Disciplinary Perceptions of Data and Data Management Practices
Pamela L Shaw1 MSLIS, MS and Cunera M Buyu2 JD, MS, MSLIS
Galter Health Sciences Library1, Northwestern University Clinical and Translational Sciences Institute (NUCATS)1,2, See G. Mudd Library2, Feinberg School of Medicine1, Northwestern University1,2

Results - Demographics

• 831 responses; 788 completed the survey (response rate of 6.4%) • Representatives from 159 different departments responded to the survey, with the department of chemistry the largest respondent.

Results - Data Types & Storage Size

Results - Data Storage Location by School

References


Disciplinary Perceptions of Data & Data Services

Responses from humanities were low and many humanities researchers did not perceive their output doesn’t need. Despite the fact that text files compose the largest category of data collected among all researchers.

Barriers to Good Data Practices

• Poor storage choices
• Users are storing data on potentially unstable computer hard drives
• Lack of choice in long-term storage options at the university level, such as misunderstanding of current university management options for long term storage
• Lacks of options for long-term storage
• Lack of organizational structure
• No institutional policies related to "destruction and "disposition" were commonly discussed by all user communities
• This is an opportunity for librarians and IT to provide training and consultation on file management, metadata and file version control practices
• Lack of understanding can prevent researchers from leveraging NSF guidance on all forms of data management, from federal requirements to local storage and analysis solutions

Limitations of Survey Design

• Department designation
• Respondents were selectively invited to the survey, which is not a true random sample of departments, since not all departments chose to participate in the study.
• Contact follow-up
• Several respondents indicated that they would be willing to be contacted for a follow up interview, but only 2 provided contact email addresses.
• Terms usage
• The survey used several data types, not just the "text" type, that are not always familiar to the research community.
• Wronging questions
• The data set includes data by term and other personal information in a metadata file, which is not always advisable.

Affiliation by School

University Status

Don't know

34%

Other (please specify)

24%

School of Business Administration

23%

School of Communications

15%

School of Education & Social Policy

13%

School of Engineering & Applied Science

9%

School of Education & Social Science

9%

School of Education & Social Science

9%

School of Ed & Social Policy

8%

School of Engineering & Applied Science

8%

School of Economics

7%

School of Public Policy

7%

School of Public Policy

7%

School of Public Policy

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