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# DataQ: A Collaborative Platform for Answering Research Data Questions in Libraries

Yasmeen Shorish

*James Madison University*, shorisyl@jmu.edu

Sarah Pickle

*Claremont University Consortium*, sarah\_pickle@cuc.claremont.edu

Christie A. Wiley

*University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*, cawiley@illinois.edu

Megan Bresnahan

*Tufts University*, megan.bresnahan@tufts.edu

Andrew M. Johnson

*University of Colorado Boulder*, andrew.m.johnson@colorado.edu

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# DATAQ A Collaborative Platform for Answering Research Data Questions in Libraries

Yasmeen Shorish (James Madison University), Sarah Pickle (The Claremont Colleges), Christie Wiley (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign), Megan Bresnahan, (Tufts University), Andrew Johnson (University of Colorado Boulder)

## librarians + research data services



### The Need

*“When libraries provide research data services related to reference, consultation, or instruction, those services are most likely to be offered by individual librarians or library staff members who are subject discipline specialists.”*

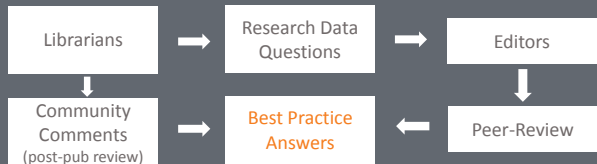
-Tenopir, C., Birch, B., & Allard, S. (2012). *Academic Libraries and Research Data Services*. Retrieved from [http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org/acrl/files/content/publications/whitepapers/Tenopir\\_Birch\\_Allard.pdf](http://www.ala.org/acrl/sites/ala.org/acrl/files/content/publications/whitepapers/Tenopir_Birch_Allard.pdf)

### How can we provide support for these individuals?

### Creating a tool and community as part of the solution

The DataQ project is an IMLS-funded effort by the University of Colorado Boulder Libraries, the Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA), and the Great Plains Network (GPN) to develop an online knowledge-base of research data questions and answers curated for and by the library community. The website and project are intended to address the growing need for resources to assist libraries with providing support for the research data needs of faculty and students.

### The model for the DataQ site



### Impact

#### Website engagement data from first month after launch

	Number
Questions Answered	73
Registered Users	19

#### Google Analytics data from first month after launch

	Number
Users	1613
Sessions	2390
Page Views	8929

#### Twitter Analytics data as of 9/15/15

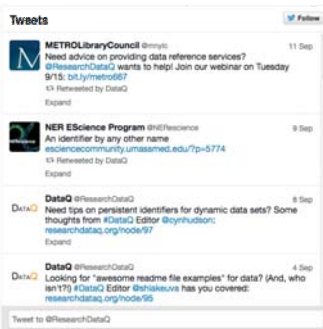
	Number
Followers	222
Profile Visits	3436
Tweet Impressions	12780

## DataQ + you

### What DataQ means for you

The DataQ project team has developed an online platform for information professionals to use to:

- Ask questions about data management and curation
- Share ideas and approaches to answering these questions
- Identify practical tools and resources for helping researchers
- Connect with a supportive community of librarians and data experts



### Questions by the community to the DataQ site



What exactly IS metadata? Is there something I need to know beyond tagging?

Submitted by Anonymous on Thu, 08/03/15 - 11:24

Answers: 1

Topic: Data Documentation and Metadata

Metadata are information that aid in the discovery, indexing, and interpretation of data. They may include information like the origin and purpose of the study, the time period in which the study was conducted, geographic information about where it was conducted, access restrictions on the data, and terms of use. Sometimes "metadata" is used interchangeably with "documentation," which is any information that helps answer data and its projects understood by others, such as the procedures for data collection, the broader context for the data, and how the data have been managed and organized. Checkbooks and workflow files are common forms of documentation.

Are there sample data management plans I can look at? Or a template I can use?

Submitted by Anonymous on Thu, 08/03/15 - 11:23

Answers: 1

Topic: Data Management Planning

Find it depends on what funder you are referring to. The DataQ tool provides sample data management plans (DMPs) (https://dataq.org) for many of the most common funders. These are actually data management plans that users of the DataQ tool have set to "public". They have not been vetted for quality, completeness or adherence to funder guidelines. The Data Management Planning page from DataQ (http://www.dataq.org/data-management-planning) templates can also be found at the DataQ tool. You can use the DataQ tool to create your data management plan (DMP). The DataQ tool will walk you through the specific funder requirements. If you do not want to use the tool, you can use any of the guidelines and help for filling out a DMP; you can download a template for the funder supported but the DataQ tool on this page of the DataQ tool: https://dataq.org/faq/

What is research data?

Submitted by Anonymous on Sat, 08/03/15 - 12:00

Answers: 1

Topic: Research

Topic: Metadata

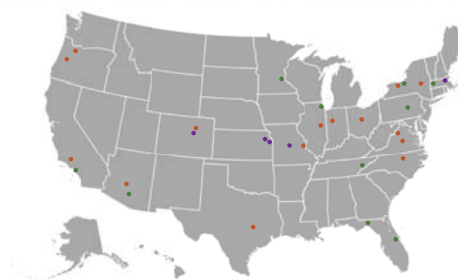
This is a question with various answers, and one that faculty frequently ask. For purposes of a data management plan, and/or complying with U.S. Federal mandates to make research data available, the general response is that data is the "research" (not the metadata) commonly accepted in the scientific community as necessary to understand, interpret, and/or reproduce the research. Also according to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) (https://www.fda.gov/oc/2011/04/01/omb-research-data-management-plan-research-data-not-research-metadata.html), research data does not include "preliminary analyses, drafts of scientific papers, plans for future research, peer reviews, or communications with colleagues."

## the future + DataQ

Multiple sustainability efforts are in process to allow DataQ to persist as an ongoing, evolving resource. Additional grant opportunities are being explored and potential partnerships opportunities with national library organizations and library schools are under discussion. User community feedback and support will be critical to advancing DataQ as a trusted, ongoing resource. Tweet your thoughts or leave feedback on the DataQ site!

### The DataQ Team

Advisory Board  
Editorial Team  
Project Volunteers



DataQ Editors:  
L-R, Top Row: Shea Swauger, Steven Van Tuijl, Jackie Wirz, Mary Whelan, Standa Pejsa; 2<sup>nd</sup> Row: Christie Wiley, Yasmeen Shorish, Elena Feinstein, Kathleen Fear, Megan Bresnahan (PI); Bottom Row: Erica Johns, Sherry Lake, Amanda Rinehart, Cynthia Hudson-Vitale, Andrew Johnson (PI).  
Not Pictured: Sarah Pickle and Cecilia Smith.



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