



RDAP Happenings

Hi RDAP members,

Welcome to the April edition of the RDAP newsletter. Spring is the season to make your RDAP membership count! It's time to vote for new Executive Board members and join an action committee. If you are still on the fence about signing up for a committee, our feature article may provide some inspiration—it just might motivate you to SPRING into a new role.

We're still abuzz from the success of the RDAP Summit 2023, three days of insightful discussion and engaging presentations bookended by thought-provoking keynote addresses. It was great to connect with many of you there, and we hope you all left feeling energized. If anyone wants to relive the Summit experience, you can access the [conference materials](#) on OSF.

The April issue is blooming with exciting updates to share, including news about upcoming educational webinars and an invitation to publish in JeSLIB's RDAP Special Issue. Read on to find out more...

Updates from the Board

What an amazing Summit! Once again, our Conference Planning Committee did an outstanding job creating multiple engaging and worthwhile professional development, networking, and skill building sessions for the information professional community. Additionally, it was a great treat to kick off each day with a social event that energized attendees throughout the day's talks.

Thank you to the Conference Chairs, Tess Grynoch and Amy Yarnell, and all the members of the committee: Hannah Calkins, Anthony Dellureficio, Lynda Kellam, Emily Kilcer, Michal McCullough, Abigail Pennington, Dylan Ruediger, and Ashley Thomas. Everyone's hard work to make the Summit a success was appreciated.

Thanks also to the Membership Committee, Education & Resources Committee, Sponsorship Committee, Website Committee, DEIA Committee, Marketing Committee, and Publishing Committee for your support of the Summit and your service throughout the year. RDAP cannot function without your efforts.

Nominations for Executive Board positions are now closed. An email with a link to the ballot to vote for those positions, as well as on the approval of the revised Bylaws, was sent to all RDAP members on April 24th. Please exercise your membership rights and vote before May 5th. Furthermore, keep an eye out for the proposed updated Strategic Plan Draft, which will be sent out to members for a vote at a later date. And finally, if you really want to serve on an action committee but missed the deadline to register, no problem. We need everyone willing to serve. Please contact the Board at the email address provided below.

Currently, the Board is crafting a response to the RFI on the [NIH Plan to Enhance Public Access to the Results of NIH-Supported Research](#). Your institutions may be responding and you, as an individual, can submit a response as well.

We hope everyone managed to get through the first rounds of NIH grants and all the data management plan consultations that occurred just prior. Though the new DMSP policy was a shock for many researchers, it has also been a great chance for us information professionals to build our internal networks.

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

Vote! Volunteer!

RDAP 2022-2023 Executive Board

The RDAP Board,

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

RDAP Feature Article

Volunteering Demystified

Barbara Esty

Data Librarian, Yale University

I have never been a 'joiner'. One of my sisters is a 'joiner'. Every time I talk to her, she's on her way to another board meeting or event, or connecting with someone she met at a function. She's a bit of a busybody, so I never asked her why she did it until I was at her house during the pandemic and became pressed into service as one of her volunteers. I quickly discovered that "many hands make light work" is a real thing. If you've ever had to put 2,000 plastic ducks in sequential order for a duck derby, you will understand. But seeing the excitement of children waiting to find out if their duck was a winner, or adding up the proceeds of a day of games and concessions to send those funds to the local EMS unit gets you thinking. And like the Grinch celebrating Christmas with all of Whoville, something shifted in me.

I admit when I see a subject line that says "Call for Volunteers" my first reaction is usually, "Who has the time?"

Before you hit Delete, I ask you for a moment of reflection. Think of a conference, meeting, or webinar you attended that made a difference to you.

There might have been a presenter who tipped you off to a new resource, or a project that is like something you are doing or want to do. Maybe there was a

project that is like something you are doing or want to do. Maybe there was a speaker with a job that sounds so cool that you had to know more.

I can guarantee you there was a group of volunteers making that all possible. And guess what? They have jobs just like yours, with shifting priorities and an Inbox of Doom, but they do it anyway.

You may wonder why they do it and what's in it for you. Sometimes there are service requirements for promotion. Some people are new to the profession or to working with data and want to grow their network. Finally, some want to learn new skills like project management, graphic design, or fundraising. Whatever your reason, it's a good one!

So what are the nuts and bolts of volunteering for RDAP? Work varies depending on the action committee, but generally it would be a few hours a month. For the Sponsorship Committee, this meant occasional meetings and sending and responding to emails with potential sponsors. Most of the work took place between October and March. Since we all are in different time zones, we are conscious of scheduling mutually-agreeable meeting times. "Working meetings" ensure decisions get made and things move along. Each committee has its own flavor, but generally it would not be very different from committees or working groups you might already be on at your job. Any of the action committee chairs or members would be happy to talk to you about workload and how the committee operates.

