

Creating a Community of Data Champions

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- Who are the Data Champions and why were they needed?
- Data Champions as a Community of Practice
- Activities so far and the risks of the project

Available as a preprint:

<https://doi.org/10.1101/104661>



High demand for training

Need to raise awareness of RDM across the research community

Wide variety of disciplines to serve

Limited resources

Data Champions

Researchers, PhD students or support staff who have agreed to **advocate** for good data management and sharing practice **within their department.**



Mailing lists

Social media

Newsletters

Networks

Administrators

Targeting individuals...

Who are the Data Champions?

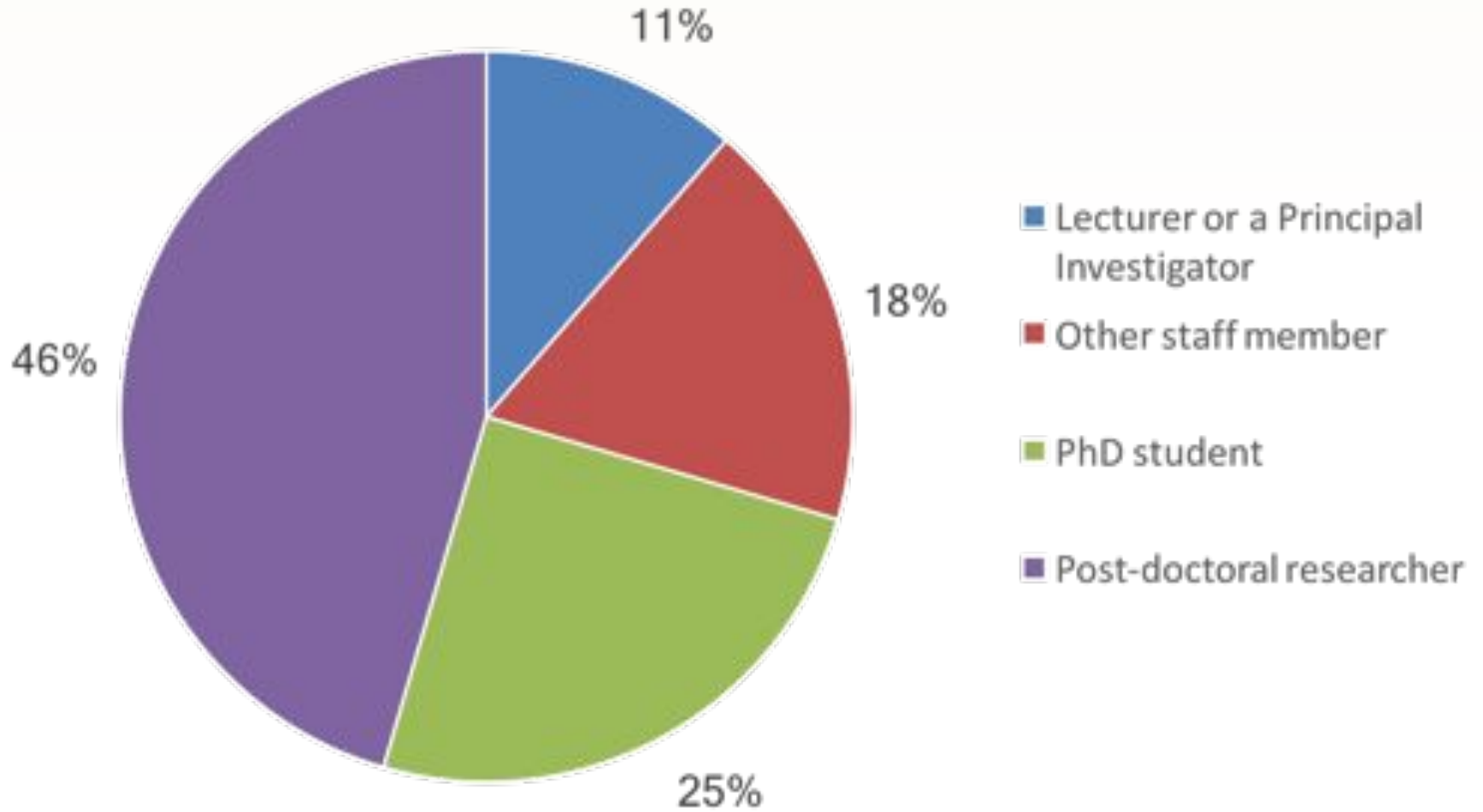
41 Champions

26 departments

5 Schools



Who are the Data Champions?



