RDAP Happenings

Hi RDAP members,

We asked ChatGPT to rewrite the introduction in the style of Moira Rose from Schitt's Creek, do enjoy:

Oh, my dear RDAP darlings,

I hope you're still enveloped in the warm glow of our recent RDAP Summit – what a journey it was! The energy, the insights, the connections – positively scintillating! And fret not if you missed the affair, for the presentation materials and recordings shall soon be at your disposal. You shan't miss a single ounce of the goodness!

But lo and behold, the excitement persists! We have a bounty of educational programming awaiting you this spring. Details about the upcoming Kaffee Klatsch and our RDAP Journal Club can be unearthed in the Education and Resources section below.

Attention all summit presenters and attendees! A golden opportunity awaits you in the annual special issue of JeSLIB. Do not let it slip through your impeccably manicured fingers! Details on how to bask in the spotlight await you in the Publishing section.

In our Feature Article, we embark on a thrilling odyssey into Indiana University School of Medicine's audacious move to make DMPs mandatory for all research groups in the bygone days of 2019. Talk about setting the trend! This proactive maneuver not only solidified IUSM's position as a leader but also ensured they were prepared for the eminent 2023 NIH updates.

And naturally, we have all the latest updates from our esteemed committees – DEIA, Marketing, Membership, Sponsorship, and Website. So, my dear comrades, grab your libation of choice (iced, if you please), settle in, and let us embark on this riveting journey of updates together.

Finally, I would be remiss, dear fellow data stewards in arms, if I did not wax philosophically about what RDAP means to me. Picture, if you will, a garden. Yes, a garden, brimming with the most exquisite blooms and verdant foliage. Now, imagine this garden without the tender care of a diligent gardener. Chaos would reign supreme! Weeds would run rampant, flowers would wither, and order would dissolve into disarray.

Much like this garden, our precious research data requires meticulous tending. Research data management is the vigilant stewardship of our scholarly treasures. It ensures that our data remains pristine, organized, and accessible, much like a well-tended garden. So, let us embrace the noble task of research data management with fervor and dedication. Let us tend to our scholarly gardens with the same passion and precision as a master horticulturist. For in doing so, we cultivate not only knowledge but also the very essence of our academic legacy.

Yours in scholarly splendor,

The RDAP Publishing Committee

Updates from the Board

Spring has sprung, and the 2024 RDAP Summit is a successful wrap, thanks to all in our community who contributed their time and expertise! Keep an eye out for Summit materials to be made available on OSF, including transcripts, recordings of most sessions, and slides. Thanks go out in particular to our 2024 Summit committee: co-chairs Amy Yarnell and Anthony Dellureficio, and members Hannah Calkins, Lisa Chinn, Dawn Field, Matthew Harp, Lynda Kellam, Emily Kilcer, Michal McCullough, Alisa Rod, and Ashley Thomas–you are amazing!

Elections for President-Elect and Secretary will be running through the end of the month–please make sure you vote! Bylaws revisions will come a bit later this year, and will include formalization of the Code of Conduct Officer position. And if you wanted to serve on an action committee but missed the deadline, just reach out to the board at the email address below. We can always use more help! We are especially interested in folks to serve on the planning committee for the proposed 2026 primarily in-person conference, which will be a big shift to pull off effectively, and ensure it is as accessible as possible.

RDAP has grown into a fully-fledged organization, with many of our processes set up and working. Now we are able to focus on revisiting, streamlining, and adding value to our basic functions. As the fiscal year nears its end, the Board is working with committees on reviewing our communications plan; integrating our recently-concluded, in depth DEIA training into the organization more generally; and exploring potential collaborations with other organizations in the data management community. Keep an eye out towards the end of June for the 2024 Annual Report, which will include a report on our progress towards achieving the goals laid out in the new strategic plan.

And as always, thank you for being part of our community – you *are* RDAP!

