



‘Don’t ruin it with mandatory questions. Mandatory questions aren’t cool.’: Building a popular research data manager



Research
Data
Manager

Designed at The University of Queensland

Andrew Kneynsberg, PhD
Research Systems Team

Research Management Systems
The University of Queensland



What makes a good research data management system?

- Researchers use it
- Researchers use it
- No, really.
- Researchers use it

UQ Data Management Plan Tool

- 60+ metadata questions
- No data storage

UQ Data Management Plan Tool

- 60+ metadata questions
- No data storage

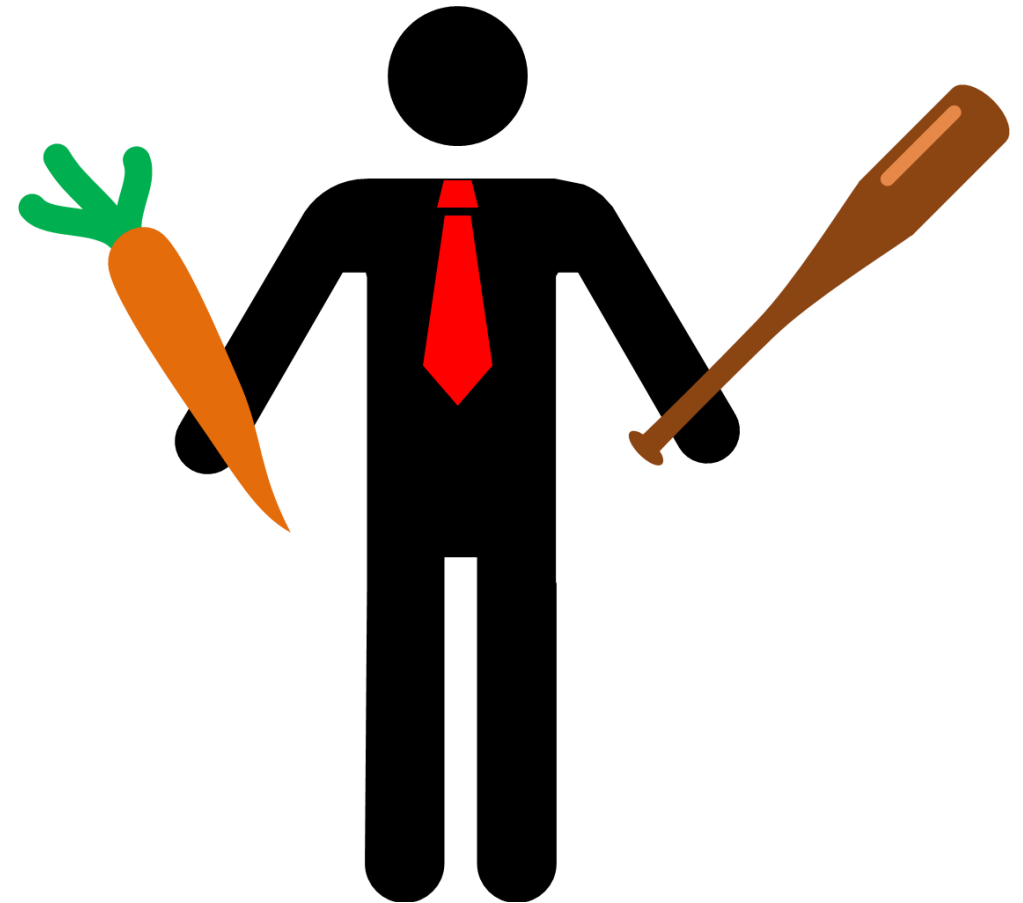


UQ Research Data Manager (UQRDM)

- UQ built and supported Research data management system launched in 2018
- 20,000 project records
- 30,000 total registered users (14k UQ staff, 10k UQ students, 6k external collaborators)
- 15,000 active UQ users in UQRDM database
- 21PB of research data stored in the first instance

