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## RDAP Happenings

Hi RDAP members,

Welcome to a wild and wonderful 2023. Is it the future yet? We may not have flying cars or teleporters, but our area of professional concern is undergoing rapid changes, from an increased policy emphasis on data sharing and preservation at the federal level to the disruptive arrival of ChatGPT. While the future is ultimately as elusive as the horizon, our time to shape it is now.

What better way to learn all about these developments than attending the RDAP Summit 2023? As the conference is a mere two months away and registration is open, much of our content this time around is dedicated to our beloved annual meeting, but that's not all we have in store. The Executive Board is embarking on the strategic planning journey and is looking for someone to help them—could it be you? The Action Committees have been hard at work developing new initiatives such as the Member Awards and webinar offerings on accessibility. Finally, our feature article reflects on the first iteration of the Data Services Continuing Professional Education program, which will be offered again later this year.

We hope your new year had a smooth beginning, whether it's the Gregorian 2023 or the Lunar Year of the Rabbit. If you're committed to calendar anarchy, we hope the start of your year is good to you wherever it may fall, but those of us who are data managers may warn you not to get any funny ideas about deviating from ISO 8601 in your documentation!

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## Updates from the Board

Happy New Year! Let's make 2023 a productive and rewarding year for all RDAP members. It will definitely be a year of change and challenge as we start with the new NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy effective January 25. This policy change gives data librarians and information professionals the opportunity to engage with new researchers and highlight data infrastructure needs at our individual institutions. Each of us will encounter uncommon use cases for data sharing as well as use cases common across RDAP member institutions. Please consider sharing your successes and challenges with the new policy on the RDAP Discuss listserv. We can all learn from the data scenarios we encounter typical and

...we can all learn from the data we have the encounter, typical and unusual alike.

Strategic Planning for RDAP for the next few years is underway, led by Jon Petters, Jen Darragh, and Rachel Woodbrook. The team is looking for a Member-At-Large with organizational or strategic planning experience to join the team—if this is you and you are interested, please contact the board! There will be an opportunity for general member input after the 2023 Summit; the 2020-2025 plan can be reviewed [here](#).

Many thanks to all the RDAP volunteers for the work done in 2022. As we approach the Summit and the upcoming elections, please consider volunteering for one of the RDAP [Action Committees](#). Volunteering can be an enriching experience and excellent professional development opportunity. For example, since RDAP's incorporation as a nonprofit, Board Member Amy Koshoffer will have had the privilege to serve in four board positions (Treasurer, President-Elect, President, and soon to be Past-President) and on two Action Committees (Conference Planning for the 2016 Summit in Atlanta, and Education and Resources). Amy is setting a personal goal to serve on all the Action Committees at some point during her library career, creating a personal RDAP "service passport". We need to create some stamps or something! Who will join this effort?

As always, the RDAP Executive Board welcomes your input and feedback. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at [execboard@rdapassociation.org](mailto:execboard@rdapassociation.org).

The RDAP Board,

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

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## RDAP Feature Article

*Data Services Continuing Professional Education (DSCPE): A New and Innovative Approach for Detaching the Librarian Workforce for Roles in Data Services*



In October 2022, the leadership team of [Research Data Management Librarian Academy \(RDMLA\)](#), in partnership with Simmons University School of Library and Information Science and the Countway Library of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, debuted “[Data Services Continuing Professional Education](#)” (DSCPE), an online intensive learning experience to provide needed data services training for early-to-mid career librarians. Over eight weeks, the pilot cohort of fifteen librarians from across the United States participated in live sessions, asynchronous remote self-paced learning, and a virtual 70-hour capstone experience with a capstone host site. The successful experience of the first cohort has encouraged the RDMLA/DSCPE team to continue this exciting program.

Motivation to create the DSCPE emerged from discussions about retooling the existing librarian workforce to meet the expanded role librarians play in data reproducibility, data reuse, data sharing, and data integrity at research-intensive institutions. Coupled with the implementation of the 2023 NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy, this has increased demand from researchers requesting support and assistance from librarians when developing research data management and data sharing plans. These concerns revealed the need for practical professional development focused on creating and delivering data services within libraries as well as the development of a community of data services librarians who support research. The DSCPE provides this training through self-paced learning, live instructor-led sessions, and a remote capstone project.