The RDAP Board,

- Rachel Woodbrook (President)
- Tess Grynoch (President-elect)
- Lindsay Gypin (Secretary)
- Reid Boehm (Treasurer)
- Amy Koshoffer (Past President)

RDAP Feature Article

Engaging stakeholders in planning for research data management at a medical school

As institutions across the country grapple with addressing funder requirements for data management and sharing plans (e.g., NIH, NSF) along with forthcoming expectations related to article/data sharing (i.e., Nelson Memo), we wrote up our reflections and process of implementing a data management plan requirement at Indiana University School of Medicine. The intent of documenting this case study was to share the complexities of establishing a school-level requirement, the institutional offices and persons that played key roles in setting such an expectation, and the active role of a library in contributing to many elements of this institutional effort to better support, and understand, the information (and data) management practices of its researchers.

The requirement for data management plans (DMPs) at the IU School of Medicine (IUSM) (which began in 2019) originated not entirely because of funder expectations, but a convergence of those requirements, the piloting of an electronic lab notebook (ELN) at the School, and concerns from IU School of Medicine Research Administration about access to - and retention of - institution-produced research data. In light of that mix of motivations, this work brought together the library, IT units, security/privacy officers, research administrators, and faculty on the topic of data management in a way that had not happened before at IUSM. These stakeholders formed an advisory board to oversee the implementation of the data management plan mandate as well as other simultaneous information management related initiatives (e.g., ELN roll out, inventory of research lab space).

The requirement for these plans was directed from the IUSM Research Administration and their "ask" was fairly direct: all IUSM researchers/research groups must have a data management plan. The breadth of the requirement led to many follow up questions from the advisory board (as one can imagine). Some immediate questions included: what is "research", or more importantly, what is NOT considered research for this mandate; how do we identify "all researchers" at the School; and finally, what should be included in these DMPs? A particular sticking point early on was the question of at what level DMPs should be written - at the project level or at the level of the lab/research group? In the first year of implementation, DMPs could be written at the lab/group level, but it quickly became apparent that approach offered none of the granularity needed to provide insight into data management practices. Additionally, funder expectations for data management plans are at the award/project level so in subsequent years, the requirement shifted to requiring a DMP per research project.

As these questions and others emerged during implementation, the varying

As these questions and others emerged during implementation, the varying perspectives of stakeholders became apparent. For research administrators, a goal of this requirement was to have a better handle on the who/what/where of research conducted by faculty should there be a need to gain access to information associated with a given research project and/or researchers. They were not particularly interested in the details; rather, they wanted to "see" that researchers had a plan that addressed issues of security and retention. For faculty (in their roles as principal investigators), the requirement of having a DMP was acknowledged as a best practice, but the biggest concern was around the time required to complete these plans, especially in cases where groups had never completed a DMP before. For librarians, the ability to provide guidance and support for data management plans in this way was an amazing opportunity, but led to many questions around the ultimate use of the plans developed as well as how to best leverage this initiative to effect change in research culture at the institution. This mix of perspectives on the mandate underscored the fact that data management (and sharing) is not a "one size fits all" effort and that the expectations around what DMPs can accomplish - in terms of data management practice - should be understood as a marathon rather than a sprint.

Despite the complexity of implementing such a mandate, there were/are "wins" that accompanied such an endeavor. One was the drafting and move towards adoption of a data retention policy for the School, which addressed a commonly raised question from researchers, departments, and School administrators in completing DMPs - if no retention period was expected by a funder, then how should researchers set their expectations? Another was the funding for a position at the medical library supported by IUSM Research Administration. This cemented a relationship between the library and the School's research office that engages the library as an ongoing partner in this DMP requirement as well as other School initiatives related to information and data management. And lastly, the information included in the submitted DMPs provided invaluable insight into the practices of different research labs/groups across the institution. Findings from review of the responses in these DMPs helped the library develop sample language for an NIH DMSP template that researchers could refer to once the NIH data management and sharing plan requirement went into effect. Beginning in 2023, IUSM clarified that NIH DMSPs were acceptable in place of an IUSM DMP, so we anticipate that many researchers will submit those in lieu of the School format.

