

Project Runway: DMP challenge

Katherine Howard¹, Erin Gallant², Katie Hannan³, Stephanie Bradbury⁴, Liz Stokes⁵, Peter Neish⁶

¹Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia, katherine.howard@flinders.edu.au

²Australian National University, Canberra, Australia, erin.gallant@anu.edu.au

³CSIRO, Adelaide, Australia, katie.hannan@csiro.au

⁴Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia, s.bradbury@qut.edu.au

⁵ARDC, Sydney, Australia, liz.stokes@ardc.edu.au

⁶University of Melbourne, Australia, peter.neish@unimelb.edu.au

The Connected Researcher

Engagement & Cultural Changes

Libraries Supporting Research

DESCRIPTION

What does successful cultural change surrounding research data management plans (DMPs) look like? After developing the systems and policy, how do we address the cultural change necessary to achieve better data management practices across our organisations? Moreover, how do we communicate the change to our organisations, and monitor adoption of the change, how do we know what we are doing is having a difference?

Taking a leaf from the reality TV and fashion industrial complex, Project Runway: DMP Challenge BoF invites participants from the DMP Interest Group to submit case studies of exemplar DMPs for a Runway Parade to provoke discussion surrounding best ways to facilitate cultural change enacted by data management planning.

Participants will compete in the categories of:

1. Best exemplar of cultural change achieved in a DMP
2. Best use of positive messaging surrounding DMPs
3. Most FAIR data enabling DMP
4. Most realistic and achievable DMP
5. Lightest touch on the researcher DMP
6. Best machine actionable DMP
7. Excellence in Gaffer Tape Award DMP
8. Pithiest popular culture reference for a DMP

This BoF will also introduce a new set of resources currently in development by the DMP Interest Group, an informal community of practice for those involved in data management planning services and advocacy. This set of four short resources, targeted at researchers, research project managers, librarians and support staff, and senior administration, outline the personal and professional benefits of engaging with DMP tools and services, and set the stage for how the BoF participants will vote on the above categories.

AUDIENCE

This BoF will be of interest to those implementing and supporting DMPs and DMP tools and services and particularly, those interested in discussing new approaches to communicate the value of DMPs to a variety of stakeholders. Participants are asked to come prepared to contribute to a lively discussion - in the words of Tim Gunn from Project Runway: "make it work".

SESSION STRUCTURE

This BoF will start with a runway parade (case studies) of exemplar DMPs submitted by the DMP Interest Group. This will be followed by a short presentation of the four audience stakeholder DMP resources. We will then move to facilitated Q&A and participants will be encouraged to contribute to an open discussion to share experiences, explore ideas and judge the competitors against the categories via live polling. Feedback on the DMP 1 pager resources will be sought throughout the session.

OUTCOMES

Participants in this BoF will come away with a better understanding of how to communicate the value of DMPs to a variety of stakeholder audiences, and resources they can apply in their outreach and advocacy roles. They will have had an opportunity to hear and comment upon DMP approaches with a view to future developments.

EXTENDED ABSTRACT

Once the black sheep of the Research Data Management Lifecycle, Data Management Plans (DMPs) and the services that enable them have been established across many Australian research institutions. Some as a condition for accessing storage, some mandated by policy and higher degree research candidate journeys. From July 1, 2019, some institutions take their mandate for DMP infrastructure from interpreting the revised Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research and their responsibilities as institutions to:

R8 Provide access to facilities for the safe and secure storage and management of research data, records and primary materials and, where possible and appropriate, allow access and reference. [1]

The manual and labour intensive nature of these first DMP tools is starting to change. Increasing attention is given to the DMP service's capability to connect enterprise systems of truth, lessening the administrative burden on the researcher. The DMP Interest Group comes together to share technical solutions such as these which enable trusted access to research software, storage and platforms to their research communities. And yet these elegant solutions remain hidden unless the benefit is communicated across the many stakeholders involved in the stewardship of research data. This community has determined that addressing the cultural change required to achieve better data management practices means capturing the hearts and minds of those involved in DMPs across their organisations. Central to achieving this cultural change required is communicating the value of DMPs in terms of carrots and not sticks.

REFERENCES

1. National Health and Medical Research Council (2018). Australian Code for Responsible Conduct of Research. Available from: <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/about-us/publications/australian-code-responsible-conduct-research-2018> accessed 7 June 2019.