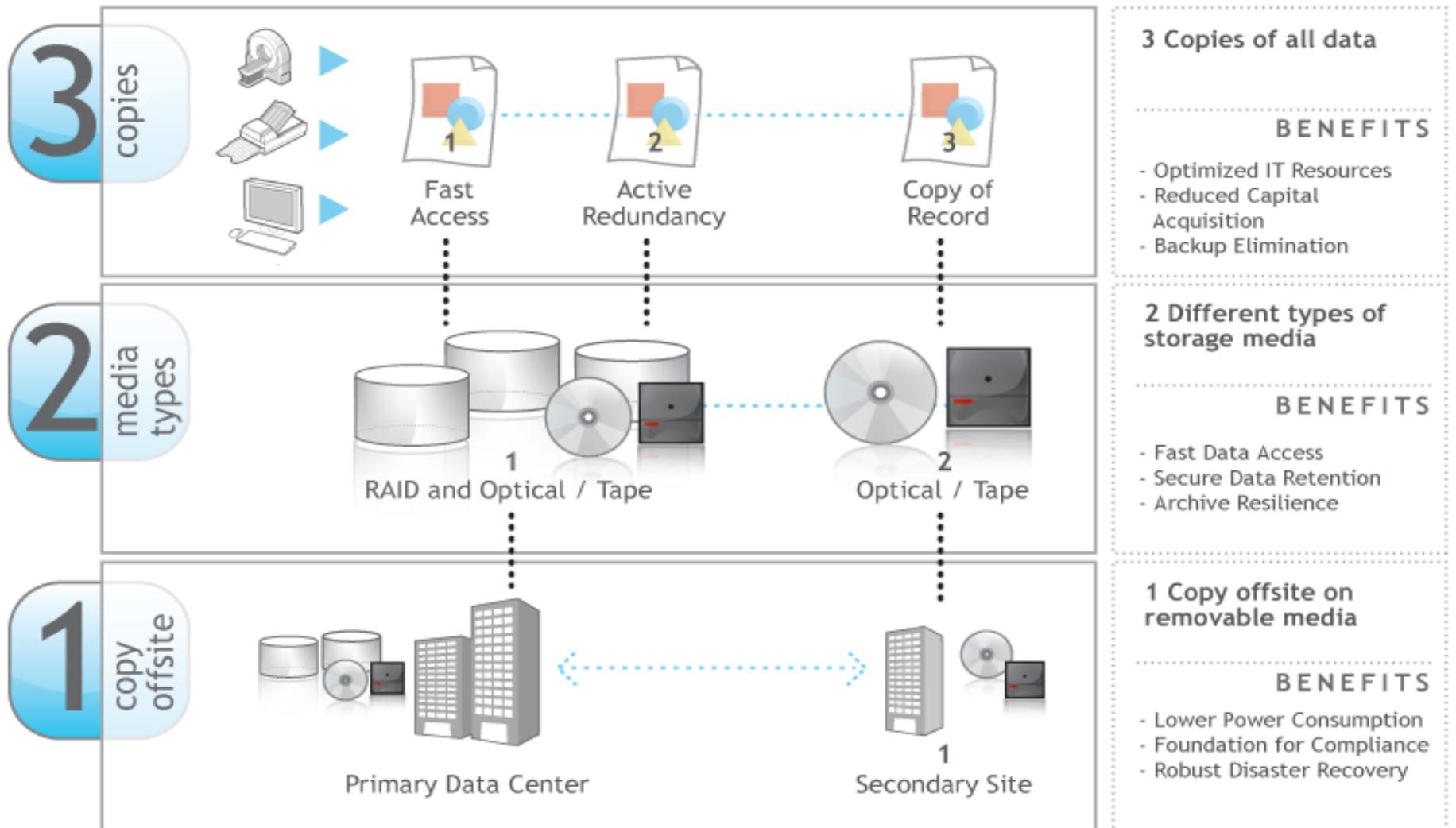
- **Excel Do**
 - Keep it simple
 - Create separate variables for each element
 - Include missing data as a blank cell
 - Keep variable names to 8 characters
 - Save in CSV
- **Excel Don't**
 - Don't use Tabs
 - No strange characters
 - No merged cells
 - No formatting in cells