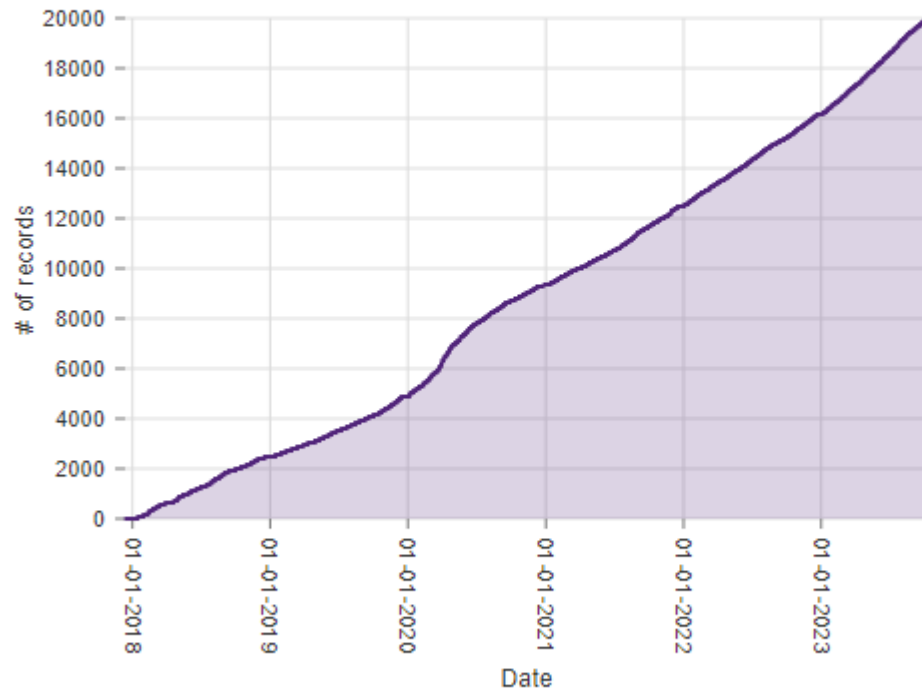
UQRDM – Secrets to success

- Incentives
 - Free storage
 - Same or superior storage quality
 - Fast provisioning of storage
 - External collaborator access
- Penalties/Obstacles
 - Project record (metadata)