As there continues to be increased engagement with data management (and sharing) plans across institutions, we are hopeful that a case study like ours can assist others in navigating the development, outreach, and scoping of any similar efforts or similar engagement with stakeholders across an institution. The full white paper documenting this effort can be found here. Additionally, there is an OSF space where we share materials including: the template used for the DMP in the first and second years, slides for trainings held (both DMP and ELN related), as well as preliminary results from analyses of the DMPs submitted in the first two years of the mandate.

Author biographies:

Heather L. Coates is the Digital Scholarship and Data Management Librarian at the IU Indianapolis University Library where she provides research data

at the IU Indianapolis University Library where she provides research data services and research metrics services to support faculty success. She also serves as the Indiana University Data Steward for Research Data, in which she develops policy, processes, and resources to facilitate responsible stewardship of research data throughout the IU system.

Erin D. Foster is the Service Lead for UC Berkeley's Research Data Management Program. Erin was the Data Services Librarian at IU School of Medicine's Ruth Lilly Medical Library during the first year of implementation of IUSM's data management plan requirement.

RDAP Summit Updates

Thank you to all who contributed to a successful RDAP Summit 2024, which occurred from March 12-14 with pre-Summit workshops on March 11.Thank you to all attendees, presenters, workshop instructors, and sponsors! Something notable this year is that of the 60 presentations at the RDAP Summit 2024, it was the first time presenting at RDAP for 30 of the primary presenters.

This Summit would not have been possible without attendees who volunteered to assist on the days of the Summit and the work of all the RDAP Committees. A huge shout out to the members of our Conference Planning Committee: Hannah Calkins, Lisa Chinn, Dawn Field, Matthew Harp, Lynda Kellam, Emily Kilcer, Michal McCullough, Alisa Rod, and Ashley Thomas, for all your hard work throughout the year.

We look forward to seeing you again online at the RDAP Summit 2025!

Amy Yarnell and Anthony Dellureficio
Co-chairs, RDAP Summit 2024

Action Committee Updates

DEIA

The RDAP DEIA Action Committee organized a panel at the 2024 RDAP Summit titled "DEIA and Data Professionals." The six panelists had participated in a series of racial-equity focused workshops hosted by the DEIA committee in January-March 2024, led by Sofia Leung and facilitated by Deborah Yun Caldwell. These workshops focused on building a sustainable practice of anti-racist principles, as well as building an understanding of inequitable practices that lead to unequal and unjust treatment of staff and library users of color. The goal behind this professional development opportunity was to build a common, foundational understanding of DEIA concepts that apply to the work of data professionals. At the Summit panel, we discussed how the insights and experiences gained from the workshops have influenced the way the panelists think about their own work and implications for the RDAP community. Ideas for next steps include an online space to continue our conversations (such as a Slack channel or Google Group), a task force to develop DEIA core competencies for data professionals, and building on a community sourced list of recommendations that was created during the workshop series.

Education and Resources

The Education and Resources Committee would like to remind RDAP members of the final two events of the academic year. Mark your calendars!

Kaffee Klatsch: Metadata (register now)
May 16, 2024 2:00 PM ET

RDAP Journal Club (coming soon)
June 04, 2024 2:00 PM ET

Marketing

This quarter the Marketing Committee helped publicize the 2024 Summit and is currently busy sharing the blogs written by the scholarship recipients. Our future goal is centered on having conversations in the coming year about the role of social media for RDAP and identifying which platforms are the most important for our members to engage with, both socially and professionally.

Membership

The Membership Committee encourages all to check out the blogs written by this year's scholarship recipients (see Marketing section) about their experiences at the 2024 RDAP Summit. Congratulations to all recipients and thank you again to those who made these scholarships possible.

The RDAP Awards & Scholarships Working Group are reviewing nominations for the "Volunteer of the Year" and "Work of the Year", and will meet to discuss and select a winner in each category no later than May 31. Award winners are expected to be selected and notified by June 30, 2024.

Remember to take advantage of the benefits of your RDAP membership which include: serving on Action Committees, running for and voting in officer elections, and receiving a discount on the RDAP Summit registration fee! Members also have access to the RDAP Membership Directory - make sure to update your profile and check out this guide for more information on how to access and use the directory.

