

Annual Report '21

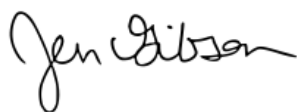
For the fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

In this year's update

Everything we're able to report here is thanks to the great work of Tracy Teal, who served as Executive Director for Dryad from February 2020 through May 2021. Having learned some powerful lessons about community and team engagement under difficult circumstances and COVID, Tracy left Dryad in to help other mission-aligned organizations, not native to online working, navigate these changing times. Tracy: Thank you again for your efforts and for helping keep the Dryad team together in a troubling time for everyone. Patricia Cruse succeeded Tracy as Interim Executive Director, and kept the helm steady until my arrival in October – for which I'm grateful.

I'm not able to take credit for this work, but am so pleased to have the chance to reflect on Dryad's progress from the time. Below, we share the latest in growth in data publications, services for publishers and journals, our services for authors, commitments to the community – and formation of a new Scientific Advisory Committee, and new additions to the Dryad community of members. There are some exciting developments, so I hope you'll take a look.

On behalf of my colleagues and predecessors, I'd like to thank the Dryad Board of Directors serving at the time (named below), and our partners at the California Digital Library whose talents are abundantly evident from this year's Dryad Annual Report.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jen Gibson".

Jennifer Gibson
Executive Director
July 14, 2022

Governing Board

Scott Edmunds, GigaScience (Hong Kong)
Brooks Hanson, American Geophysical
Union (USA)
Wolfram Horstmann, Goettingen
University (Germany)
Catriona Maccallum, Hindawi (UK)
Paolo Mangiafico, Duke University (USA)
Fiona Murphy, More Brains (UK)
Johan Nilsson, Oikos Editorial Office
(Sweden) (Chair, from October 2020)

Naomi Penfold, eLife Sciences
Publications Ltd (UK)
Judy Ruttenberg, Association of Research
Libraries (USA)
Caroline Sutton, Taylor & Francis (Norway)
(Chair, to October 2020)
Paul Uhler, Consultant (USA)
Jason Williams, Cold Spring Harbor
Laboratories (USA)
Günter Waibel, California Digital Library
(USA) (Ex-officio)

Dryad Board Members past and present are recognised on our [website](#).

Data publications

Dryad published 7,381 datasets between July 2020 and June 2021. While we also publish data submitted directly by researchers, independently of research articles, this year our data was released in connection with publications in 490 different journals.

The top 10 journals from which we received the most datasets were:

Ecology and Evolution (Wiley) - 491

Proceedings of the Royal Society B (The Royal Society) - 383

Royal Society Open Science (The Royal Society) - 310

PLOS ONE (Public Library of Science) - 269

Molecular Ecology (Wiley) - 202

eLife (eLife Sciences Publications Ltd.) - 190

Journal of Ecology (British Ecological Society) - 169

Journal of Animal Ecology (British Ecological Society) - 160

Functional Ecology (British Ecological Society) - 159

Evolution (Society for the Study of Evolution) - 145

Services for publishers and journals

eLife integrates with Dryad for seamless data publishing, with eJournalPress

eLife and Dryad have long supported making research publicly accessible and reusable. Over the last years, Dryad has increasingly curated and published datasets supporting eLife publications. As the open science landscape continues to evolve, with a growing emphasis on best practices and making all research components openly available, both organizations recognize that the workflows need to be simplified. Working with eJournalPress, eLife and Dryad are pleased to announce Dryad's first platform-based integration, allowing authors to deposit datasets to Dryad seamlessly through eLife's submission process.

[Read more](#)

Services for authors

A Better Approach for Software & Data

The Dryad and Zenodo teams are proud to announce the launch of our first formal integration. As we've noted over the last years, we believe that the best way to support the broad scientific community in publishing their outputs is to leverage each other's strengths and build together. Our plan has always been to find ways to seamlessly connect software publishing and data curation in ways that are both easy enough that the features will be used but also beneficial to the researchers re-using and building on scientific discoveries. In February 2021, we released our first set of features to support exactly that.

Learn [more](#)

Enhanced Features for Data + Related Research Objects

At Dryad we continue to focus on the two key pillars of data publishing: curation of data as well as seamlessly easy workflows. We are committed to designing solutions centered on meeting researchers' needs for easy and responsible data publication. Understanding that research data is one component of open science, we have prioritized partnerships and integrations that allow for Dryad to continue focusing on curated research data while providing support for non-data objects submitted in tandem.

Learn [more](#)

Commitment to the research community

Welcome to Dryad's Scientific Advisory Committee

Dryad was founded over a decade ago by researchers who called for an open, accessible home for research data to be curated, published and archived. Since that time, Dryad has long been rooted in researcher values, led by and serving varying scientific communities. This year we welcomed the inaugural members of a new Scientific Advisory Committee, from across disciplines and career stages, to provide guidance on strategic directions or decisions for Dryad from the perspective of the research community.

