



Research Data Management: Finding our role at Brunel

Shazia Arif

Subject Liaison Librarian, School of Engineering and Design

T:@shazia1001

Monique Ritchie

Research Librarian and Copyright Officer

T:@res_librarian

#USTLG

28 November 2013

Library
@Brunel

Brunel
UNIVERSITY
L O N D O N

RDM: where do we start?

- Fact finding survey to **investigate** existing RDM policy and practice, **identify** researcher needs and **assess** our ability to comply with RCUK research data requirements, FOI.

Brunel University
Research Data Management Project
Fact Finding Survey

About the project

As part of the UK government push towards Open Access to publicly funded research for the public Research Councils UK (RCUK) and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) are taking steps to ensure that research outputs including research data are published via Open Access mechanisms.

To remain eligible for EPSRC funding, institutions are expected to be fully compliant with EPSRC policy on research data by 1 May 2015 and to have a clear roadmap in place indicating what steps are being taken to achieve compliance by this date.

To meet government and funding body requirements, from January to June 2015, Brunel University Library is undertaking a research data management project, and will be conducting a series of interviews with researchers from all Schools and Specialist Research Institutes to determine what kinds of research data are currently generated, and how they are created, stored and published. We also want to determine what support our researchers need from the University to help manage it (such as training, storage, etc.) and whether there are any existing or expected obligations regarding this data (e.g. copyright, confidentiality agreements, etc.) from stakeholders, such as collaborators, sponsors, publishers.

This will allow the University to develop and implement the necessary policies and infrastructure to support our researchers while meeting the government's requirements by the deadline.

Thank you for participating – your contribution is very helpful to us.

To discuss the project or related issues in greater detail, please contact the Project Manager:

Monique Ritchie
Research Librarian and Copyright Officer
Brunel University Library
Uxbridge, Middlesex, Ux8 3PH
Telephone: 01895 263510 ext. 263510
E-mail: monique.ritchie@brunel.ac.uk

You can find more information on EPSRC and RCUK policies, Open Access and research data management from the Library's Research web pages: www.brunel.ac.uk/services/library/research

Areas we covered

- Research data types and software
- Data storage
- Data rights, access and security
- Data management practice and needs

RDM Fact-Finding Survey



About your data

In this part of the survey, we will ask you questions about the data you create or have created in the past.

1. What types of data do you currently hold? What other types of data have you held previously?

2. What quantities of data do you / have you held? What percentage of this data has been published?

3. Where do you get your data from?

4. What software packages do you use in the creation and/or analysis of your data? Could the data be used without access to this software?

How did we do it?

- All **RCUK funded researchers** were invited to participate
- Small project team administered via **interviews** (30-60 mins)
- Project took 6 months to complete – detailed data analysis still in progress

Some of the issues

- Knowing **what data is** – and what to keep
- Big data – where and how to **store** it
- Robust data **backup**
- Cataloguing all **data locations**
- Staying **up-to-date** with relevant policy and related issues
- Knowing what is required in **data management plans**
- Having research-specific **technical support**
- Managing **student research data** and IP

Our role

- Researchers have a lot to deal with (teaching, research, administrative **workloads**)
- Librarians must be prepared to **support researchers' changing needs**
- Librarians are exceptionally well placed to **offer, deliver and coordinate the right support**
- We can **acquire / adapt** the skills needed relatively easily.

Where we can help

- Data (and metadata) **cataloguing**
- Access to data: **archiving** and **publishing**
- Open access, RCUK / funder / sponsor **policy**

Discussion



Thank you

Library
@Brunel

Brunel
UNIVERSITY
L O N D O N

Shazia Arif
Subject Liaison Librarian
School of Engineering and Design, Brunel University
shazia.arif@brunel.ac.uk
T: @shazia1001

Monique Ritchie
Research Librarian and Copyright Officer, Brunel University
monique.ritchie@brunel.ac.uk
T: @res_librarian