RDAP Happenings
Hi RDAP members,

For those of us in Canada or the northern United States, April is that time of year when we emerge from the dark and cold of winter and, though the landscape is not yet green, finally start to see the grass emerge. It’s a time of renewal and growth. A time to look forward to warm weather and the summer sun.

At RDAP this April, we celebrate the success of the 2022 RDAP Summit, the great work started by the DEIA Action Committee, the work of RDAP’s leadership in research data access and preservation advocacy, and the excitement of the upcoming JeSLIB Special Issue. So much great work is being done by so many great people!

April is also the time when RDAP Action Committees recruit new members for the year ahead, as committees begin their activities either May 1 or July 1. Many committees are looking for new members, including new co-chairs. Any active RDAP member may volunteer for committees, and you can read up on their activities first to decide where your interest lies. Consider applying—they’d love to have you!

Enjoy this month’s RDAP Newsletter, and please feel free to contact us at publications@rdapassociation.org if you have any feedback or ideas for future newsletters.
Updates from the Board

A BIG thank you to all of the committee members, attendees, scholarship winners, sponsors, mentors, and mentees who made this year’s Summit not only possible, but a great success. RDAP Leadership looks forward to the community’s feedback as we work to make next year’s Summit even better!

Moving forward, we want to take the opportunity to discuss RDAP’s efforts this past year in advocating for effective research data management and sharing. This month’s Feature Article focuses on the Board’s recent activities in this area and the recognition we have received for this work.

As always, the RDAP Executive Board welcomes your input and feedback. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to us at execboard@rdapassociation.org.

The RDAP Board,

- Jonathan Petters (President)
- Amy Koshoffer (President-elect)
- Rachel Woodbrook (Secretary)
- Patti Condon (Treasurer)
- Jen Darragh (Past President)

RDAP Feature Article

This fiscal year, RDAP Executive Board members led the RDAP community in responding to two requests for information (RFIs) from federal executive agencies. We responded to NIH’s RFI on Developing Consent Language for Future Use of Data and Biospecimens and the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) RFI to Improve Federal Scientific Integrity Policies.

The NIH RFI concerned the development of consent language supporting the sharing and future use of data and biospecimens in an ethical and secure manner.
sharing and future use of data and biospecimens in an ethical and secure manner. The sample language is considered a resource for researchers, is voluntary, and does not supplant existing requirements that support informed consent. This language clarifies the storage practices for biospecimens as well as the control mechanisms to ensure privacy in the event that the data is used by other investigators. In addressing the RFI from NIH, RDAP praised the development of the consent language, but encouraged the addition of clarification on repository options and access to physical specimens. RDAP commenters also emphasized the usefulness of sample language that allows open access to data in addition to controlled access.

As a response to the January 27, 2021 presidential memorandum entitled “Memorandum on Restoring Trust in Government Through Scientific Integrity and Evidence-Based Policymaking”, OSTP was directed to convene an interagency task force to review the effectiveness of federal policies created since 2009, as well as the best practices and policies that could be adopted by federal agencies to support scientific integrity. A call for information was released in June 2021. In its response to the RFI from OSTP, RDAP emphasized that “appropriate and effective research data management and sharing is an important foundational step for ensuring transparency and integrity in science and scholarship.”

OSTP thanked RDAP for its response in January when publishing its report, Protecting the Integrity of Government Science. In the press release, OSTP noted, "Supporting scientific integrity requires attention to other policy areas, including greater transparency into research processes and outputs" and guidelines for data. It is great to see the work of research information professionals like those in the RDAP community being valued at the highest levels of the US research enterprise!
RDAP Summit Updates

Thank you to all the attendees, conference planning committee members, volunteers, and other RDAP committees that made the RDAP Summit 2022 a success!

Recordings will be made available on the RDAP YouTube channel, and posters and slides will be archived on the Summit’s OSF site.

Looking forward to planning the RDAP Summit 2023 online!

Action Committee Updates

DEIA

The new DEIA Action Committee is looking forward to engaging with RDAP members and other interested folks at a Town Hall. We would like to introduce ourselves, share the results of the RDAP DEIA Task Force survey (and how we used them to identify work priorities), and answer any questions you have. We hope this inspires you to join the committee and/or share additional ideas or steps we can take to promote diversity, equity, inclusion, and anti-racism within the association and beyond.

The virtual town hall will be on May 24 at 3pm EDT. Please register in advance for this meeting in order to receive a confirmation email containing meeting information and a link to join.

Education and Resources

No updates at this time.
Marketing

No updates at this time.

Membership

Membership is recruiting committee members, including a new co-chair! The Membership Committee is responsible for all activities involving recruiting new RDAP members and maintaining records of membership. This committee will collaborate with the treasurer as needed and is also responsible for coordinating the mentorship and scholarship programs. If you are interested in joining, use the volunteer link provided above. We welcome you to contact the committee at membership@rdapassociation.org with any questions.

Publishing

The Research Data Access and Preservation Association (RDAP) and the Journal of eScience Librarianship (JeSLIB), pleased to continue their partnership for a fifth year, announce the forthcoming Special Issue published by JeSLIB for the 2022 RDAP Summit. See the official Call for Proposals for more information and to access the submission link.

The 2022 Special Issue will focus on the Summit’s theme, Envisioning an Inclusive Data Future. In order to promote diversity and inclusion, we encourage submissions from presenters who focus on DEI-related topics or identify as a member of an underrepresented group. You can submit your work in a range of formats, from full-length papers to commentaries to video articles. Full-length and e-Science in Action papers are subject to double-blind peer review, while commentaries will be reviewed by the guest editors and editor-in-chief.

Manuscript submissions are due July 1, 2022 for publication in the November 2022 special issue. Mentorship is available to support submissions. Please reach out to the guest editors at publications@rdapassociation.org with questions or if you would like to be paired with a mentor.

Sponsorship

Thank you to the following organizations who provided financial support for the RDAP Summit 2022. With their support, RDAP raised $6,275.00 to help offset the cost of the conference for participants. These funds also provided scholarships for
current students (undergraduate or graduate), early career professionals (working three years or less) who are interested in research data management and data preservation/archiving, individuals from marginalized and underrepresented groups, and those that were first-time RDAP attendees.

Ally ($250)

- University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Libraries
- Virginia Tech Libraries

Advocate ($500)

- Iowa State University Libraries
- University of Wisconsin-Madison iSchool
- IASSIST
- University of Arizona Libraries
- Figshare
- LabArchives

Amplifier ($750)

- Network of the National Library of Medicine National Center for Data Services (NNLM NCDS)
- SPARC

Scholarship Bundle ($325)

- (1 bundle) University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries
- (2 bundles) Network of the National Library of Medicine National Center for Data Services (NNLM NCDS)

Website

No updates at this time.
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