The capstone experience, which paired students with working data services librarians, is what makes the DSCPE unique. Each student in the pilot cohort participated, shadowing a data services librarian or team working on tasks related to data-driven research or training. The host librarian served as a mentor, allowing the student to develop their skills by making meaningful contributions to the host's data services. Additionally, the capstone allowed both students and hosts to build a

services. Additionally, the capstone allowed both students and hosts to build a community of peers. Sample capstone projects included the creation of an online quiz game about the new NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy, development of video tutorials on data management policies, gathering statistics on data management tools such as DMPTool, and conducting research on R1 universities' research data management guidelines.

While the capstone was intensive, both students and hosts found the experience beneficial. Student Sara Hoover (George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library) "sincerely appreciated the larger vision of this program. With many library professional development budgets still impacted by pandemic cuts, and fewer in-person conferences, it seems like there are less opportunities for early to mid-career librarians to participate in cost-free career development related activities. I haven't seen many of these types of programs around, and I appreciate the role of this program in helping to create a community of practice around an emerging field."

Another student, Stephanie McFarland (Mayo Clinic Libraries), echoed similar sentiments. "To be completely forthright, I gained what I felt like was a sense of true camaraderie and shared goal-setting with an academic librarian for the very first time. I am an odd duck as a business librarian in the medical world, and I don't often work on projects with other librarians at my current institution. My project supervisor felt like a true colleague and partner. A truly invaluable experience for me." Finally, Anna Liss Jacobsen (Indiana University Purdue-University Indianapolis (IUPUI) University Library) found the DSCPE gave a "fantastic overview of basic topics as well as understanding of current issues/potential solutions. I entered into this as a novice. I have a much better understanding and appreciation of the landscape and skills required of this side of librarianship."

On the mentoring side, capstone host Plato Smith from University of Florida Libraries said, "The DSCPE project exceeded expectations and filled a gap in staff for the data management unit at our institution." Sara Samuel from the University of Michigan Taubman Health Sciences Library agreed. "From my perspective, this seems like a great program, if nothing else, to help people connect and briefly experience a different institution."

Joining Plato and Sara were capstone partners from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Brown University, Harvard Library/Harvard Dataverse, University of Maryland at Baltimore, National Library of Medicine, Northeastern University, New York University/NIH National Center for Data Services, Oregon State University, University of Pennsylvania, Stanford School of Medicine, UMass Chan Medical School, Utah State University, and the University of Virginia Health

school, East State University, and the University of Virginia Health.

With the success of the pilot, the DSCPE partnership has received a continuing gift from Elsevier to financially sponsor the cost of tuition for the incoming Fall 2023 cohort. The DSCPE leadership team is very excited to once again offer the program free to students, removing financial barriers to professional development. Applications for the fall will open in late spring/early summer 2023. Interested students and potential capstone hosts are encouraged to contact us at [dscpe.info@gmail.com](mailto:dscpe.info@gmail.com) for more information.

The RDMLA/DSCPE team thanks all the students and capstone hosts for their participation, feedback, and for building a new community!

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## RDAP Summit Updates

It may be hard to believe, but the RDAP Summit 2023 is only two months away! The Summit takes place on March 28-30, with workshops preceding on March 27. All sessions and workshops are virtual.

The Summit theme is *Building on Experience: Centering Communities in Data Creation and Access*. We have a great lineup of presentations, including two keynote speakers:

- Dominique M. David-Chavez, Assistant Professor of Indigenous Natural Resource Stewardship, Indigenous Land & Data Stewards Lab Director, Department of Forest and Rangeland Stewardship at Colorado State University and Native Nations Institute Associate, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at University of Arizona
- Amy Neeser, Consulting + Outreach Lead, University of California Berkeley Research IT

[Registration is now open](#). Registration is \$25 for members/students/financial hardship (log in to the website for membership rates) and \$35 for non-members. [Scholarships are available](#). Registration will close on March 17, 2023. Also, we're bringing back the Summit Buddy Program, so if you're new to RDAP and would like to be paired with someone who has attended the Summit before or if you would like to mentor a new Summit attendee, please let us know in the registration form.

