

# Introducing LabArchives to the University of Utah

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**ABSTRACT:** The University of Utah is an R-1 university with overall sponsored projects totaling over \$459 million in 2017. The top agencies funding research are NSF, NIH, DOD and DOE. Over the years technological improvements have increased the amount of digital storage required for research. Faculty were seeking increased storage space for their research needs while both the NSF and NIH were stressing improved data management. Researchers asked librarians for assistance. Electronic notebooks (ELNs) would help to solve both needs. The Marriott Library provides competitive grants to its staff and librarians to develop services for students and faculty. After assessing the need for and evaluating the available electronic notebooks (ELNs), a grant application was submitted and funded to pilot the ELN, LabArchives at the University of Utah. The objective of the pilot was to determine the issues involved in introducing and using LabArchives. Seven research groups from Oncology, Bioengineering, Chemical Engineering, Transportation Research, Mechanical Engineering, Concrete Research and the Library participated in the year-long study. This presentation will discuss the issues encountered and the requirements for a successful rollout.



## Pilot Project

Seven research groups (34 users) participated in the pilot to determine issues in implementing LabArchives. Issues encountered include:

- Lack of space for laptops in labs
- Dirty labs and electronics do not mix
- Modelling and simulation not supported
- Not really interdisciplinary
- People really like writing
- Timing of the introduction is important
- Phones help out
- Not all disciplines are concerned about keeping everything
- Researchers may have trouble organizing the people in their notebooks
- Metadata? What's that?

## Marketing Plan

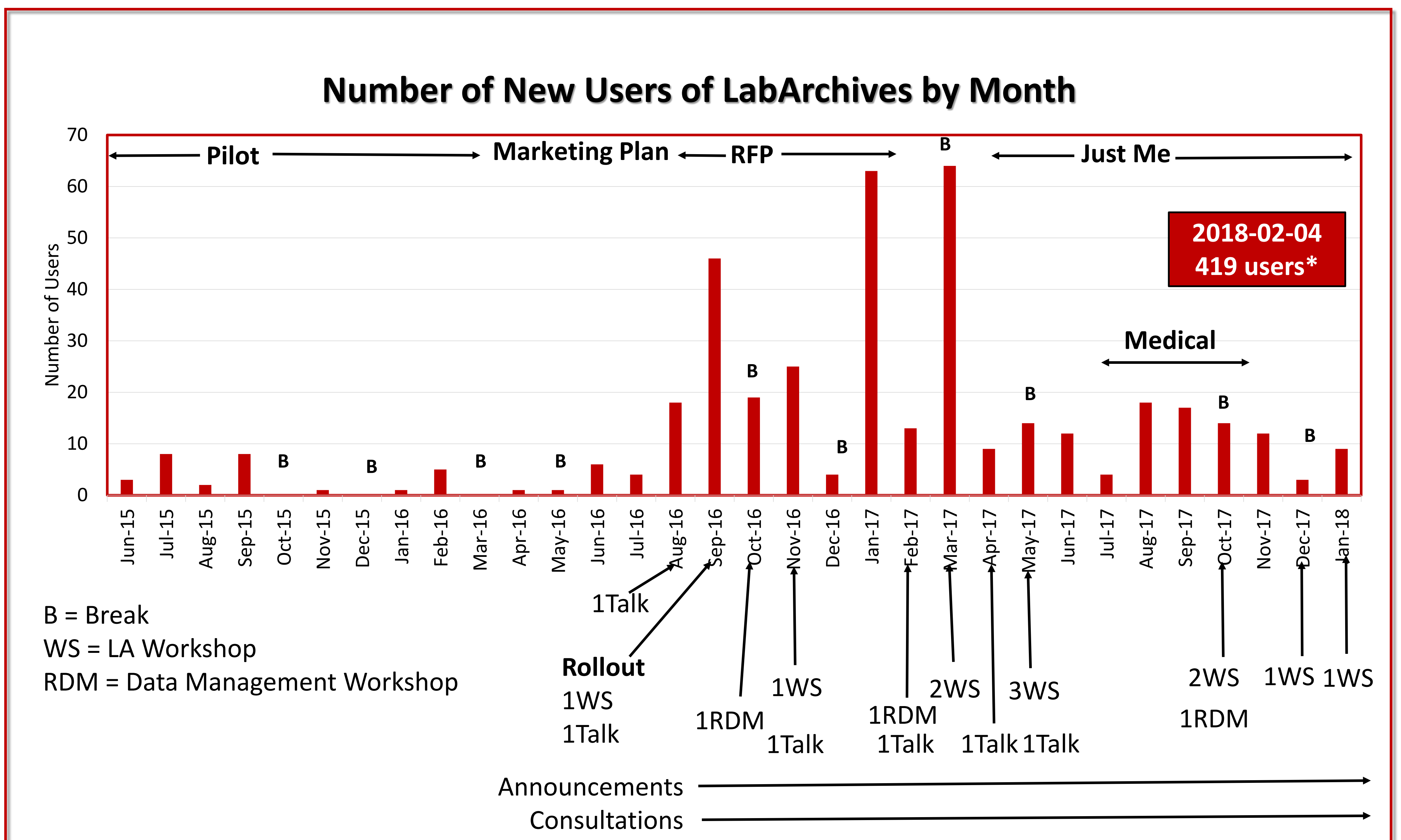
### Develop

- Library Guide
- Elevator speeches
- 15-30 min presentations
- 1.5 hour introductory workshop
- Announcements for newsletters, Office of Software Licensing

### Develop Schedule – Contact:

- Research Newsletter for due dates
- Research Admin. Training Service to schedule workshops
- Assoc. VP-Research for meeting schedule of Research Deans
- Academic Senate for listings of new faculty
- Grant Writers Network for schedule of meetings

Target audience –new faculty, grant writers, researchers, Deans and Research Deans



## Factors Influencing Timing of Researchers Initiating LabArchives

**The Sept 2016 rollout** consisted of (1) announcements in campus newsletters, the website of Office of Software Licensing, the RDM, and VP Research Office annual listing of research resources, (2) a LA workshop, (3) talks to the grant writers and the Research Deans, and (4) the LA subject guide. The grant writers communicated to researchers, Research Deans communicated to departments, and newsletters and websites communicated to everyone. This gave us an initial boost. Not having a concerted effort in 2017 may have caused the decreased uptake in the second year.

**The timing of LA workshops** were planned (starting in March 2017) for when faculty would have extra time – semester breaks, holiday breaks, end of school year breaks. They were advertised through the subject guide, announcements and by the University’s RATS program – Research Administration Training Service. The timing and the announcements of the workshops initiated new accounts.

**The Jan 2017 boost** seems to be the result of the cumulative effect of the rollout and announcements.

**The March 2017 uptake** was a result of the cumulative effect of the LA workshops and announcements that a 3-year contract with LabArchives had been signed.

**New faculty** show up in August and January and this caused some of the uptake.

\*The 419 users does not include accounts for the classroom edition or accounts set up and never used.



UU RATS Workshops

