Data Librarianship

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Hi. I'm Dave.

What I do

1. Data management planning

2. Application management

3. Repository and curation services

4. Data visualization

5. Scripting and coding

6. Data munging/reformatting

7. Other duties as assigned

What's a data librarian?

The short answer:

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"Databrarians"

Key areas of work

- Reserach data management
- Data reference, collection development
- Digital archiving and curation
- Library research/data services
- Data technology instruction
- Data visualization

What kind of environments are these jobs in?

- A general split between public services (subject liaisons), scholarly communications, and library IT
- Primarily at large research institutions, but the specialization is growing

Where to find out about these jobs?

- ALA: Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL)
    - Digital Scholarship Section
- ALA/: Library Information Technology Division (LITA)
- [Code4Lib](#)

Relevant organizations

- Association for Information Science and Technology (ASIST)
- Research Data Alliance (RDA)
- American Library Association (ALA)
- Society of American Archivists (SAA) [well, sort of]

Breaking into the field

- Practical, hands-on experience is invaluable
    - look for internships/jobs related to digital preservation/curation
    - look for internships/jobs related to digital/institutional repositories
- Take coursework related to information management, digital pres./curation, data management, big data, programming, etc.

Some useful texts

Johnston, Lisa R. (2017). 2 vols. Chicago: ACRL.

Kellam, Lynda and Kristi Thompson, eds. (2016). Chicago: ACRL.

Rice, Robin and Southall John. (2016). London: Facet Publishing.

Borgman, Christine L. (2015). Cambridge: MIT Press.

Briney, Kristin. (2015). Exeter: Pelagic Publishing.

Ray, Joyce M., ed. (2014). West Lafayette: Charelston Insight.

Some useful reading

Genifer Snipes. (2018).
https://www.newlibs.org/api/v1/articles/3240-everyone-s-a-data-librarian-now.pdf

Christina Czuhajewsi. (2015).
https://hacklibraryschool.com/2015/06/04/so-you-want-to-be-a-data-visualization-librarian/

Some handy links

- ICPSR (well known data repository for social science and leader in data curation)

- Midwest Data Librarian Symposium (an annual meetup of data librarians – the past schedules are a great guide to current topics in the field)

- DataCamp.com (intro level resources for data science and programming)

- DataCite.org (data repository aggregator, citation guide, and DOI provider)

- Data Management Wikipedia Page (a handy list of related topics)

- DataONE.org (research data management tools and guides)

Some relevant iSchool courses

INST 627, INST 641, INST 643, INST 728R, INST 737, INST 742, INST 767, LBSC 784

Thanks!

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