4. Plans for archiving & preservation

- **What data will be preserved for the long term? For how long?**
- **Where will data be preserved?**
- **What data transformations need to occur before preservation?**
- **What metadata will be submitted alongside the datasets?**
- **Who will be responsible for preparing data for preservation?**
- **Who will be the main contact person for the archived data?**

3-2-1

Archiving and Data Protection Best Practice



4. Plans for Archiving: The Cloud

- **Not always the best choice**
 - How much are storing
 - What are you storing, ie: sensitive data, HIPAA or SS#
 - Obligations from grant or institution
 - Encryption for download, upload & stored
 - Access to data, various levels of permissions

4. Plans for Archiving: Formats

- **Optimal format, ISO Standard, PDF/A-1**
 - Tiff or PNG uncompressed okay
 - Florida State University Library Services Table of FDA-supported File Formats Table <http://fclaweb.fcla.edu/node/795>
- **Data in SPSS, SAS, other commercial products are dependent on software environments**
- **R Open source alternative**

4. Plans for Archiving: Repositories

- **Institutional Repository**
- **Discipline – specific repositories**
 - **ICPSR – Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research**
 - **DataONE – earth observation data**
 - **Dryad – bioscience**
 - **FigShare - science**

5. Budget

- **Costs of data preparation & documentation?**
 - Hardware, software**
 - Personnel?**
 - Archive fees?**
- **How costs will be paid ?**
 - Request funding!**

6. Process

- **Name a person responsible for implementing the plan**
- **Assign a person to each DMP activity**
- **Schedule training for software or other expertise required**
- **Update as changes are made**



KEEP
CALM
AND
ASK A
LIBRARIAN

Additional Resources

New England Data Collaborative Data Management Curriculum

<http://library.umassmed.edu/necdmc/index>

Mantra: Research Data Management Training

<http://datalib.edina.ac.uk/mantra/>

Virginia Data Management Boot Camp

<http://guides.lib.odu.edu/VADMBC>



DMPTool

Build your Data Management Plan

Email: uc3@ucop.edu
Twitter: [@TheDMPTool](https://twitter.com/TheDMPTool)
Facebook: [dmptool](https://www.facebook.com/dmptool)
Blog: blog.dmptool.org



DMPTool

- **DMPTool version 1 released in October 2011**
- **Self-Funded by Partners**
- **Built for researchers; limited functionality for editors or administrators**



DMPTool

- **DMPTool version 2 released May 2014**
- **What was in DMPTool1 converted to DMPTool2**
- **External funding**
 - **Alfred P. Sloan Foundation**
 - **Institute for Museum and Library Services**
- **More functionality for researchers and institutional administrators**



DMPTool

DMPTool2 New & Improved

- **New user interface with embedded tips and help throughout**
- **Library of publicly available data management plans**
- **Visibility of Plans – 3 levels**
 - **Public = everyone**
 - **Institution**
 - **Private**
- **Can copy an existing DMP**



DMPTool2 New & Improved

- **Assigning plan co-owners for better collaboration**
- **New help on data management in general**
- **Frequently Asked Questions, where users can submit questions and get answers**
- **Quick-start guide for creating a DMP**
- **Up-to-date data management funder requirements**

Source: Strasser, Carly. (29 May 2014). New DMPTool Released Today. <http://blog.dmptool.org/author/carlystrasser/>



DMPTool

DMPTool2 Customization for Administrators

- **Template includes questions that the funder wants answered**
- **Templates can be created by institutions**
- **Resource questions**
 - **Added by institution**
 - **DMPTool – wide resources**
 - **Requirements specified by funders**



DMPTool

DMPTool2 Customization for Administrators

- **Administrator Wiki including glossary of terms**
- **Review Functionality**
- **Visibility of Plans – 3 levels**
 - **Public = everyone**
 - **Institution**
 - **Private**



DMPTool

States of the Plan

- New
 - Complete
 - Submitted
 - Reviewed
 - Approved
 - Rejected
 - Revised
- All Plans**
- Used during the review phase**