The Data Librarian's Handbook

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Description

An insider's guide to data librarianship packed full of practical examples and advice for any library and information professional learning to deal with data.

Interest in data has been growing in recent years. Support for this peculiar class of digital information – its use, preservation and curation, and how to support researchers' production and consumption of it in ever greater volumes to create new knowledge, is needed more than ever. Many librarians and information professionals are finding their working life is pulling them toward data support or research data management but lack the skills required.

The Data Librarian's Handbook, written by two data librarians with over 30 years' combined experience, unpicks the everyday role of the data librarian and offers practical guidance on how to collect, curate and crunch data for economic, social and scientific purposes.

With contemporary case studies from a range of institutions and disciplines, tips for best practice, study aids and links to key resources, this book is a must-read for all new entrants to the field, library and information students and working professionals.

Key topics covered include:

- the evolution of data libraries and data archives
- handling data compared to other forms of information
- managing and curating data to ensure effective use and longevity
- how to incorporate data literacy into mainstream library instruction and information literacy training
- how to develop an effective institutional research data management (RDM) policy and infrastructure
- how to support and review a data management plan (DMP) for a project, a key requirement for most research funders
- approaches for developing, managing and promoting data repositories
- handling and sharing confidential or sensitive data
- supporting open scholarship and open science, ensuring data are discoverable, accessible, intelligible and assessable.

This title is for the practising data librarian, possibly new in their post with little

experience of providing data support. It is also for managers and policy-makers, public service librarians, research data management coordinators and data support staff. It will also appeal to students and lecturers in iSchools and other library and information degree programmes where academic research support is taught.

Contents

1. Data librarianship: responding to research innovation 2. What is different about data? 3. Supporting data literacy 4. Building a data collection 5. Research data management service and policy: working across your institution 6. Data management plans as a calling card 7. Essentials of data repositories 8. Dealing with sensitive data 9. Data sharing in the disciplines 10. Supporting open scholarship and open science

Author

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