My experience over the last two years on the RDAP Sponsorship Committee has shown me that the board and leadership of RDAP cares about the community. The group is open to all ideas and accepts you for who you are and what you can offer. It has given me a greater appreciation for what organizations do for their members. I also get out of my own bubble working with talented individuals from different institutions. Those broad, inclusive viewpoints are invaluable.

RDAP offers wide-ranging volunteer opportunities that vary in intensity. All the information about action committees is on the [RDAP website](#), and I encourage you to reach out to any committee members to get insight into their effort levels and time commitment.

RDAP is a growing and evolving organization where your voice matters. The professionalism and expertise of everyone I have encountered is amazing and inspiring.

You don't have to be the best volunteer; I'm certainly not. Still, I benefit from every

conference, newsletter, and networking opportunity because a group of volunteers took the time. We would love you to join us!

RDAP Summit Updates

Thanks to all who contributed to a successful RDAP Summit 2023 (March 28th-30th), with pre-Summit workshops on the 27th. Thank you, 323 attendees, 88 presenters, 11 workshop instructors, and 7 sponsors! Notably, this year, 33 out of the 58 presentations were led by first-time presenters at RDAP.

This Summit would not have been possible without the attendees who volunteered to assist during the Summit itself as well as the work of all the RDAP Committees. A huge shout-out to the members of our Conference Planning Committee: Hannah Calkins, Anthony Dellureficio, Lynda Kellam, Emily Kilcer, Michal McCullough, Abigail Pennington, Dylan Ruediger, and Ashley Thomas, for all your hard work throughout the year.

Please remember to take the [feedback survey](#) by April 28 even if you were not able to attend the Summit this year.

We look forward to seeing you again online at the RDAP Summit 2024!

Action Committee Updates

DEIA

No updates at this time.

Education and Resources

RDAP's Education & Resources Committee hopes to see you at our two upcoming

webinars:

- "Using Cloud File Storage Platforms for Research" on May 10, 2023 at 12:00 PM Eastern/9:00 AM Pacific [[Zoom link](#)]
- "Crowdsourcing: Activities and Tasks for Public Access to Research Data" on Jun 21, 2023 at 12:00 PM Eastern/9:00 AM Pacific [[Zoom link](#)]

More information will be shared on the RDAP listserv ahead of each event.

Marketing

No updates at this time.

Membership

The Membership Committee would like to remind everyone that it's not too soon to begin thinking about nominations for the [RDAP Member Awards](#): Volunteer of the Year and Work of the Year. Nominations will close on December 31st, 2023.

Publishing

The Research Data Access and Preservation Association (RDAP) and the *Journal of eScience Librarianship (JeSLIB)*, pleased to continue their partnership for a sixth year, announce the forthcoming Special Issue published by *JeSLIB* for the RDAP Summit 2023. See the official [Call for Proposals](#) for more information and to access the submission link.

The 2023 Special Issue will focus on the Summit's theme, Building on Experience: Centering Communities in Data Creation and Access.

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 editors.

Manuscript submissions are due July 1, 2023 for publication in the November 2023 Special Issue. Mentorship is available to support submissions. Please reach out to the Publishing Committee at publications@rdapassociation.org with questions or if you would like to be paired with a mentor

you would like to be paired with a member.

Sponsorship

The Sponsorship Committee would like to thank all the generous sponsors who supported the RDAP 2023 Summit!

Cultivator (\$750) | Elsevier

Collaborator (\$500) | Cornell University, University of Arizona University Libraries, University of Miami Libraries, University of Wisconsin-Madison Information School, SPARC*

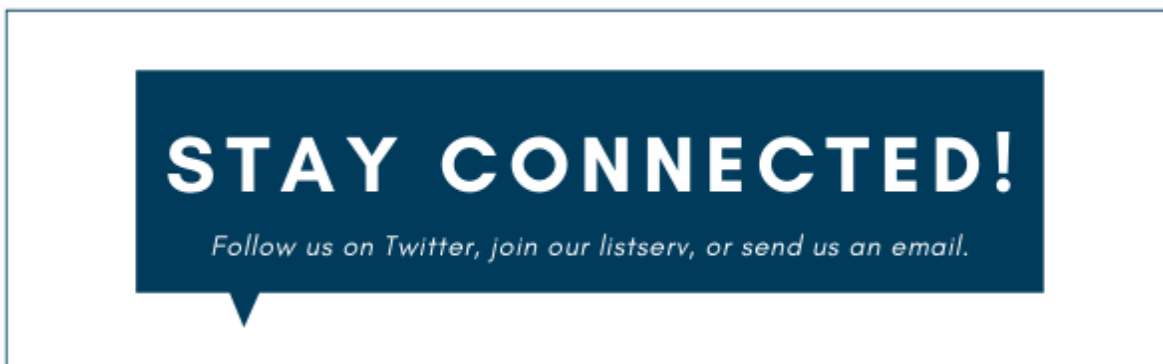
Connector (\$250) | DRYAD

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Website

To help support the RDAP Summit 2023, the Website Committee generated a new text gadget for the RDAP Association homepage that displayed useful information about the Summit.



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