Publishing

Call for Submissions: RDAP 2024 Special Issue

The Research Data Access and Preservation Association (RDAP) and the *Journal of eScience Librarianship* (JeSLIB), pleased to continue their partnership for a seventh year, announce the forthcoming Special Issue published by *JeSLIB* for the 2024 RDAP Summit.

The 2024 Special Issue will focus on the Summit's theme of "Bridging Boundaries: Interoperability in the Data Community".

This is a call for all RDAP Summit presenters (inclusive of poster, presentation, and lightning talk formats) to submit manuscripts. We especially welcome submissions from first-time presenters. We also encourage new and veteran RDAP Summit attendees to submit Commentaries; it's a great way to jump into scholarly publishing! Please read and follow the Guidelines for Authors carefully when preparing your manuscript.

Need help getting started? Thea Atwood and Kristine Lee gave a wonderful presentation at RDAP 2019: Turning Your Poster or Presentation into an Article

Submissions are accepted here. *Please indicate in the "Comments for Editors" field that you are submitting to the RDAP Special Issue.* Along with the paper, you should also provide a cover letter clearly explaining the paper's premise and changes made to presentation content when writing the paper.

Your manuscript will be subject to a full, double-blind peer review process and copy editing. Commentaries are not peer reviewed, but read and edited by the guest editors and editor-in-chief.

The schedule for this special issue is as follows:

- July 19, 2024 — Submission deadline
- July–August — Peer review and notification of decision
- End of September — Revised manuscript deadline
- October–November — Copyediting
- Late October–Early November 2024 — Processing and publication

Please note acceptance of all articles/commentaries is not guaranteed,

although we hope that all authors whose manuscripts are of high quality will be accepted.

JeSLIB Editorial Team
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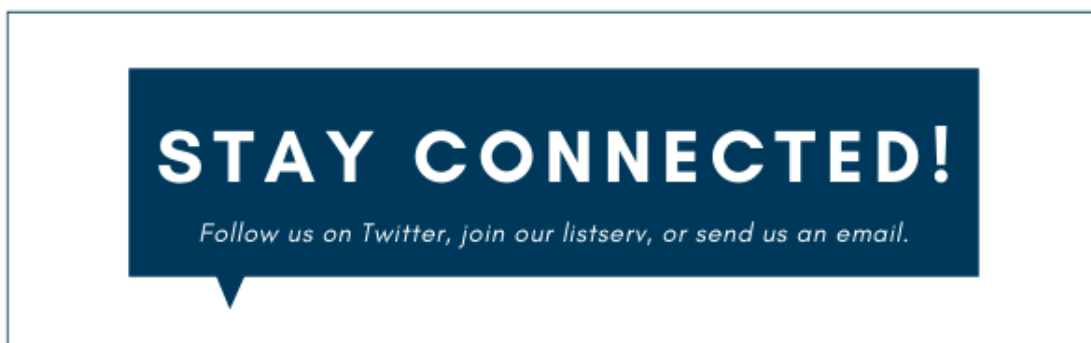Lisa Palmer, Distribution Editor, UMass Chan Medical School

Sponsorship

The Sponsorship Committee extends a final thanks to the sponsors who helped make the 2024 RDAP Summit a reality. The committee secured $3,000 in sponsorships from seven sponsors. We also wish to thank the 2023-2024 Sponsorship Committee members for their service, and announce that Abby Pennington will serve as a committee co-chair starting next term.

Website

The results of our website layout survey are in. Thank you to over forty RDAP members who completed our card-sorting exercise earlier this year. Your input will be invaluable in adjusting our information architecture to make the site more usable and resources more accessible.

As we move into the design phase, the Website Committee would again appreciate your feedback about other professional association websites that you have liked, either for their overall style or how information is presented on their homepage. Please complete this one-minute survey asking for the site URL and what you liked about it.

These sites do not have to be related to libraries or data—a great website is a great website!

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