RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT SERVICES AT CPUT:
PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Elisha R.T. Chiware
Director: CPUT Libraries
RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT IS LIKE A THREE-LEGGED STOOL...

- Culture
- Policies
- Infrastructure and services
CPUT LIBRARIES E-STRATEGIES

• Library e-Strategy
  • Six focus areas:
    • e-Research
    • e-Learning
    • Digitization
    • Open scholarship
    • Library web environment
    • e-Resources and search platforms
E-RESEARCH DRIVERS CPUT

- Library’s eStrategies
- University’s Research Strategy
- Growing Research Outputs
- Growing Research Infrastructure

Key eResearch Drivers

Stellenbosch University - 14th Annual Library Symposium
DEVELOPING RDM CULTURE

• Creating Institutional Partnership
  – CPUT RDM Working Group
    • Membership; Roles; Outputs
RDM CULTURE

• RDM Working Group
  – Chair, membership

• Alignment to University’s Committees
  – Senate and Senate Sub-committees
    • Senate Research and Innovation Committee
    • Senate Library Committee
    • Senate
    • ICT Committee
    • Council’s IT Governance Committee
RDM CULTURE

• University’s Research Strategy
  – Research, Technology & Innovation Blueprint (RTI)
    • 10 Year Roadmap – growth & development of research at CPUT
ROLE OF THE LIBRARY IN THE UNIVERSITY’S RESEARCH STRATEGY

• Supportive, modern library facilities
• Enhanced library research support systems and services, access to information, digital platforms, support for research skills
• Curation, dissemination and promotion of traditional outputs of research in terms of articles and theses, and curation of research data and innovation output, including enhanced research data management systems
LIBRARIES & RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT

• YES
  – Data from research – “an integral part of the global knowledge base & their management is an extension of the current library’s role”

• NO
  – “the scale of the challenge in terms of infrastructure, skills and culture change requires action by a range of stakeholders – not just the university libraries (Lewis 2010)
POLICY DEVELOPMENT

• Research Data Management Policy
  – Aligned to Other Related Institutional Policies:
    • Policy on Intellectual Property
    • Research Policy
    • Contract Research Policy
    • Institutional Operation Plan (IOP)
    • Research Management Plan
    • Research and Innovation Plan
    • Open Access Policy
RDM POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Consultation Process

• Research Data Management Policy
  – Introductory Workshops with Research Centres and rest of the research community (concept discussion, Policy discussion and input)

Collaborative Workshops

Stellenbosch University - 14th Annual Library Symposium
RDM POLICY DEVELOPMENT

- Follow up workshops
- Follow approved institutional policy making process
- Policy Approved in July 2014
Policies

- CPUT RDM Policy
NATIONAL MANDATES

• National Mandates - NRF Open Access Mandate

Statement on Open Access to Research Publications from the National Research Foundation (NRF)-Funded Research

Background

The National Research Foundation (NRF) was established through the National Research Foundation Act (Act No.23 of 1998). As an independent statutory agency, the organisation promotes and supports research in South Africa largely through the country’s Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), National Research Facilities and Science Councils with a view to generating knowledge and promoting high-level research capacity within the National System of Innovation (NSI).

Supporting scientific research through public funding is important for growing the knowledge economy, promoting innovation and stimulating appropriate development. The publication of NRF-funded research outputs contributes to the knowledgebase of the...
INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

• Collaboration with other Universities
GOALS OF THE COLLABORATION

• Set up international working groups on various RDM development aspects
• Develop an Open Source Platform for managing RDM cycle
• Set up institutional working groups to feed into the development of the Open Source Platform
• Monthly online meetings to update each on institutional developments
INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

- eRIC (eResearch Information and Communication)
ACHIEVEMENTS OF COLLABORATION

• eResearch Information and Communication Infrastructure
• Open Source Platform
• Collaborative Workshops in Germany, South Africa and Thailand
• Presentations of work progress at international workshops and conference
INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

• Platform – Open Source
  – MediaTum
WHERE ARE WE?

• Pilot Projects
  – Survey of current research data management practices within the identified research groups
  – Set them up on MediaTUM
  – Associated Tools development
    • Electronic Lab Journal Development
    • Data Management Plans (working closely with DCC (UK))
RDM PILOT PROJECTS

• Institute of Biomedical and Microbial Bio catalysis
  – 15 leading researchers led by a Research Chair (funded by the South African National Research Foundation)
  – Used to be part of the South Africa Medical Research Council
  • Brings a wealth of research experience and lots of data requiring management
PILOT PROJECT REPORTING

• Continued communication between the Library RDM Team and the Institute’s Researchers

• Final pilot project results to be reported jointly to various university committees
ALIGNING INSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES TO RDM SERVICES

• Grants Application Process
• Postgraduate Students Document Management Systems
  – HDC – Higher Degrees Committee

![HDC Image]
ALIGNING INSTITUTIONAL PROCESSES TO RDM SERVICES

• Data Management Plans & HDC Process
Survey on RDM PRACTICES AND SYSTEMS @ CPUT

• **Aims**
  – Institution wide data management assessment

• **Tools**
  – Data Asset Framework (Digital Curation Centre)
    • Data Asset Framework (DAF) provides organisations with the means to identify, locate, describe and assess how they are managing their research data assets.

• **Use of the results**
  – Further improve on our current work
THE FUTURE

• **CPUT eResearch Centre**
  
  – A coordinating unit to bring together and lead the drive towards specialised advisory services on research data management in various research disciplines

  – Connect digital research to national and international eResearch initiatives

  – Play a leading role in CPUT’s involvement in the Western Cape Data Intensive Research Facility
THE FUTURE

- Western Cape Data Intensive Research Facility
  - DST (Department of Science & Technology) invests millions to expand cyberinfrastructure
    Shared resource, focused initially on astronomy and bioinformatics, supporting major initiatives such as the MeerKAT/Square Kilometre Array (SKA) and the DST's Bio-economy Strategy.
- Led by UCT with UWC, SU, CPUT as partners
THE FUTURE

• Training Librarians in Research Data Management Support
  – Through Institutional, National & International Programmes