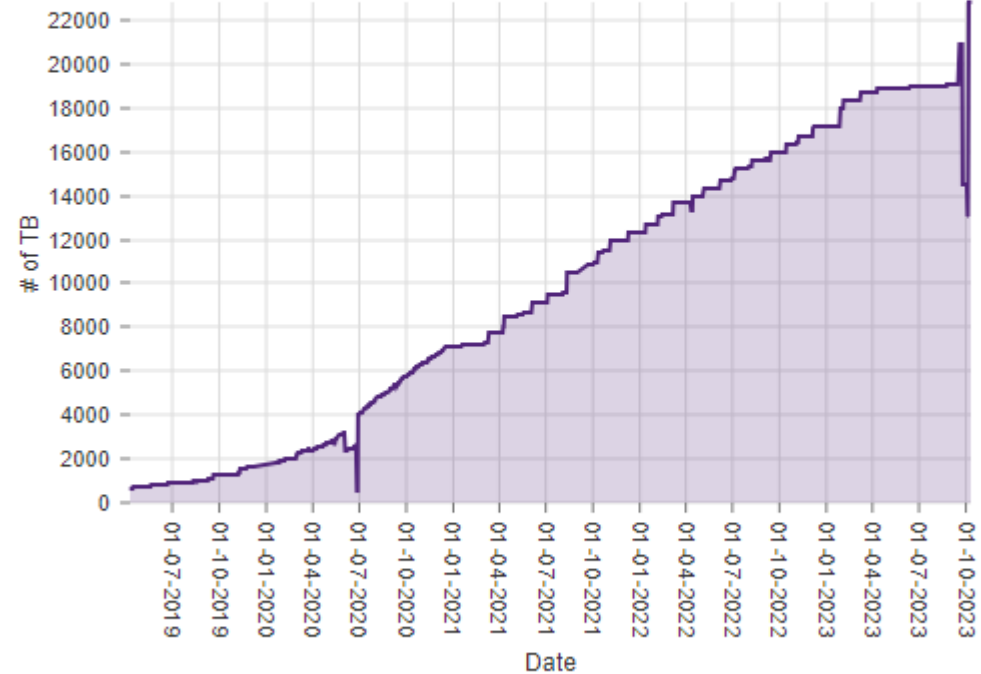


UQRDM – Records and data storage

Total number of records

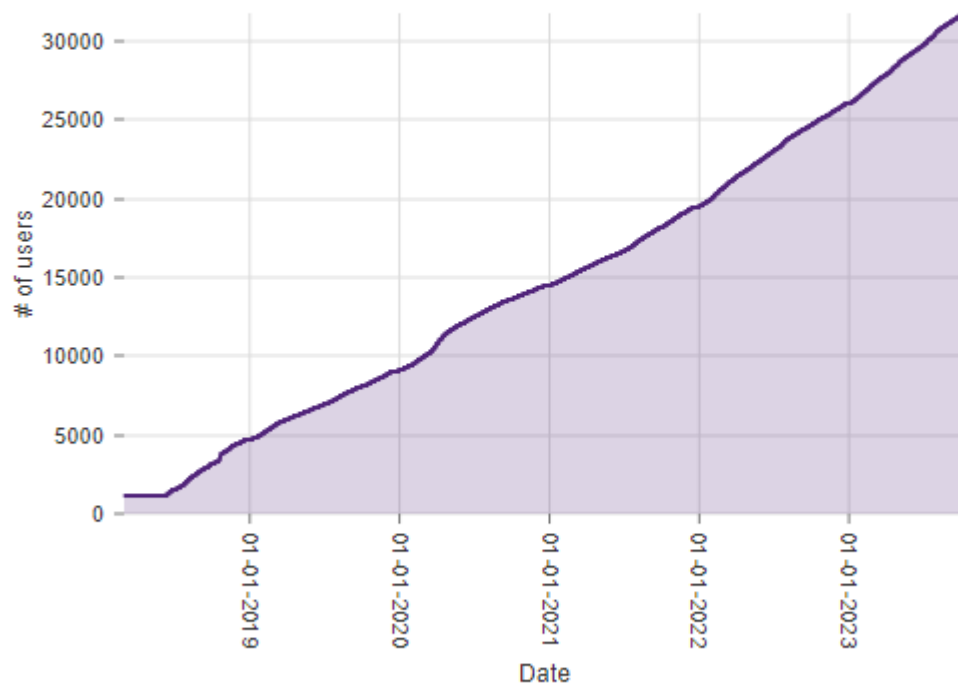


Total storage in TB

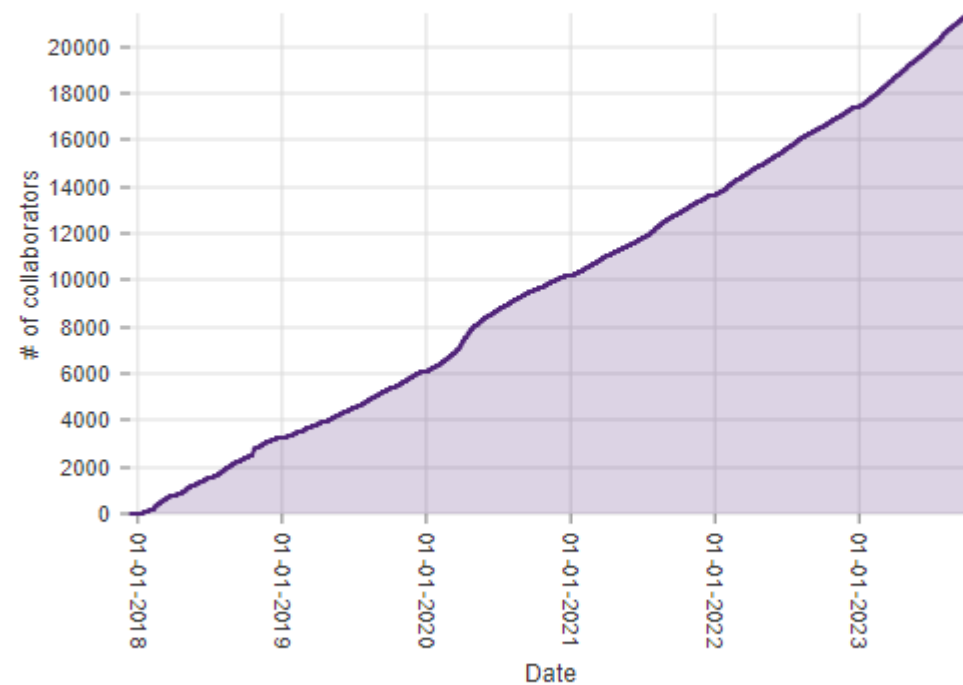


UQRDM – User adoption

Registered users



Total active, unique, collaborators



UQRDM – External users

sydney.edu.au	263	uwa.edu.au	91	unisa.edu.au	53
unimelb.edu.au	222	anu.edu.au	85	flinders.edu.au	52
qut.edu.au	203	curtin.edu.au	81	rmit.edu.au	49
monash.edu	201	utas.edu.au	77	uow.edu.au	48
griffith.edu.au	180	newcastle.edu.au	75	otago.ac.nz	47
hotmail.com	160	mq.edu.au	74	uts.edu.au	47
unsw.edu.au	145	deakin.edu.au	70	usq.edu.au	46
csiro.au	116	latrobe.edu.au	69	jcu.edu.au	46
adelaide.edu.au	93	auckland.ac.nz	67	outlook.com	37
health.qld.gov.au	93	yahoo.com	62	acu.edu.au	34

Why the University wants to make a RDM system


- Data as an asset
 - Research data isn't single use
 - Construct 'web' of all aspects of the research process
- Preservation of data
 - Safety
 - Compliance
 - Accountability

Why researchers **should** use a research data management system

- Best practice in research data
 - Strong commitment to record keeping
 - Lasting record of conducted research
 - Track and link aspects of the data lifecycle

Why researchers **actually** use a research data management system

- Easy
- Helps them store data
- Better than other options
 - Cheaper
 - Simpler
 - More accessible
- Not mandatory

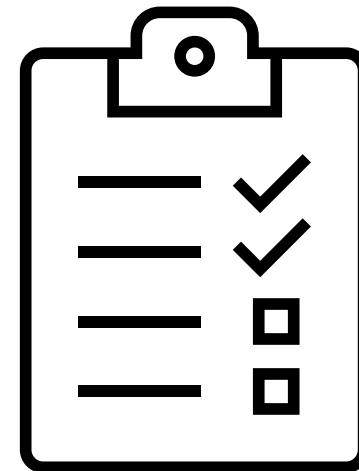


**“Perfect is the
enemy of good”**
-Voltaire

- Best practice is best but practice is better
- Questions:
 - What is required?
 - What actions will be taken because of the answer?
 - What are user incentives to answer?

Metadata – why researchers ‘Don’t have time’ for an RDM system

- How did we approach this issue?
 - Created a very low barrier to entry
