

Data Management Planning and Storage for Psychology

Dr Andrew Thompson & Dr Richard R. Plant, University of Sheffield, UK



The DMSPPsych project aims to establish a culture of data management planning, archiving, and ongoing reuse of data acquired as a result of psychological research within the Department of Psychology at The University of Sheffield.

We recognise it is often difficult and time consuming for the individual, research group or even department to follow a coordinated approach especially where there are no local or discipline specific exemplars to follow. By tackling these issues at a grass roots level, working with researchers on a one-to-one basis, we hope to provide support and foster an atmosphere of collaboration with regard to data management.

We are recruiting now! r.r.plant@sheffield.ac.uk

Who?

- Researchers and anyone who generates data!

What?

- Data management plan; Access/sharing; Long-term curation; Monitoring; Guidance; Costs

When?

- Now! All major research councils require data management plans with bids (AHRC, BBSRC, CRUK, EPSRC, ESRC; MRC, NERC, STFC, Wellcome). They also require you to maintain and share data in a "meaningful" way
- The thumb screws will get tightened as there's money and reputations involved

Where?

- Everywhere! This is now going worldwide after being kick-started by NSF. There's no escape!
- Most funders and universities are scrambling to get on-board
- Open Government initiative in the US
- Open Government in the UK (<http://data.gov.uk/>)

Why?

- Reuse — digital data fast disappearing
- Needed to get funding / scored / checked
- More successful grant applications
- Academic honesty & integrity
- FoI requests & compliance with DPA
- Increase your citations by 69%
- More collaboration opportunities
- Likely to count for the REF in future years
- Professionalism — be at the forefront

How?

- We're here to help with planning in relation to grant applications
- Help with adherence & review
- Aid in describing your data with meta-data. Submitting an SPSS / CSV / Excel file is no longer sufficient!
- Help with structured storage
- Aim to open a localised "one stop shop" for all aspects of data management

Use it or lose it or have it centrally managed by someone who's not an expert in your discipline (central storage is a good thing as are monitoring and compliance checks)

Get in on the ground floor — don't get left behind — contact r.r.plant@sheffield.ac.uk

