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## Virginia Data Management Bootcamp: A Collaborative Initiative in Data Education

Margaret E. Henderson

*Virginia Commonwealth University*

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# Virginia Data Management Bootcamp: A Collaborative Initiative in Data Education

Presented by Margaret Henderson, Virginia Commonwealth University

The first Bootcamp was a partnership between University of Virginia and Virginia Tech. The university libraries at these two research universities took the lead, and built partnerships with groups outside of the libraries, to design and offer a Bootcamp to educate early career researchers about issues and best practices in research data management.

Since the first Bootcamp in 2013, it has grown from the original two institutions to now include, in 2015, five additional institutions: George Mason University, James Madison University, Old Dominion University, Virginia Commonwealth University, and the College of William & Mary. The group has grown as librarians share information at local and national meetings, and as libraries add data librarians or data responsibilities to existing positions, there are more people able to join in the teaching and organizing.

Attendance has grown as well.

**Bootcamp Attendance: 2013-2015**

BOOTCAMP	Number of Institutions	Total Attendance
2013	2	50
2014	5	120
2015	7	449

### Challenges

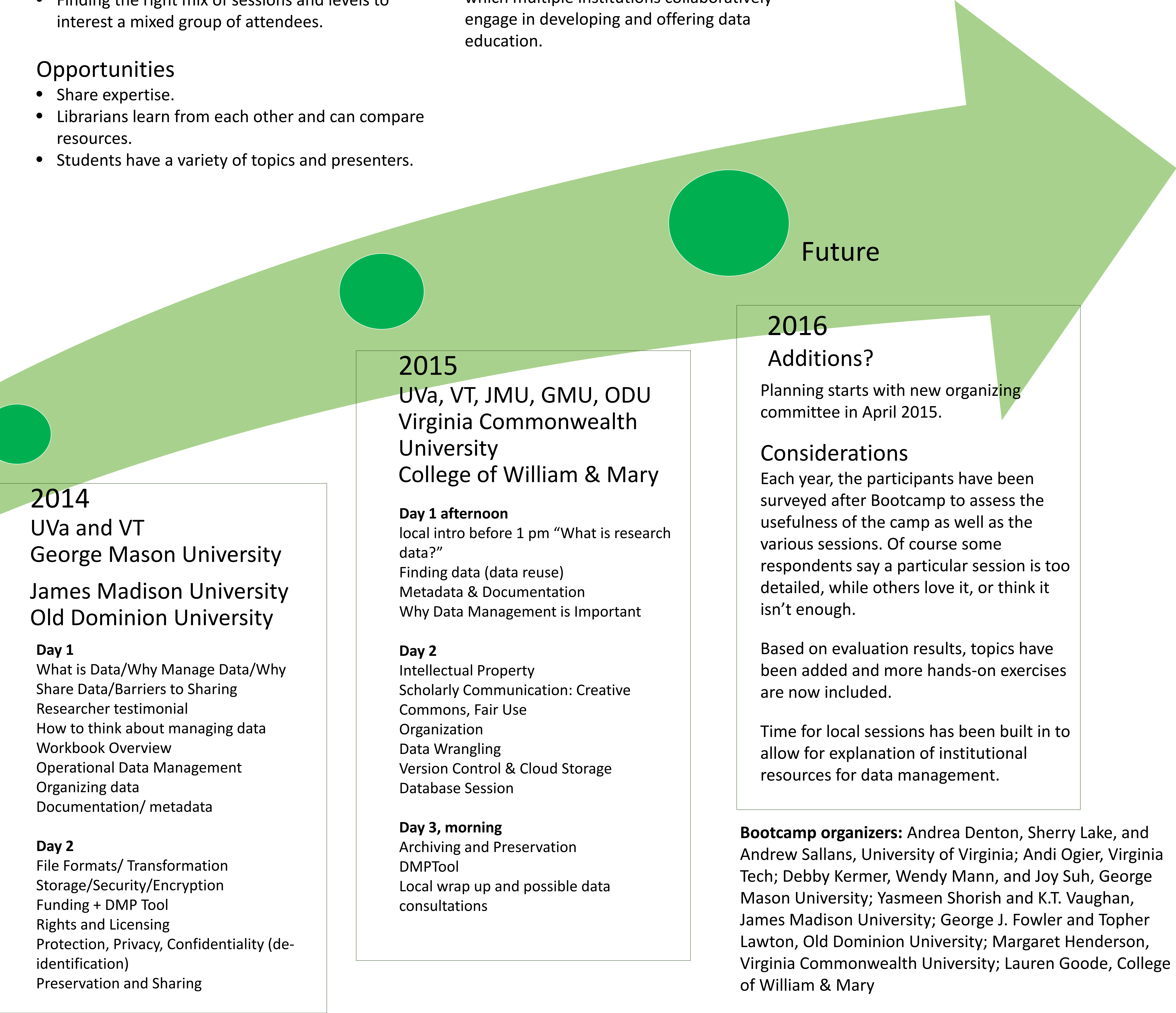
- Coordinating technology in 7 locations – presentation, transmission, shared documents.
- Finding the right mix of sessions and levels to interest a mixed group of attendees.