 - Increase requirements after researchers are used to the system



Project metadata – What is required?

Project Information

Project name * ?
Your project must have a name

Short code * ?
The project short code must consist of 6-10 alpha numeric characters, starting with a letter

Project description

Field of research codes * ?
You must select at least one FoR code

UQ Organisational Unit * ? **Project start date** ? **Project end date** ?
You must select an organisation

17-Oct-2023

This project is a higher degree by research (HDR) project ?

This project uses pre-existing research data (data used but not created by the project) ?

There is an existing legal requirement (e.g. ethics, industry contracts, consent forms) that the data is to be stored in a particular place. ?

Project metadata – What we asked for?

PROJECT INFORMATION
POLICIES
FILES & STORAGE
PRE-EXISTING DATA
IP, RETENTION & SHARING
GRANTS & ETHICS
HUMAN PROJECTS

This project involves human subjects

This project has current, pending or future funders/grants ?

This project involves animal data

This project uses pre-existing research data (data used but not created by the project) ?

Project name *

The full name of the project

Description

Field of research codes *

4609 - Information systems ×

4610 - Library and information studies ×

Begin typing a field of research code to search

▼ ?

UQ Organisational Unit *

Project start date

Project end date

This project is a higher degree by research (HDR) project ?

Project metadata – What is useful?

Project information

Project record information provides detailed metadata describing your research project. This metadata can be associated with grants, research data, and other research systems and services. It can be exported to provide a lasting record of University outputs and researcher impact.

