A research data management plan

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Research data management plans

What we have learned so far:

- Increasing data and methods publishing can really move science forward
  - It will help you as a researcher (you can find data and use methods easier)
  - It will help the whole science community
  - It might resolve some of the issues around peer review and costs of publishing
- Good meta data are the key for data re-use and discovery
- Writing meta data is quite a job, especially after the fact
- We need to develop strategies and methods to tackle this when we start!
- **Research data management plans**

What are the main components of a research data management plan?

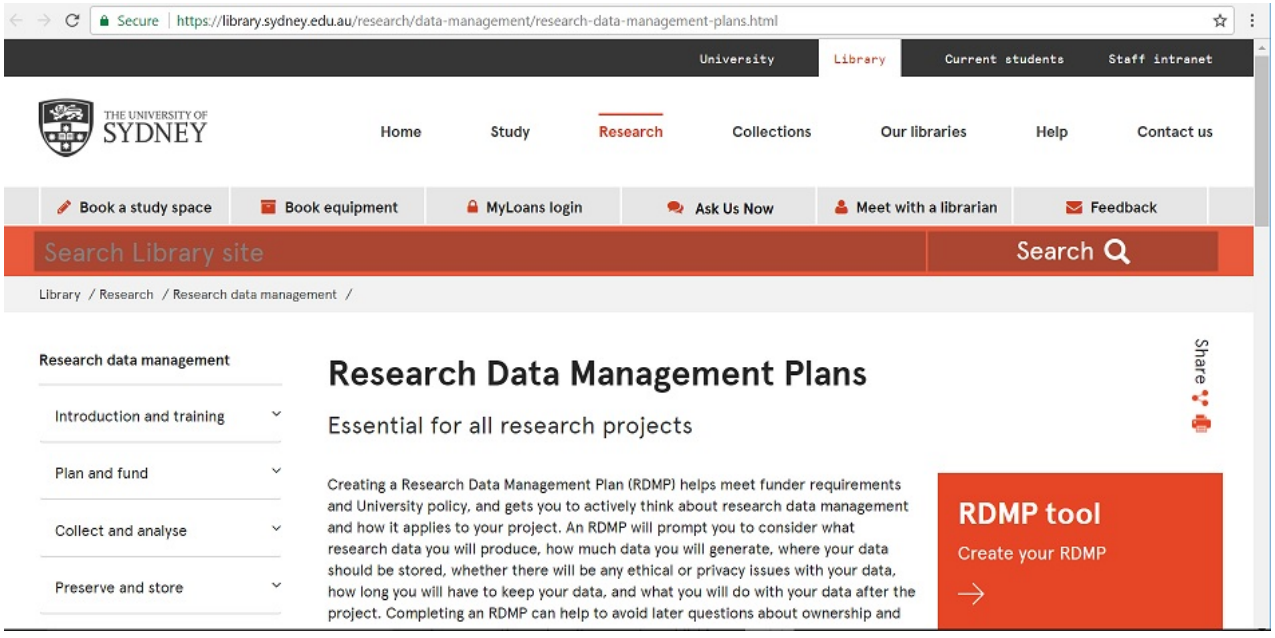
Unsurprisingly: **Metadata**

- Who are involved (who owns the data)
- How you collect the data
- How you consistently describe the data content
- Where you store the data and how you store the data (format and file structure)
- How you plan to curate the data (where is the long-term home of the data)

Schematic of a research data management plan

The University of Sydney

- The University of Sydney Research Data Management Plan



- The RDMP at USYD is currently being revised to be more focussed on the actual research data management
- A living document, a “readme.txt” for the project.

Examples of research data management plans

- Best practice dataone.org: Go through website
- Simple Research Data Management Plan: Tier Protocol

Vocabulary and data dictionary (again)

- Choosing the right keywords for your project is crucial
- For the research data management plan: this is the source
  - feeds into all the further "downstream" metadata
- The keywords should originate from a **vocabulary** or an **ontology**
  - Ontology: set of controlled terms for keywords with a hierarchy: example FOR codes
  - A good ontology would have related terms, Wikipedia is an example of a system that uses an ontology
  - A vocabulary is a more simple list of keywords, for example, most journals require you to choose from specific keywords when you submit a paper

Vocabulary and data dictionary (again)

- Data dictionary is simpler:
  - decribes columns in a data sheet
  - describes layout of code structure
  - describes files and folders
- example data dictionary: Readme file in example project