Delivering innovative RDM training: the *immersivelInformatics* Pilot Programme

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Training Program Summary

• Explores theoretic content, discussion and activities in Research Data Management in connection with a real-world data context
• Integration of immersion (practicum) with theoretic and teaching components
• Pilot run at University of Melbourne to test the feasibility of the concept developed by UKOLN
## Thematic Structuring

| Week 1: Landscape       | • Introduction to course scope & RDM landscape.  
|                        | • RDM stakeholders and importance of policy drivers. Institutional research lifecycle context.  
|                        | • Research process at the coalface.            |
| Week 2: Understanding the Research Process | • Immersive work alongside practising researchers/PIs  
|                        | • Demos of instruments, methodologies.          
|                        | • Introduce working dataset.                    |
| Week 3: Requirements    | • How to gather requirements from research departments in your institution.  
|                        | • UK and Uni Melbourne tools                    |
| Week 4: Planning        | • How to support data management plans in your institution.  
|                        | • Research Data Management Tools                |
| Week 5: Informatics Advocacy | • Key technical domain building blocks including subject-based metadata schema, formats, identifiers, vocabularies, licences.  
| Week 6: Storage infrastructure | • Options for data storage including cloud.  
|                        | • Approaches to file-store provision.           
|                        | • Data repositories.                            |
| Week 7: Citation, Impact & Data Re-Use | • Persistent identifiers, DOIs.  
|                        | • Impact metric, Data citation and Data publication.  
|                        | • Data visualisation and Data analysis          |
| Week 8: Preservation    | • Approaches to long-term preservation and OAIS 
|                        | • Repositories and Disciplinary data centres.  
|                        | • Selection and appraisal.                     |
| Week 9: Revisiting the Research process | • Revisit academic department and provide good practice guidance.  
|                        | • Use working dataset as exemplar.             |
| Week 10: Legal & Ethical issues | • Legal and ethical issues associated with sensitive data, privacy, licences.  
|                        | • Summary, benefits & value.                    |
### How we delivered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week 1: Landscape</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 2: Introduction to immersive environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 3: Requirements Capture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4: RDM Planning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5: Informatics Advocacy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Evaluation: Mid-term review</td>
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<td>Week 9: Legal &amp; Ethical Issues</td>
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<td>Week 10-15: Consolidation time to complete documentation and to deepen engagement with immersive environment</td>
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<td>Consultation with training staff</td>
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<td>Week 16: Presentation of findings to immersive host</td>
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<td>Closing event</td>
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Program Evaluation

• Changing nature of responses between evaluation stages

• Issues of structure:
  – Time commitment
  – Perceived value deriving from Certification
    “... it felt more like an accredited course than training.”
  – Theory versus practical knowledge

• Content and structure of activities:
  – Emphasis on problem-based learning
  – Case study evolving throughout the training course
  – More group work, less individual learning
Subjective Observations & Reflections

• Level of previous knowledge:
  – Cannot start with data novices
  – In Australian context, most librarians are data novices

• Program best suited to researchers:
  – Demonstrated most evidence of ability to implement learning to their data context

• The tail end made shortcomings clear

• Need for vested interest in Research Data Management to sustain motivation
Subjective Observations & Reflections

• Impact
  – At the conclusive phase of pilot:
    • Change potential within immersive research environment
    • Heightened awareness of research data management issues in immersive research environment
  – Post-pilot:
    • Participants spreading the word upon return to work environment (sharing experience & learning with colleagues, flagging gaps, raising awareness, identifying opportunities)
    • Participants engaging Research Data Management experts at University Library in training events and workshops
Where to now?

- 2013 training materials released on CC licence shortly – check at: www.immersiveinformatics.org

@Melbourne:
- Package ImmersiveInformatics Mark II for Researchers and research assistants in 2014
- Develop a Pre-immersiveinformatics program for targeted Subject Librarians in 2014.
- Build RDM roles for Subject Librarians via meaningful activities within the Research Data Consultation process with researchers and graduate researchers.

@Pitt:
- Integrate immersion in iSchool Info Science programs
Questions & more information

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www.library.unimelb.edu.au/digitalscholarship