

Data management plans aren't working and here's how to fix them

4 reasons to rethink your institutional approach to DMPs

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17 Hilarious Tweets About "The Bachelorette" Tonight

Apollo is a national treasure.

 Jenna Guillaume • 1 hour ago



 Trending

Episode 5 Of "The Bachelorette": Four

 Trending Now



Move Over Jon Snow, Jamie Fraser's Butt Is Coming For Your Crown



25 Easy Ways To Make Moving So Damn Easy

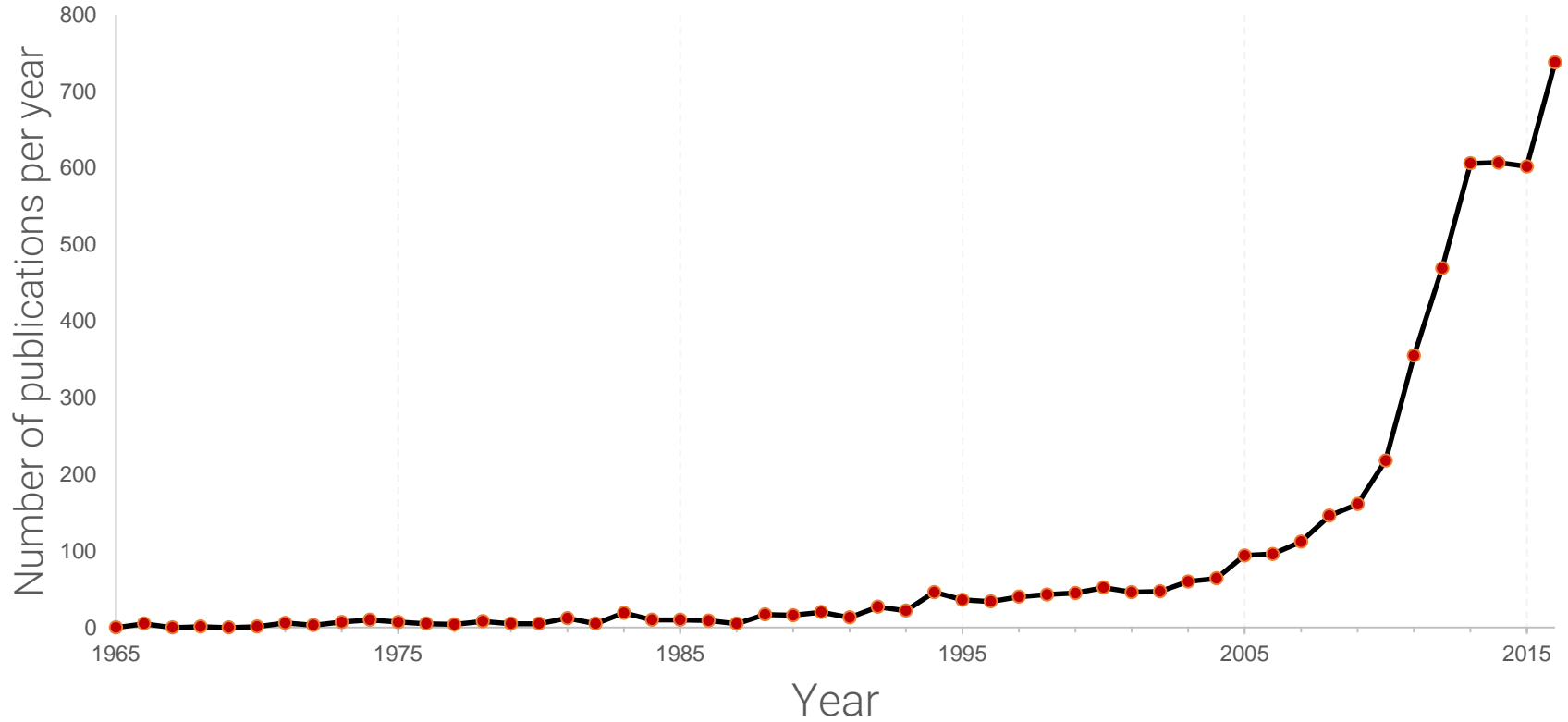


Episode 5 Of "The Bachelorette": Four Intruders Entered And The Original Boiz Weren't Happy