[Workshop descriptions and general schedule](#) for the Summit are available. A detailed schedule will be available soon!

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## Action Committee Updates

### DEIA

No updates at this time.

## Education and Resources

Save the date for two special webinars on accessibility:

- Introduction to Inclusive Learning and Design will be held Thursday, February 2, at 12 PM EST/9 AM PST. [Join here](#)
- Creating Inclusive Presentations will be held on Thursday, February 16, at 12 PM EST/9 AM PST. [Join here](#)

RDAP Summit speakers should plan on attending the February 16 webinar to prepare for their presentations.

The next RDAP Journal Club will be on Thursday, February 23, at 2 PM EST/11 AM PST. We will be discussing Chapter 5 (Straightwashing) and Chapter 6 (Queer Validation) of Kevin Guyan's book [Queer Data](#). Read either chapter or both to join in what should be an engaging discussion! Please reach out to Chris Battiston ([chris.battiston@wchospital.ca](mailto:chris.battiston@wchospital.ca)) or Halle Burns ([halle.burns@princeton.edu](mailto:halle.burns@princeton.edu)) with questions. This journal club meeting does not require registration and can be joined [here](#).

## Marketing

No updates at this time.

## Membership

The Membership Committee, along with the RDAP Leadership Team, is excited to announce the launch of the RDAP Member Awards program! This annual awards program encourages and recognizes significant contributions to the Association and to the field of research data access and preservation. Award winners will be honored at the subsequent year's RDAP Summit to recognize significant contributions to the association with a "Volunteer of the Year" award, and significant contributions to the field with a "Work of the Year" award. The [Member Award page](#) includes the full awards criteria, nomination and selection process, and nomination forms.

Now that registration for the Summit is open, we would like to remind everyone new to RDAP to please join us for the Summit New Member Event and sign up for the



to RDAP to please join us for the Summit New Member Event and sign up for the [Summit Buddy Program](#). Finally, a friendly reminder that the deadline to [apply for a scholarship](#) is January 31, 2023.

## Publishing

No updates at this time.

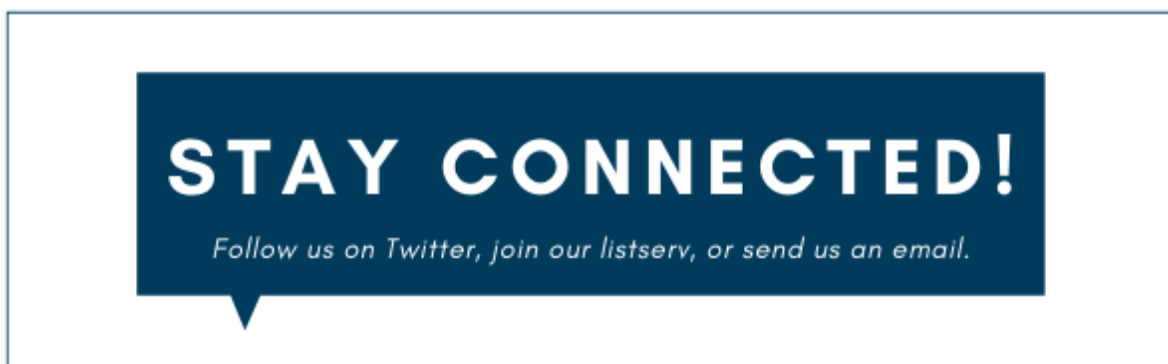
## Sponsorship

No updates at this time.

## Website

The Website Action Committee has accomplished much since the last newsletter. We have updated the listserv information and placed it on the [Get Involved](#) page for greater access. We have also updated or generated and published the following new pages: Call for proposals, Sponsorship, Membership, [Member Awards](#), and [Scholarships](#). We have also worked with the Education and Resources Action Committee to develop a new [Journal Club event registration](#).

Regarding website maintenance, we have archived prior RDAP Summit content to OSF and have been navigating the new security measures for Wild Apricot administrators. In the future, we will engage in more planning for website design and information architecture improvements!



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