The Role of Libraries/Archives for the Acquisition, Management and Preservation of Research Data — A Researchers Point of View

Gert G. Wagner (Chairperson, German Data Forum)
Claudia Oellers (German Data Forum) and Rainer Siegers (SOEP)

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Basic Questions

Which data do we call research data?

- data under academic direction?
- data from official statistical agencies and other official bodies (e.g. social security administration)?
- any kind of data with “research value”?
Basic Questions

Who has responsibility for archiving and access?

And why is it so?

e.g.
• major datasets?
• data used in a single publication?
User Friendly Access

User friendly access to research data for reanalysis includes:

- a high level of awareness of the presence of data centres and data archives amongst researchers
- ease of access to data centres and data archives, which provide effective advice to researchers on data analysis
- concrete links between publications and their cited data sets
- effective possibilities for upholding data protection standards whilst not compromising analyses (protection of individual rights of respondents and research subjects – this is different from copyrights)
Long Term Preservation

• When and how are “living” research data given to “long term preservation centres”? Including the “link” between a “raw dataset” and the final “working file” which is used for a publication

• Long term preservation by
  – data centres?
  – official statistical agencies?
  – data archives?
  – libraries? (preservation of data themselves? Or just support of self-preservation by researchers/other centres by (local) libraries?)
  – journals???? (for specific data sets (“working files”) used for single publications)

• Funding of long term preservation by
  – funding organizations?
  – long term preservation centres?
Credit Where Credit Is Due

Problem: proper incentives for
• creating world-class research data
• open access
• proper documentation

Solution?
• ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID)
• DOI (Digital Object Identifier)
Conclusion

The time has come for dialogue between

- data archives and libraries,
- academic and official producers of research data
- and researchers!
Conclusion

The “Working Paper Series” of the German Data Forum provides a forum for discussions

http://www.ratswd.de/eng/publ/workingpapers.html

• very first paper on librarianship

"Data Librarianship" – Rollen, Aufgaben, Kompetenzen
Heinz Pampel, Roland Bertelmann und Hans-Christoph Hobohm
RatSWD WP No. 144/2010