Introduction to Research Data and Knowledge Systems Minitrack

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Overview

The purpose of this minitrack is to present and discuss challenges for Information Systems (IS) in research data management (RDM).

We deal with the rising topic of RDM and the actual awareness for appropriate data handling. We seek to investigate how RDM could be improved by considering technical and social challenges. Research in this field contributes to academic research by establishing and testing RDM concepts as well as suitable technology.

The minitrack encourages submissions that particularly focus on relevant theoretical concepts or case studies. Empirical, theoretical, qualitative, and quantitative research papers are welcome.

The minitrack focuses on all topics that are related to the research field, such as:

- Research data management in general
- Cross-institutional collaboration
- Data sharing and open access
- Privacy and security issues
- Information Infrastructures in higher education
- RDM artefacts: designing concepts and technology for RDM
- Adoption of and migration between RDM infrastructures
- Ethical concerns in RDM
- Legal issues in RDM
- Acceptance and rejection of RDM
- Intercultural barriers on open

Contribution and Discussion

The ongoing digitalization of academic work processes has led to a shift in academic work culture where researchers are supposed to take on more responsibility in term of adequate data management. This topic is discussed in the paper "Do researchers dream of research data management?". It is argued

that third party funding institutions as well as high class journals are increasingly asking for standardized data management processes and started to set up policies which should guide researchers to manage their data properly. In this work, we deal with the highly IS relevant topic of research data management (RDM) and provide an overview of the different existing research data management guidelines of the eight biggest governmental funded institutions and the biggest politically-independent institution. All existing guidelines of those institutions were considered in a qualitative analysis, summarized and evaluated. It has been found that non-technical requirements evolve to non-technical barriers, which institutions need to address to a greater extent within their guidelines to promote scientific research. This work shows the shift in the understanding of RDM and provides the present perspective which help researchers to better understand the ongoing trend of RDM within science.

Based on the insights of this research, we encourage the academic community to reflect how Information Systems could contribute to improvements in research data management. The minitrack will be a starting point to gather interested researchers and open a vivid discussion among them.

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