Turning research data management projects into business as usual for improved data management across the enterprise: the La Trobe experience

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The Enterprise Research Data Management System (ERDMS) Project

- enable La Trobe University researchers to better manage research data
- Improve the management and tracking of research, enable easier collaboration, reduce use of insecure and inappropriate systems and provide a more managed environment
- a comprehensive discovery phase identifying researchers’ requirements
- Trial of niche systems like EMu, HubZero, Degust
ERDMS Project continued....

- Implementation of
  - a Research Data Management Planning Tool
  - Figshare, researchdata.latrobe
  - LabArchives – an online research notebook
Research data management planning tool

Research Data Management Plan

This tool will guide you through the creation of a Research Data Management Plan. It will prompt you to think about how you will manage data generated and used in your research project, both during the project and afterwards.

The tool aims to introduce researchers to good data management practice, in line with La Trobe’s Research Data Management Policy and Procedure.

On completion, you can generate a PDF document that you can use in grant applications or ethics submissions.

As you use the tool:
- click on (?) for more information
- * indicates a mandatory field

Information gathered from the research data management planning tool will be used to support ongoing review of La Trobe’s research data management policy and procedure, and planning for data management support services.

Please note that a research data management plan does not replace the following institutional requirements for ethics and other legal compliance:
- Human ethics
- Animal ethics
- Biosafety
- Defence export control

For further information regarding research integrity, biosafety and ethics approvals, please refer to Ethics, Biosafety and Integrity.

For further queries or assistance please contact libraryresearchsupport@latrobe.edu.au.
Figshare
(researchdata.latrobe)
...online research notebook
Project: “Big Bang!”

- Handover plan
- Skills & knowledge of support team
- Ongoing communication, support & training
- Adoption by end users
Business as usual support model

- Support a range of services
- Librarian staffing
- Personalised help
- Usage/User Satisfaction
- Improved researcher skills
- Sustainable Service
- Risk management
- 3000+ Clients
- Improved researcher skills
Great returns

• Over 300 La Trobe researchers on Figshare
• Over 1500 Figshare downloads
• Over 50 RDM plans a month
• Over 95% of human ethics applications have a RDM plan
Great returns

“I feel I can talk the talk. I would feel comfortable recommending Figshare to researchers if appropriate”

“I learned a lot about sensitive data and the risks/challenges of that. It’s not a black and white area but a complex area with lots of grey which requires dealing with ambiguity and complexity”

“It was good to go out on consultations with someone from the research data team to see the demo and hear them talk about it”

“I know now that every research project and discipline area has different needs. A one size fits all approach doesn’t always work and sometimes actively alienates certain groups of researchers”

“This provided me with fantastic opportunities to work and build relationships with key stakeholders including scientists, departmental project managers and key data specialists”
Obstacles

- Conceptualising data lifecycle
- Connection
- Time
Sustainability

- Add in guest speakers
- Increase to 2-3 a year
- Codesign changes to RDM tool
- Continue to support & encourage
- Explore new channels & messages
- Personal learning journeys
- Continue to support & encourage
- LTU RDM live case studies
- Human ethics connections
- Codesign changes to RDM tool
- Ongoing enrichment for support team
- Annual RDM Comms plans
- Embedding in Research & ERDMS projects
- Read Reflect Imagine
- Continue weekly suggestions
- Trial ‘Lab Mornings’

Sustainability
Key takeaways

• Explicit AND tacit knowledge exchange
• Involve operational staff from the start
• Show how project supports BAU roles
• Encourage a learning culture from the top
Credits

- Slide 3 ERDMS Project continued....
- *Money jar with green shoots*, [From Pixabay], Used under CC0 licence.
- Slide 9 What we did
  - *CMSS Lab*, La Trobe University, Used with La Trobe University permission
  - *Human hands typing on a laptop*, [From Pixabay], Used under CC0 licence.
- Slide 10 Obstacles
  - *Jonathon Hagan on S.Makanally*, [From Wikimedia], Used under CCBY licence.
- Slide 13 Sustainability
  - *Sustainability star*, Katie Smith, , Used with La Trobe University permission
- Slide 14 Key takeaways
  - *Bunch of keys*, [From Pixabay], Used under CC0 licence.
Thank you

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