Research data management at the University of Oslo

How the University is using its recently approved data management policy to improve the quality and reproducibility of research within the University.

Elin Stangeland, University of Oslo Library
Good data management in the Nordic countries, Stockholm 3.10.2018
# University of Oslo – brief facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>28,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD students</td>
<td>2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff</td>
<td>6,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic staff</td>
<td>3,800</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Faculty of Medicine
- Faculty of Dentistry
- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Theology
- Faculty of Humanities
- Faculty of Social Sciences
- Faculty of Education
- Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences

Image: UiO/Arthur Sand
2014 survey

Report: The data explosion – a major challenge, and a great opportunity!

- «If UiO wants to be a leading research university, we need to take advantage of the opportunities in the data-driven revolution that we are now witnessing. UiO’s researchers must therefore be given the tools and expertise that are needed to be at the forefront of data-driven research".
Proposed future work

i. Development of clear guidelines on data management at UiO

ii. A pilot to establish a programme for competence building and effective research support services.

iii. Clear work sharing (roles, responsibilities and authority) at institutional, national and international level, in relation to the needs for technical infrastructure, and the development of an offer for the temporary storage and sharing of research data with metadata descriptions at UiO.

iv. UiO must help to ensure that some key issues that require national coordination are identified and resolved.
UiO Research Data Management Group

• Collaborative effort
  – Department of Academic Administration
  – University Center for Information Technology
  – University Library

• Activities
  – Contribute to implementing recommendations on research data management
  – Provide advice and support to UiO research community
  – Support work of the UiO eInfrastructure Council
The University of Oslo policy

The University of Oslo wants to manage research data according to international standards such as the FAIR principles and thereby support the development of a global research community where research data is widely shared. This will contribute to:

- improved **quality** of research through a better opportunity to build on previous works and to compile research data in new ways
- **transparency** in the research process and better opportunity for **verifiability** of scientific results
- increased **cooperation** and less **duplication** of research work
- increased **innovation** in the private and public sectors
- **efficiency** improvement and better **utilization** of public funds
Guidelines

• Research data shall be made openly available for reuse
• Research data shall be provided with a data management plan
• Research data shall have metadata
• Research data must be securely archived
• Research data shall be provided with licenses for access, reuse and redistribution
• Research data should be made available at an early stage
• Research data should be made freely available, but the actual distribution cost should be covered
Ongoing work

• Infrastructure
  – Storage
  – Archive solutions
  – Metadata and documentation
  – Discovery
  – Long term preservation and access

• Administrative
  – Project for data management plans
  – Clarify roles
  – Set up procedures and guidelines
  – Evaluation and assessment

• Skills development
  – Training for research staff and research support staff
  – Facilitating Software Carpentry
Challenges

• How do we track impact?
• How do we verify quality, reusability and reproducibility

• Tension between openness and closedness
• Lack of career building incentives for researchers to share data
Questions?

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• Web pages:  
https://www.uio.no/english/for-employees/support/research/research-data-management/index.html