

Starting the data conversation: informing data services at an academic health sciences library

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APPENDIX A

Data interview questions

1. Please provide a brief overview of your research.
 - Length of your research career?
 - Has nature of your research changed?
2. Tell me about the data that you work with/produce?
 - How are the data used?
 - What systems/software produce/collect the data?
 - File formats used in each stage from raw data through transformations to analysis?
 - Current size/rate of growth (breaking out size at each stage)?
3. How are your data organized or described? (Is there metadata or other descriptive information for the data?)
 - What are the greatest challenges of organizing your data?
 - What are the most difficult aspects of working with your data?
4. Do you have established data workflows for your research?
 - Is someone responsible for the management of the data during the research process?
 - Who has access to the data during the research process?
 - Is someone responsible for the management of the data after the research process?
 - Who is (or should be) responsible for the long-term management of your digital data?
5. Where are your data stored?
 - Do you back up your data?
 - What are the main locations where your active research data are typically backed up?
 - What are the main locations where your past research data are typically backed up?
 - What are the challenges of storing and accessing data?
6. Do you allocate data management costs toward your funded research?
7. What do you do with your data once you have finished your research project?
 - Does department or lab have procedures in place for the preservation of your data?
8. Do you reuse data you have created for other projects?

9. Do you share your data with others outside your research group?
 - If so, how (e.g., email? Data repository? Data service?)?
 - If not, do you think there might be value to others in reusing your data, i.e. how could your data be reused or repurposed?
 - Do you feel that it is important to openly share your data with others?
10. How long do you think your data should be available and usable (what is the lifespan)?
11. What data services do you currently use here at the institution, if any?
12. What data services do you wish you had available to you at the institution, if any?