Project name *
Project name is a required field

Project description *
Project description is a required field

Field of research codes *
You must select at least one FoR code

UQ organisational unit *
Begin typing a UQ organisational unit to search
You must specify a UQ organisational unit

Project start date * **Project end date ***
DD-MM-YYYY DD-MM-YYYY
Project start date is required Project end date is required

Is this project a higher degree by research (HDR) project? *
 Yes No
Please indicate whether this project is an HDR project

Does this project use animal subjects? *
 Yes No
Please indicate whether this project uses animal subjects

Does this project use human subjects? *
 Yes No
Please indicate whether this project uses human subjects

Will this project use or collect data not stored within the UQRDM?
 Yes No

Who owns any potential intellectual property (IP) generated from this project? (Select from list)

Add Storage Allocation

Please provide storage details for your allocation and assign access permissions to your collaborators.

Your chosen storage label will be used to identify this allocation for you and your collaborators when accessing via mapped drive or the cloud. Please create a label that identifies the specific project data stored within. Note: The storage label cannot be changed after it is created.

Storage label *
Your storage allocation must have a label

Description *
Storage description must be at least 50 characters in length

Type of data being stored / used *
You must select the types of data you will be storing within this allocation

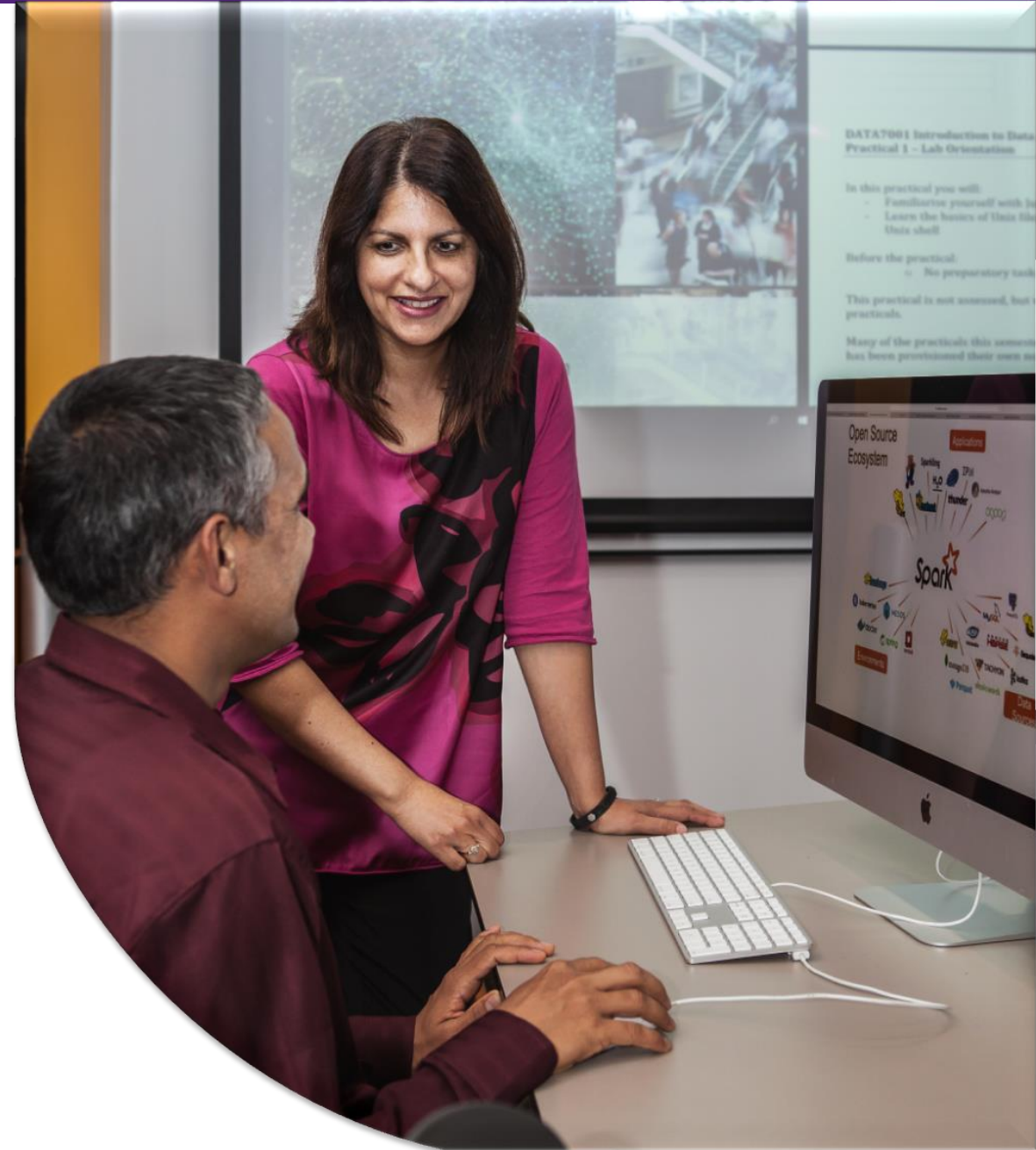
[LESS METADATA ^](#)