### Opportunities

- Share expertise.
- Librarians learn from each other and can compare resources.
- Students have a variety of topics and presenters.

### Conclusions

Clearly, the Virginia Data Management Bootcamp presents a successful case in which multiple institutions collaboratively engage in developing and offering data education.



**2013**  
 University of Virginia  
 Virginia Tech

**Day 1**  
 Graduate Student Research Lifecycle  
 Understanding Research Data  
 Data Management Plans  
 Organizing Data  
 File Formats/Transformation

**Day 2**  
 Documentation and Metadata  
 Storage and Security  
 Data protection/rights/access  
 Preservation/sharing/licensing

**2014**  
 UVa and VT  
 George Mason University  
 James Madison University  
 Old Dominion University

**Day 1**  
 What is Data/Why Manage Data/Why Share Data/Barriers to Sharing  
 Researcher testimonial  
 How to think about managing data  
 Workbook Overview  
 Operational Data Management  
 Organizing data  
 Documentation/ metadata

**Day 2**  
 File Formats/ Transformation  
 Storage/Security/Encryption  
 Funding + DMP Tool  
 Rights and Licensing  
 Protection, Privacy, Confidentiality (de-identification)  
 Preservation and Sharing

**2015**  
 UVa, VT, JMU, GMU, ODU  
 Virginia Commonwealth University  
 College of William & Mary

**Day 1 afternoon**  
 local intro before 1 pm “What is research data?”  
 Finding data (data reuse)  
 Metadata & Documentation  
 Why Data Management is Important

**Day 2**  
 Intellectual Property  
 Scholarly Communication: Creative Commons, Fair Use  
 Organization  
 Data Wrangling  
 Version Control & Cloud Storage  
 Database Session

**Day 3, morning**  
 Archiving and Preservation  
 DMPTool  
 Local wrap up and possible data consultations

**2016**  
 Additions?

Planning starts with new organizing committee in April 2015.

**Considerations**  
 Each year, the participants have been surveyed after Bootcamp to assess the usefulness of the camp as well as the various sessions. Of course some respondents say a particular session is too detailed, while others love it, or think it isn't enough.

Based on evaluation results, topics have been added and more hands-on exercises are now included.

Time for local sessions has been built in to allow for explanation of institutional resources for data management.

**Bootcamp organizers:** Andrea Denton, Sherry Lake, and Andrew Sallans, University of Virginia; Andi Ogier, Virginia Tech; Debby Kermer, Wendy Mann, and Joy Suh, George Mason University; Yasmeen Shorish and K.T. Vaughan, James Madison University; George J. Fowler and Topher Lawton, Old Dominion University; Margaret Henderson, Virginia Commonwealth University; Lauren Goode, College of William & Mary