[Learn more about them](#)

Commitment to the Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure

Since our founding, members of our board and our team have been involved in constructing best practices for open infrastructure organizations like ours. One foundational set was published as the Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure. Since these principles were first published as a blog post in 2015, our team has worked closely with the original authors and additional collaborators to ensure Dryad aligns internal processes and external commitments to reflect these principles.

Running open scholarly infrastructure is a journey that takes time and care. In order to formalize our commitment to these goals, the Dryad Board of Directors in December 2020 unanimously voted to affirm that Dryad is committed to the Principles of Open Scholarly Infrastructure. We hope that, by committing to these principles, we can preemptively address fundamental questions about accountability and sustainability that are inevitably raised regarding our services.

Learn [more](#)

New to Dryad

Our dynamic, multi-stakeholder community continues to grow. In addition to supporting data publication in connection with the 490 journals referred to above, and helping 23 publishing organizations to cover costs for their authors, we were so pleased to welcome 11 new institutional members to Dryad.

Through our institutional membership program, the following organizations committed to supporting data curation and publication for their affiliated researchers and are able to reflect as much of the Dryad corpus as they like into their catalog, search or repository systems.

- Desert Research Institute (Australia)
- Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) (India)
- Kyoto University (Japan)
- Macquarie University (Australia)
- Michigan State University (USA)
- New Mexico State University (USA)
- University of British Columbia (Canada)
- University of Illinois - Urbana Champaign (USA)
- University of Minnesota (USA)
- University of Sheffield (UK)
- University of Wisconsin - Madison (USA)

Finance

Summary position

Income and expense, years ended June 30, 2020 and 2021

[1]

	FY 2020	FY 2021
Income		
Contributions and grants	237,549	779,194 [2]
Program service revenue	499,048	543,579
Total income	736,597	1,322,773
Expense		
Personnel	539,820	592,337
Other expenses	208,488	674,363 [3]
	748,308	1,266,700
Net operating income	(11,711)	56,073

[1] Dryad's accounting is accrual based, thus income values reflect accrued income.

[2] Estimated in-kind support from CDL was not included in Dryad's accounting system in FY 2020 and 2021, but was reported in FY 2021 tax filings. In-kind contributions will be included in Dryad's accounting system beginning in FY 2023.

[3] Estimated in-kind contributions are included in other expenses for FY 2021.

Analysis of revenue

Dryad is supported by four types of investor:

1. Publishers (society, non-profit and commercial) who invest in membership as well as data publications for their authors
2. Institutions, who invest in Dryad as members
3. Individual researchers who pay to have Dryad curate and publish their data
4. Public and private funders committing grants for operational or project support

We are also supported by a partnership with California Digital Library (CDL), whose in-kind investment in product management, platform development, the preservation repository behind Dryad (Merritt), and grants management is made in the context of an ongoing and formal collaboration that was initiated in 2018. ([Learn more](#))

In the 2021 fiscal year:

ANNUAL REPORT - FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021

- Membership revenues increased in connection with the addition of new institutions, above
- Data publishing fees paid by individuals have grown. We can report on that in deeper detail in future
- We have reported for the first time the estimated value of the investment from the California Digital Library – but would like to emphasize that the collaboration is more extensive and beneficial than what we can indicate in our accounts
- We continued to collaborate in the grants listed below

Grants

National Science Foundation Sustaining Award #1933812, to the California Digital Library (\$870,922), "Enabling the Access, Publishing, and Preservation of Curated Research Data at Dryad", 2019-2023 (with no-cost extension)

- Dryad receives a subaward from the California Digital Library to sustain our curation program and ongoing operations
- We reported \$187,584 in expense against this grant for the 2021 fiscal period

National Science Foundation Community Meeting Award #2031647, to the California Digital Library (\$46,793), "Connecting Researchers in Sharing and Re-Use of Research Data and Software", 2020-2022 (estimated end date)

- This award, for CDL to collaborate with Dryad and Zenodo, will bring together researchers across varying disciplines to explore needs in research data and software reuse
- Dryad will not report against this award

Sloan Foundation Award (\$635,915) "Building Connections in Data Publishing to Achieve Community Goals", 2019-2022 (with no-cost extension)

- This is an innovation award to help Dryad build connections and integrations with the larger research and research-supporting communities to make data publishing and re-use more seamless. Examples of integrations include publishing platforms, analytical environments, and community curation groups.
- Our reporting against this award will be complete in FY22

Analysis of expenditure

We would note only the significant decrease in marketing and outreach, which is an outcome of the pandemic, and the technology cost that is commensurate with the in-kind investment noted as revenue.

ANNUAL REPORT - FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021

As Dryad is a US-registered tax-exempt organization, our annual Form 990 is posted publicly. A copy is also available [here](#).