Policies and Planning for Data Curation

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Step 1: Map curation policy requirements: what are researchers and institutions expected to have in place?


Step 2: Different activities and research strands to meet the range of policy needs apparent throughout the lifecycle.

Digital Preservation Policy Study at the University of Glasgow
http://www.gla.ac.uk/departments/hst/strategicdigitalpreservation/policystudy/
The University of Glasgow has recently undertaken a scoping study to ascertain what curation support, guidance and policies are required to maintain its digital resources into the future. The study investigated how research, teaching and administrative outputs are created and managed throughout their lifecycles, noting the importance of policies to ensure effective procedures were implemented. Several of the suggested actions in the Recommendations for a digital preservation strategy at the University of Glasgow report will be followed up through the Incremental project.

University of Glasgow

Incremental
http://www.lib.com.ac.uk/projects/
The Incremental project is a collaboration between Cambridge University Library and MAlt at the University of Glasgow, funded under the 07/09 JISC data management infrastructure call. The project will scope and implement a data support infrastructure at both institutions. We envisage this will concentrate on the provision of a soft infrastructure (e.g. policy, guidance, training, templates) rather than major technical development. Key policy activities we expect to undertake are:
- Tailored support for researchers developing data management plans, resulting in discipline-specific templates to be fed back into the DCC data plan toolkit for use by other researchers in similar fields;
- Policies for data curation, specifically: institutional digital preservation or repository policies. This work will build on existing research, for example the Glasgow policy study and the DataShare report Policy-making for Research Data in Repositories.

Data Management Plans
http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resource/curation-policies/
Funding bodies increasingly require their grant holders to produce data management and sharing plans at the application stage. As such, the DCC has mapped requirements, producing a Data Management Plan Content Checklist which collates all the issues funders expect researchers to address. An interactive web-based tool is in development, which will allow researchers to refine the DCC data plan content based on their funding body or research context. It will also be possible to view and adapt examples of best practice via a library of data management statements/options to aid composition of the plan.

Enhancing Repository Infrastructure in Scotland (ERIS)
http://erisrcotland.wordpress.com/
The ERIS project builds on IRIScotland recommendations and pilot work, aiming to: 1) motivate deposit to repositories; 2) facilitate the integration and use of repositories; and 3) develop the IRIScotland pilots into a trusted cross-repository service capable of providing access to a critical mass of Scottish research output. The DCC will undertake work to enhance curation and preservation processes in HE Institutional Repositories as part of the ERIS project, focusing specifically on the development of a curation and preservation policy framework.