

JISC Managing Research Data 2 Programme Launch
Nottingham
1-2 December, 2011
Robin Rice
Data Librarian
University of Edinburgh



RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT: POLICY DEVELOPMENT



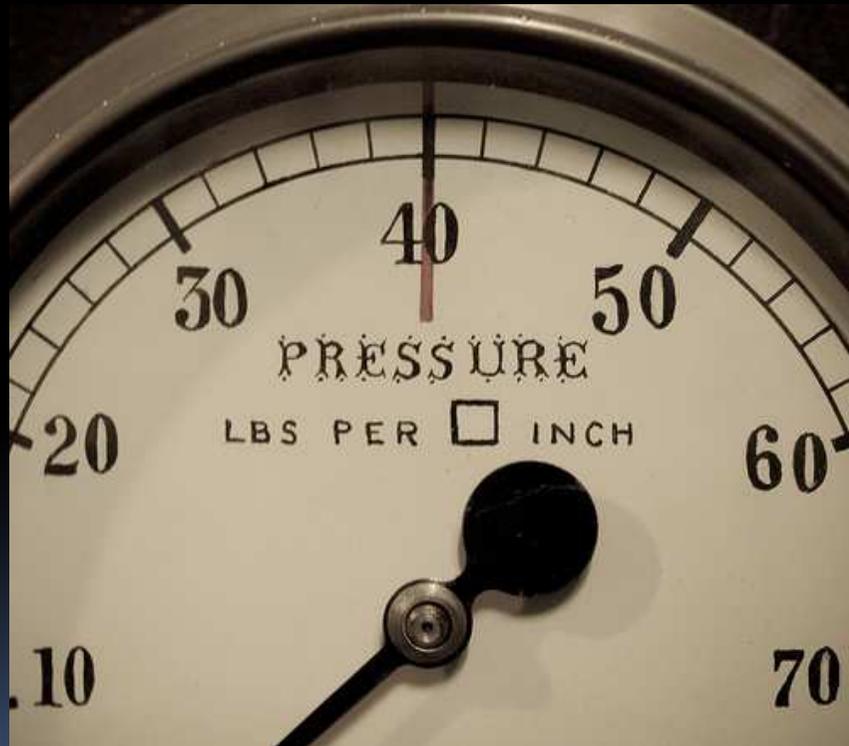
University Research Data Management Policy

The policy for management of research data was approved by the University Court on 16 May, 2011.

Vice-Principal Jeff Haywood was a champion for the University of Edinburgh to develop the first (?) RDM policy in the UK

Pressure for change

(slide from IDCC 2010 – out of date now!)



Wwarby on flickr

- **Research funders** seeking to add value
- **Publishers** responding to demand
- **Public** wanting access to publicly funded data
- *Universities* reluctant to step up to challenge?

Goals resulting from 2008 Data Audit Framework Implementation Project at Edinburgh



- **Develop university policy**
- Develop online guidance
- Develop training
- Develop services & support

Seeking win + win + win + win + win.....

Where do I safely keep my data from my fieldwork, as I travel home?

How do we ensure we have access to our research data after some of the team have left?

How can our research collaborations share data, and make them available once complete?

How can I best keep years worth of research data secure and accessible for when I and others need to re-use it?

How do we ensure compliance to funders' requirement for several years of open access to data?

PhD student

individual researcher

research team

university

supra-university

LEVEL

Events influencing the policy

- Recent adoption of the Code of Practice for Research (UK Research Integrity Office, 2009) by the university's research office, obligating the institution to provide support for retention and access to data underlying published research.
- 'Climategate' email review at East Anglia University highlighting the reputational risk and legal accountability associated with staff not being forthcoming in response to Freedom of Information (FOI) requests for data from the public.

Developing an RDM policy

- Know the drivers for your own institution and practice the art of persuasion. Convince yourself.
- Generate broad, inclusive discussion about roles and responsibilities. Don't rush it.
- How big is your kirk? Seek alliances actively.
- Who is your high-level champion? Who are your academic champions? Who will draft the words?
- Agree a style – aspirational? mandate? legal?
- Undertake a service gap analysis; plan to address.
- Take advantage of side benefits, even if not ultimately successful. (Means > end?)
- Postcard from the future: what will it achieve?

Links

- University data policy

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/research-data-policy>

- Research Data Support pages

<http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/data-library>

■ *R.Rice at ed.ac.uk*

The 10 Policy Principles

1. Research data will be managed to the highest standards throughout the **research data lifecycle** as part of the University's commitment to research excellence
2. Responsibility for research data management through a sound research data management plan during any research project or programme lies **primarily with Principal Investigators (PIs)**.
3. All new research proposals must **include research data management plans** or protocols that explicitly address data capture, management, integrity, confidentiality, retention, sharing and publication.
4. The University will **provide training, support, advice** and where appropriate guidelines and templates for the research data management and research data management plans.
5. The University will provide mechanisms and services **for storage, backup, registration, deposit and retention** of research data assets in support of current and future access, during and after completion of research projects.

The 10 Policy Principles

6. Any **data which is retained elsewhere**, for example in an international data service or domain repository should be registered with the University.
7. Research data management plans must ensure that **research data are available for access and re-use where appropriate** and under appropriate safeguards.
8. The legitimate interests of the **subjects of research** data must be **protected**.
9. Research data of **future historical interest**, and all research data that represent records of the University, including data **that substantiate research findings**, will be offered and assessed for deposit and retention in an appropriate national or international data service or domain repository, or a University repository.
10. Exclusive rights to reuse or publish research data should not be handed over to commercial publishers or agents without retaining the rights to make the data **openly available for re-use**, unless this is a condition of funding.