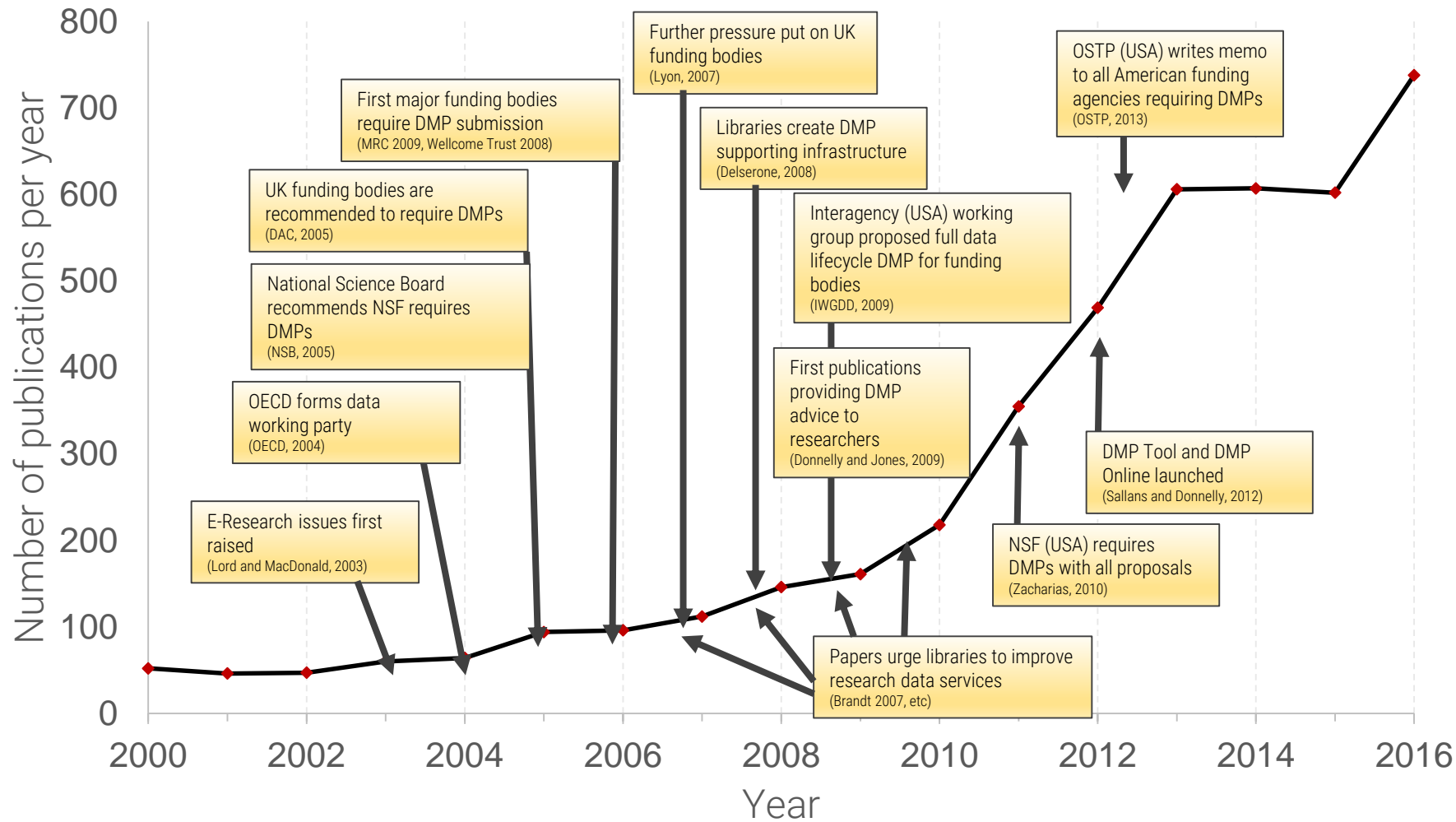


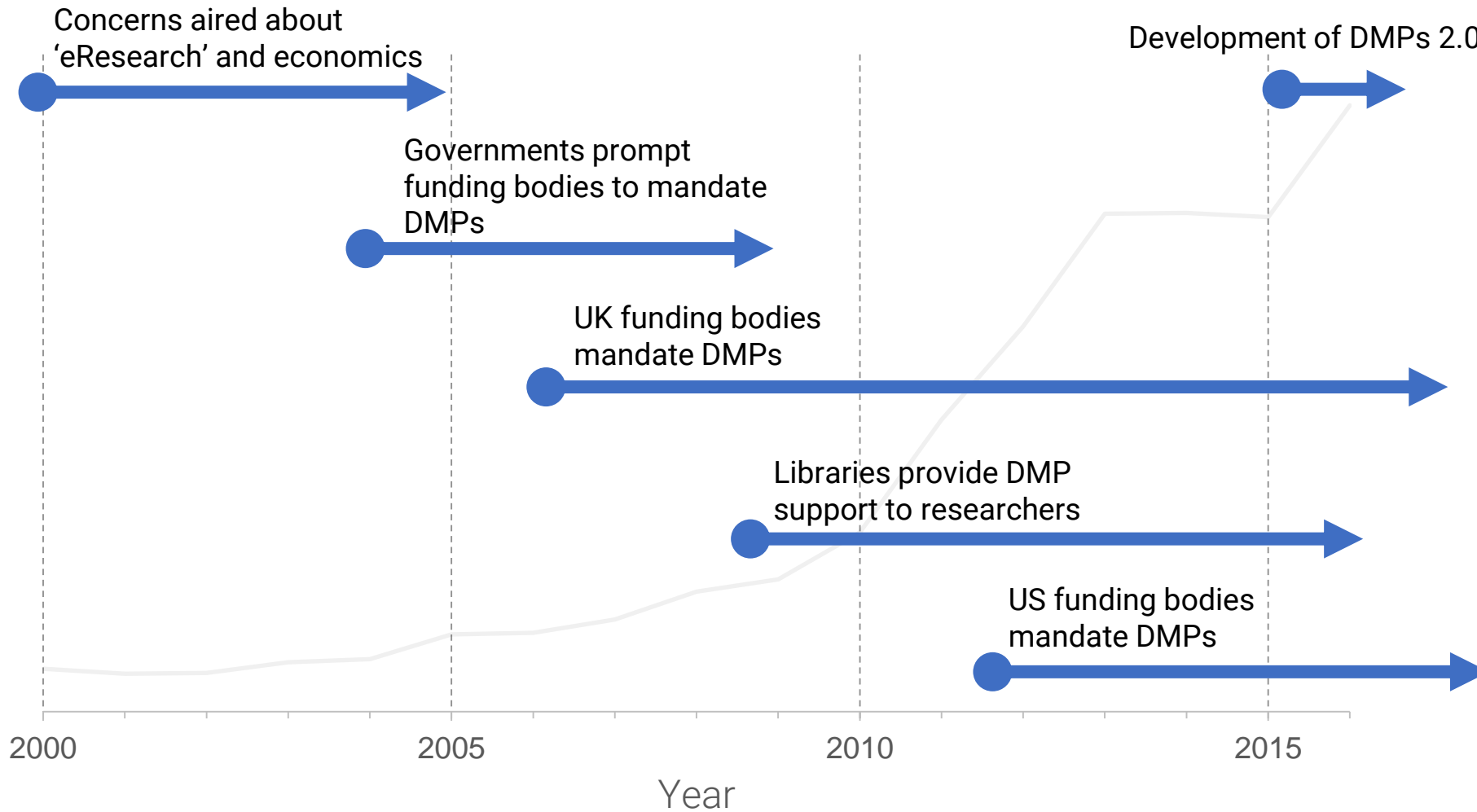
DISCLAIMER

These are our personal views, and not necessarily
the positions of our respective institutions



For most of the history of DMPs, there were no mandates





	Percentage requiring DMPs	Mean year first requiring DMP	Range of years first requiring DMPs
UK research councils	86%	2009	2006 - 2012
US funding bodies	63%	2014	2011 - 2016
Australian funding bodies	0%	NA	NA
Australian institutions	37%	2014	2011 - 2016

Australian institutions have mandated DMPs in
the absence of funder mandates

...but why?

