Implementing a Research Data Policy at Leiden University

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Discover the world at Leiden University
1. Policy
2. Engagement of academic staff
3. Faculty pilots
4. Feedback on Regulation
5. Implementation programme
6. Steps ahead

Broad university, 6 faculties
RDM support at library, approx. 1,2 fte
Leiden University RDM Project (2014-2016)

Steering committee
Executive Board & Directors org. units

Directed centrally by senior policy officer for research, Academic Affairs department

3 sub-projects
Policy, Training & Support, Infrastructure

Libraries (UBL)
ICT (ISSC)
Academic Affairs
Grant Office

Faculties / Institutes
Pioneers & Data Management Committees

Sounding Board
Pioneers, researchers, support staff, Medical Centre

• RDM in University agenda
• Commitment Rector Magnificus
• Faculty Boards

Senior researchers, organise pilot projects

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Leiden University: Data Management Regulation (apr. 2016)

**BEFORE**

- Write a data management plan (DMP)

**DURING**

- Secure storage: integrity, availability, confidentiality

**AFTER**

- Data must remain available for **10 years**
- Data should be ‘FAIR’
- Provide documentation, metadata, software for reuse
- Archive data in a certified archive

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Policy at Faculty level

Regulation provides general framework. Faculties further elaborate regulations (faculty or institute level or combination).

- **Pilot projects**
  - All pioneers assess discipline specific needs. Faculties are free to chose type of pilot: workshops, interviews, survey, tailor-made data training pilots for PhD, etc.

- **Data management committees (scientific directors, dean, researchers**
  - Comment on draft regulation
  - Work out details of institutional protocols
  - Support needs?
  - Preferred facilities
Science pilot

• Electronic Notebook
• From bachelor to PhD

Research Quality

Education

Scientific Integrity

External requirements

• Cases studies: retrieve data from recent theses
• Template for RDM paragraphs in proposals
Pilot at Science institute

Leiden Academic Centre for Drug Research

Comprehensive approach of training, policy and infrastructure Mandatory tailor-made data management training within PhD Education and Supervision programme

• PhD < 6 months of start of project
• Senior researcher and data librarians
• Write and present Data Management Plan
• Bottom-up approach > discussion within research groups
  - “Data organization day”
• Since 2014: 6 groups, approx. 70 PhD

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Faculty of Science protocol: data forms

PhD state in Data Form location of research data before defence. Form signed by supervisor and scientific director

May – Dec. 2016: 102 data forms

- All data underlying theses now available to institute
- Insight in volume / types datasets
- Insight in sharing practices
- Most of the data not ‘FAIR’ yet
- Managing data on physical storage / shared network drives is problematic

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Data forms: location of data

Reasons for not making data publicly available:

- Not all projects create research data
- Commercial interests / contractual obligations / third party data
- Unfamiliarity with repositories / archives

Baseline?

Might help to evaluate effect of our efforts to provide tailor-made information and (new) facilities in the next years...
Feedback & recommendations

• Regulation welcomed by researchers as a means to improve quality of research (reporting)
• Differences in nature, volume, methods etc.
• But also many concerns in common: volumes, sensitive data, sharing data
• Need for adequate facilities increases with awareness

➢ Comprehensive data management programme to enable researchers to comply with University Regulation and to monitor and evaluate policy

University-wide, 2017 - 2019
## Implementation program

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<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
<th>Conditions</th>
<th>Results</th>
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<td>Coordination</td>
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<td>Awareness</td>
<td>Communication</td>
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<td>Services for entire research life cycle</td>
<td>Domain architecture</td>
<td>Data vault, shared storage space, ‘dark archive’, repositories</td>
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<td>Sourcing decisions</td>
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<td>Training &amp; support</td>
<td>Generic when possible &amp; specific when needed</td>
<td>Services catalogue up-to-date</td>
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<td>One-stop-shop</td>
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<td>Cooperate (inter)nationally</td>
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<td>Efficiency</td>
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<td>Quantify and visualise all scholarly output</td>
<td>Policy for persistent identifiers</td>
<td>Digital DMP template</td>
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<td>DMP registration</td>
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<td>Dataset registration, Orcid</td>
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<td>Reliable management information</td>
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<td>Insight in costs</td>
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<td>Costing model</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monitor, evaluate and review policy</td>
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Lessons learnt

- Stakeholders involvement is crucial, esp. data pioneers at faculties
- Commitment of Executive Board helps a lot
- Combination of top-down & bottom-up approach to account for differences in disciplines

Note that:
- Programme still being discussed
- Major challenge: Simultaneous development and introduction of large number of new facilities
  - Assign responsibilities
- Might eventually lead to changes in Regulation
- contribute to University ambitions on quality of research and Open Science
Steps ahead

• Collect input on the programme from all stakeholders
• Prioritise activities
• Seek (international) collaboration
• Evaluate in three years time if researchers are able to perform responsible DM
Thanks

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Check out Liber Quarterly for more information on our data services catalogue
http://dx.doi.org/10.18352/lq.10185
Questions?