4 years on: Evaluating the quality and effectiveness of Data Management Plans

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DMPs at Curtin

New *Research Data and Primary Material Policy*

- DMPT and R drive launched
- DMPs required for human research ethics
- DMPs required for animal research ethics
- Policy revised
- DMPs required for HDR candidacy applications

2014
- DMPs: 84

2015
- Jan: 1063

2016
- Jan: 2604

2017
- Sep: 5411

To date: 5411 DMPs
DMP analysis

- Which faculty produced the most DMPs?
- How many DMPs have been updated since creation?
- How popular is the R drive storage?
- When are the peak times for DMP creation?
DMPs by Faculty and Owner Type

- **Health Sciences**
  - Staff: 313
  - Student: 882
  - Total: 1195
  - Staff: 785
  - Student: 410

- **Science and Engineering**
  - Staff: 131
  - Student: 216
  - Total: 347
  - Staff: 1208
  - Student: 139

- **Humanities**
  - Staff: 216
  - Student: 732
  - Total: 948
  - Staff: 340
  - Student: 608

- **Curtin Business School**
  - Staff: 131
  - Student: 216
  - Total: 347
  - Staff: 333
  - Student: 216

- **Vice Chancellory**
  - Staff: 352
  - Student: 15
  - Total: 1208
  - Staff: 15
  - Student: 1195

- **Centre For Aboriginal Studies**
  - Staff: 9
  - Student: 15
  - Total: 24
  - Staff: 9
  - Student: 15

**Pie Chart**
- **Student** 57%
- **Staff** 43%

By Faculty

By Owner Type
R Drive Storage Requests

- 1792, 33% Requested
- 3619, 67% Not requested

Bar chart showing storage requests for different departments:
- Health Sciences
- Science and Engineering
- Humanities
- Curtin Business School
- Vice Chancellory
- Centre For Aboriginal Studies

Health Sciences has the highest requests, followed by Science and Engineering and Humanities.
DMPs modified

- No
- Yes
- Yes, modified after 90 days
- Yes, modified after 365 days

Staff - Student
Has the DMP Tool improved data management practice?
Research Project

- Masters by Coursework project
- Research question: "Does Curtin’s data management planning tool help researchers manage the data they collect?"
- Method: Survey and focus groups
- Output: thesis and a report for the Library
Preliminary findings...
Demographic

9% response rate (197/2191)

By Role

- Student: 56%
- ECR: 17%
- MCR: 15%
- LCR: 8%
- Other: 4%

By Faculty

- Health Sciences: 65
- Science & Engineering: 50
- Humanities: 31
- Business & Law: 19
- Other: 2
- Vice Chancellory: 1
- Centre for Aboriginal Studies: 0

Curtin University
Why did you complete a data management plan?

- Part of the ethics approval process: 114 (38%)
- Access to storage: 70
- Candidacy requirement: 58
- Unit requirement: 22
- To document data management decisions: 18
- Requirement of grant applications: 13
- Other reason: 5
Changes made to DMPs

Changes made to DMPs

- Substantial (changes to the details of the plan) 36%
- Basic (spelling or other small changes) 64%

Prompted by:

- Decided to make changes on your own 45%
- Request by principal investigator or supervisor 21%
- Other: 34%
- Other: 12/20 requested by the ethics committee
Did the DMP prompt you to change some aspect of the way you...
Does the way you manage your data follow the model you set out in your plan?

- Yes
- Mostly
- Some of it
- No
- Don’t recall

- All (175)
- Student (95)
- Staff (73)
- ECR (28)
- MCR (26)
- LCR (13)
What we’ve learned so far...

- Results still being analysed – Free text responses are valuable
- Final report will be used to evaluate and improve RDM service and training
- DMPs are useful!
- Teach them ‘young’
- Practitioner-Researcher collaboration is mutually beneficial