Data retention
Select how long do you intend to retain your data for after the completion of the project
This storage allocation will contain confidential information
 Yes No

Storage of data related to humans
This storage allocation will contain data related to humans
 Yes No

Release and uptake – Outreach

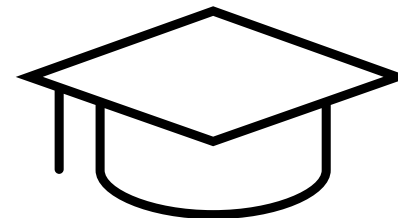
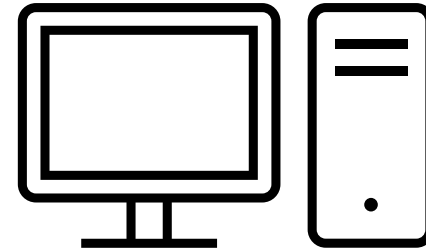
- Informing Schools and Institutes
 - Providers of share drives and data storage
- Meeting with user groups
 - Researchers believe they and their needs are unique
 - Demonstrate capabilities and functionality



Release and uptake – Integration

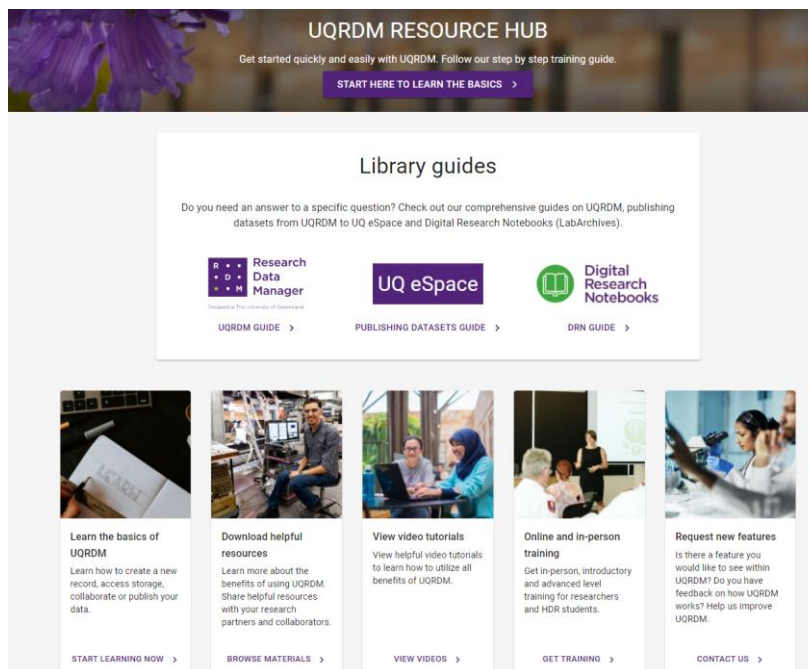
- Research Computing Centre
 - High performance computing (HPC)
 - Large file transfers
 - Secure computing environments

- Graduate School
 - Thesis submission
 - Student research data






Release and uptake – Education

- UQ Library Learning and Research Services
 - User guides
 - Trainings
 - Research data management



UQRDM RESOURCE HUB
Get started quickly and easily with UQRDM. Follow our step by step training guide.
[START HERE TO LEARN THE BASICS >](#)

Library guides
Do you need an answer to a specific question? Check out our comprehensive guides on UQRDM, publishing datasets from UQRDM to UQ eSpace and Digital Research Notebooks (LabArchives).