So why do we say that DMPs 'aren't working'?

- What's written in a DMP isn't translated into practice (Van Tuyl & Whitmire, 2016)
- No significant difference between DMPs of funded v unfunded projects (Mischo, Schlembach, & O'Donnell, 2014)
- Researchers describe poor data management practices in their DMPs (Bishoff & Johnston, 2015)

But there is a more fundamental problem...

Catch all approach

Driver: Meet obligations and RoI

Funders and institutions require RDMPs to encourage data sharing

Driver: Educate and effect change

Institutions require RDMPs to effect change in researcher behaviours and practices

Driver: Business intelligence

Institutions require RDMPs to:

- Collect info on what research data assets are being generated

- Inform institutional capacity planning

Driver: Project management

Researchers initiate RDMPs as part of their own routine research design and planning

...and here's how to “fix” them

What's the main objective? Concentrate on that objective

Avoid the '*catch all*'

**Requirements
gathering**

Is there an alternative mechanism for achieving the objective?

E.g. establishing end-to-end managed research workflows

Listen to your main stakeholders – ***Researchers***

Engage researchers in RDM tools you adapt or design

...and here's how to “fix” them

Educative tool - evaluate RDMP design
Soundness of pedagogical approach

**Evaluate and
measure**

Evaluate RDM training
Inclusive/exclusive of RDMPs

Compliance vs culture change
Question the efficacy of RDMP mandates

...and here's how to “fix” them

What's in a name?

Align terminology to purpose and research community

Research Data Management Plan??

Data Sharing Plan??

Research Dissemination Plan??

Research Outputs Management Plan (Welcome Trust)

Research Project Plan??

Change the focus and language from ***your*** RDMP to the ***project's*** RDMP

+ Plan vs Planning

...and here's how to “fix” them

Keep a watching brief on the development of maDMPs

Contribute via Interest & Working Groups

- Interoperability with other research systems
- Leveraging persistent identifiers (PIDs)
- Evaluation and monitoring
- Disciplinary tailored DMPs and recommender systems
- Publishing/exposing DMPs

Simms S, Jones S, Mietchen D, Miksa T (2017) Machine-actionable data management plans (maDMPs). Research Ideas and Outcomes 3: e13086. <https://doi.org/10.3897/rio.3.e13086>

Communities

ASCIG (Software Citation)

AVSIG (vocabularies)

Community Development Interest Group

DMPs Interest Group

Data provenance

DSIG (Data Services)

RDII community

Research Software Engineers Community Group

RIF-CS Advisory Board

ANDS | Partners and Communities | Communities

Data Management Plans (DMPs) Interest Group







The Data Management Plans (DMPs) Interest Group was formed in February 2017 and meets online on a bimonthly basis. The Group is facilitated by ANDS and open to anybody interested in DMPs, DMP tools and their effectiveness.

The DMP IG seeks to answer questions about [Data Management Plans](#) such as:


- Why DMPs? Do they effect change? Are there alternative approaches?
- What DMP tools are others using?
- What might the next generation of DMPs look like?
- What voice should researchers have in their development?
- How do we define best practice?
- What's happening internationally? Can we share learnings?

The Group provides a forum for discussion about:

- Local DMP tools and approaches - such as the innovative [Data Management Record \(DMR\)](#)  approach at The University of Queensland.
- International developments - the Group has forged links with the [Research Data Alliance DMP IG](#)  and it's [DMP Common Standards](#)  and [Exposing DMPs](#)  working groups.

Join the discussion!

To be notified of DMP Interest Group events, subscribe to [ANDS News](#). All ANDS' events are also listed on the [Events](#) calendar.

The Next DMP Interest Group catch-up will take place online 12.30pm-1.30pm AEDT, 31 October 2017 [Register via Eventbrite](#) 

<http://www.ands.org.au/partners-and-communities/ands-communities/dmps-interest-group>



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Discussion points

- Involving researchers in RDM planning design: What are the pros and cons?
- How do institutions avoid the 'catch all' planning tool (aka 'monster DMPs')?
- Should Funders and Institutions mandate RDMPs without evidence to support their efficacy?
- maDMPs are they the solution everyone is waiting for?