



**ABSTRACT:** This poster provides an example of a data preservation project at a public university. It includes examples of types of materials preserved as well as ways in which liaison librarians can become involved in this rapidly emerging area.

## I. Why is this important?

Often overlooked in collection development has been the preservation of data and other products of research created by an institution's own researchers.

In the last few years there has been a major change in culture in the research world concerning the preservation and accessibility of research data. For example,

- some funding agencies are requiring data management plans in grant proposals (researchers must articulate how their research data will be preserved and made publically accessible) <sup>1</sup>
- Some journals are now requiring that authors submit data files along with final manuscripts (requiring data files be made publically available) <sup>2</sup>
- Many libraries have responded to this culture change by hiring a specialist in this area (with job titles such as research data librarian or e-science librarian).

This opens new possibilities for libraries to preserve unique collections produced by faculty and student research.

## II. Sample data preservation project

### Who:



The Ketterson/Nolan Research Group  
Department of Biology, Indiana University

- This research group has conducted a long-term (30 year) study on songbird ecology, behavior, and evolution.

## II. Sample data preservation project cont'd

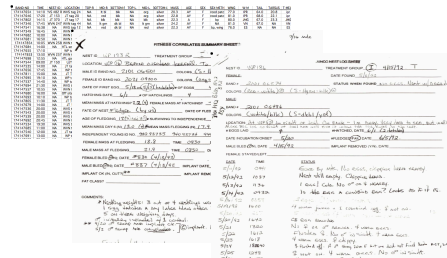
### What:

- Although the group has published over 100 scientific papers, they have continually amassed large amounts of data and research output that are unpublished, unmined, and of value to the greater scientific community.
- Goal: preserving the lab's research output using their campus institutional repository (IUScholarWorks) to archive and share various unpublished products of their research.

## III. Examples of types of materials preserved in from a 30 year songbird study

research-related documents including...

- data files

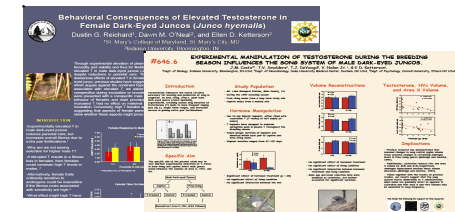


- research protocols



## III. Examples of types of materials preserved in the project from 30 year songbird study cont'd

- research posters



- Also preserved were grant proposals, grant reports, and other gray literature created as a result of the research process.

## IV. Possible roles of how liaison librarians can become involved in the preservation of data and other products of research

- Connect faculty to your campus Institutional Repository (IR)
  - Many faculty simply may not be aware of IR
  - Promote IR to faculty (both purpose of IR and value)
  - Promote idea of using the library for preservation of their work (stewardship and long term preservation)
- Be the link between IR librarians and faculty
  - Identify faculty that might be prime candidates for collections
  - Help identify research products created by your faculty that might be potential candidates for preservation
- Think broadly about what potential products of science, social science, and humanities research that might be candidates for preservation
- Consider, based on your own strengths, potential roles you might play in preserving the unique collections of your institution's researchers

### Literature cited

1. National Science Foundation. (2013). *Dissemination and Sharing of Research Results*. (Retrieved April 1, 2013 from <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp>)
2. Dryad. (2013). *About Dryad*. (Retrieved April 1, 2013 from <http://datadryad.org/pages/members>)