-  **Research Data Manager**
UQRDM GUIDE >
-  **UQ eSpace**
PUBLISHING DATASETS GUIDE >
-  **Digital Research Notebooks**
DRN GUIDE >

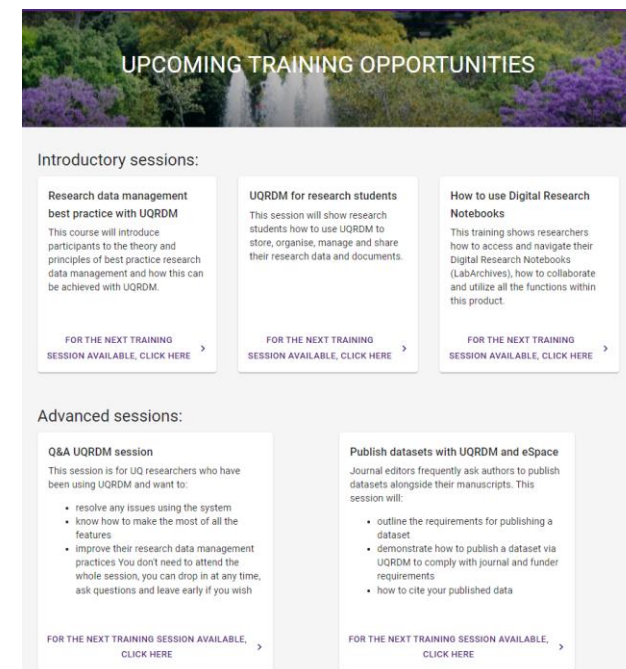
Learn the basics of UQRDM
Learn how to create a new record, access storage, collaborate or publish your data.
[START LEARNING NOW >](#)

Download helpful resources
Learn more about the benefits of using UQRDM. Share helpful resources with your research partners and collaborators.
[BROWSE MATERIALS >](#)

View video tutorials
View helpful video tutorials to learn how to utilize all benefits of UQRDM.
[VIEW VIDEOS >](#)

Online and in-person training
Get in-person, introductory and advanced level training for researchers and HDR students.
[GET TRAINING >](#)

Request new features
Is there a feature you would like to see within UQRDM? Do you have feedback on how UQRDM works? Help us improve UQRDM.
[CONTACT US >](#)



UPCOMING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Introductory sessions:

- Research data management best practice with UQRDM**
This course will introduce participants to the theory and principles of best practice research data management and how this can be achieved with UQRDM.
[FOR THE NEXT TRAINING SESSION AVAILABLE, CLICK HERE >](#)
- UQRDM for research students**
This session will show research students how to use UQRDM to store, organise, manage and share their research data and documents.
[FOR THE NEXT TRAINING SESSION AVAILABLE, CLICK HERE >](#)
- How to use Digital Research Notebooks**
This training shows researchers how to access and navigate their Digital Research Notebooks (LabArchives), how to collaborate and utilize all the functions within this product.
[FOR THE NEXT TRAINING SESSION AVAILABLE, CLICK HERE >](#)

Advanced sessions:

- Q&A UQRDM session**
This session is for UQ researchers who have been using UQRDM and want to:
 - resolve any issues using the system
 - know how to make the most of all the features
 - improve their research data management practices: You don't need to attend the whole session, you can drop in at any time, ask questions and leave early if you wish[FOR THE NEXT TRAINING SESSION AVAILABLE, CLICK HERE >](#)
- Publish datasets with UQRDM and eSpace**
Journal editors frequently ask authors to publish datasets alongside their manuscripts. This session will:
 - outline the requirements for publishing a dataset
 - demonstrate how to publish a dataset via UQRDM to comply with journal and funder requirements
 - how to cite your published data[FOR THE NEXT TRAINING SESSION AVAILABLE, CLICK HERE >](#)

Thank you

- Research Systems Team
- UQ Information Technology Services
- Research Computing Centre
- UQ Library Learning and Research Services



Research Data Manager

Designed at The University of Queensland

Questions?

Andrew Kneynsberg, PhD | Research Systems Coordinator
Research Management Systems

a.kneynsberg@uq.edu.au

UQ Research Data Manager – A Comprehensive Solution for Efficient Research Data Management

Mariana Kaiser – Wednesday 16:50 – 17:10 Boulevard B1

Unleashing Research Data Management Potential: The Power of Integrations

Jan Wisgerhof – Thursday 10:40 – 11:00 Boulevard B3