Creating a community: going beyond compliance

Rosie Higman
Research Data Advisor,
University of Cambridge
@RosieHLib

Hardy Schwamm
Research Data Manager,
Lancaster University
@HardySchwamm
Outline

• Joint aims
• Champions at Cambridge
• Lancaster’s Data Conversations
• Discussion:
  • What has worked?
  • What hasn’t worked?
  • What are you planning on doing in the future?
Aim: Winning hearts and minds for RDM

- Embedding RDM is part of a wider cultural change in scholarly communications towards Open Research Agenda

- Compliance-based approaches has limits

- Democratic approach – working with researchers to develop services and achieve cultural change
The Cambridge story so far...

- Targeted briefings in departments
- Workshops
- RDM Newsletter
- RDM Working Group & Project Group
- OpenCon Cambridge
- Links to other support services
Data Champions

• **What:** Advocates in the department who will train their peers & a community of practice

• **Why:** Resourcing, expertise, diffuse institution

• **How:** Open call with few criteria which we publicised **widely**
Data Champions

• **Result:** 44 Cambridge applicants – mostly in STEM subjects

• **Next steps:**
  • Training
  • Targeting HASS researchers
  • Nurturing a community
Lancaster: Early days…

• Long term aim: contribute to culture change
• Inspired by Data Dialogue events
• Got support from RDM Steering Group
• First step: “Data Conversations” events with “ally” Data Science Institute
• First event 30 January 2017 with lightning talks
• Second step (2018)?: RDM Champions as advocates and subject expertise
Discussion groups

• What has worked?

• What hasn’t worked?

• What are you planning on doing in the future?