Welcoming our Data Champions



“groups of people who share...a passion about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge...in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis”
(Wenger, McDermott & Snyder, 2002)

Central support providing legitimacy	Centrally instigated – Champions ‘applied’
Researcher-led	Service provision as part of role
Group defining the “domain”	Initial “practices” provided to the group

Developing the Data Champion Community



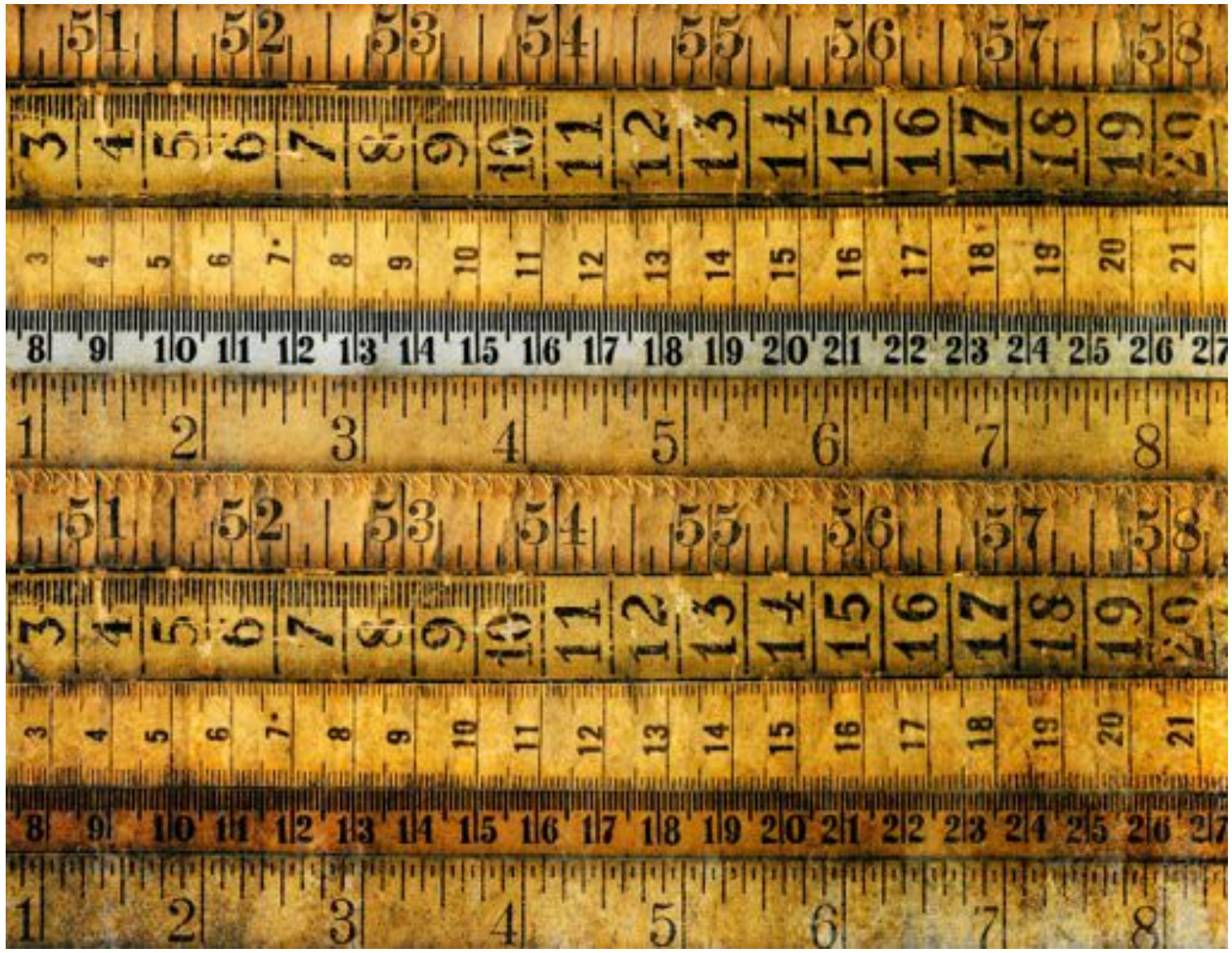


- Information sessions
- Weekly ‘tips’ emails
- Talks to research groups
- A training needs analysis for the department
- A sub-group being formed in Engineering
- Advertising via departmental newsletters
- Open data FAQs for chemists
- ORCID drop-in sessions...





Measuring value in a community



- Our Data Champions are:
 - Developing discipline-specific RDM knowledge
 - Improving knowledge exchange across the University
 - Increasing the amount of RDM advocacy taking place
- The success of the project will depend on sufficient rewards for participants and resourcing
- They are a nascent Community of Practice which requires further nurturing

Thank you

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<https://unlockingresearch.blog.lib.cam.ac.uk/>

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