

Assessment of the Impact of Research Data Services: Building a Foundation for Ongoing Assessment

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Background & Introduction

The Research Data Services (RDS) program at the University of New Mexico (UNM) was established in July of 2014 as a designated service program within the College of University Libraries and Learning Sciences (CUL&LS). Though formally established in 2014, some of services provided by RDS to the UNM research community were initiated by different programs and units within the library, including the establishment of UNM's institutional repository *LoboVault* (<http://repository.unm.edu>) in 2008, the hire of our first *data librarians* with subject liaison responsibilities in 2010, the subsequent development of a shared data collaboration platform (*LoboDrive*) for use by Library staff and faculty and specifically defined research groups, and the expansion of support for shared code development to the entire UNM campus through the release of *LoboGit* (<http://lobogit.unm.edu>). When RDS was established in 2014 the data management planning and research data reference consultation that had been provided by subject liaison librarians were transitioned to RDS, which in the Fall of 2014 was staffed with one tenured faculty member, a lecturer, a research data scientist, and a CLIR Post-Doctoral Fellow.

With the establishment of the program a set of core service areas were established as described in an excerpt from the RDS brochure (Figure 1). While the consultation, instruction and training services have remained relatively unchanged over the past year, core infrastructure elements that have been some of the largest "draws" for RDS services, in addition to data management planning, have started major changes: emerging storage capacity and system support limitations for LoboDrive and a transition of our institutional repository (*LoboVault*) from a locally hosted DSpace instance to an externally hosted Digital Commons instance provided by bepress. These changes, combined with the loss of our program's CLIR PostDoc and research data scientist, have necessitated a reworking of our outreach and support for these key collaborative data management and preservation capabilities during the period planned for the assessment project.

The assessment project reported herein represents the work to date in establishing the assessment foundation for the RDS program, with a particular focus on the program's impact (through one-off instruction sessions, workshops, and consultations) on graduate student *knowledge, skills, abilities, and attitudes* while also developing a more broad capability for assessing impacts for RDS's services to the broader UNM research community of faculty and staff researchers across disciplines.

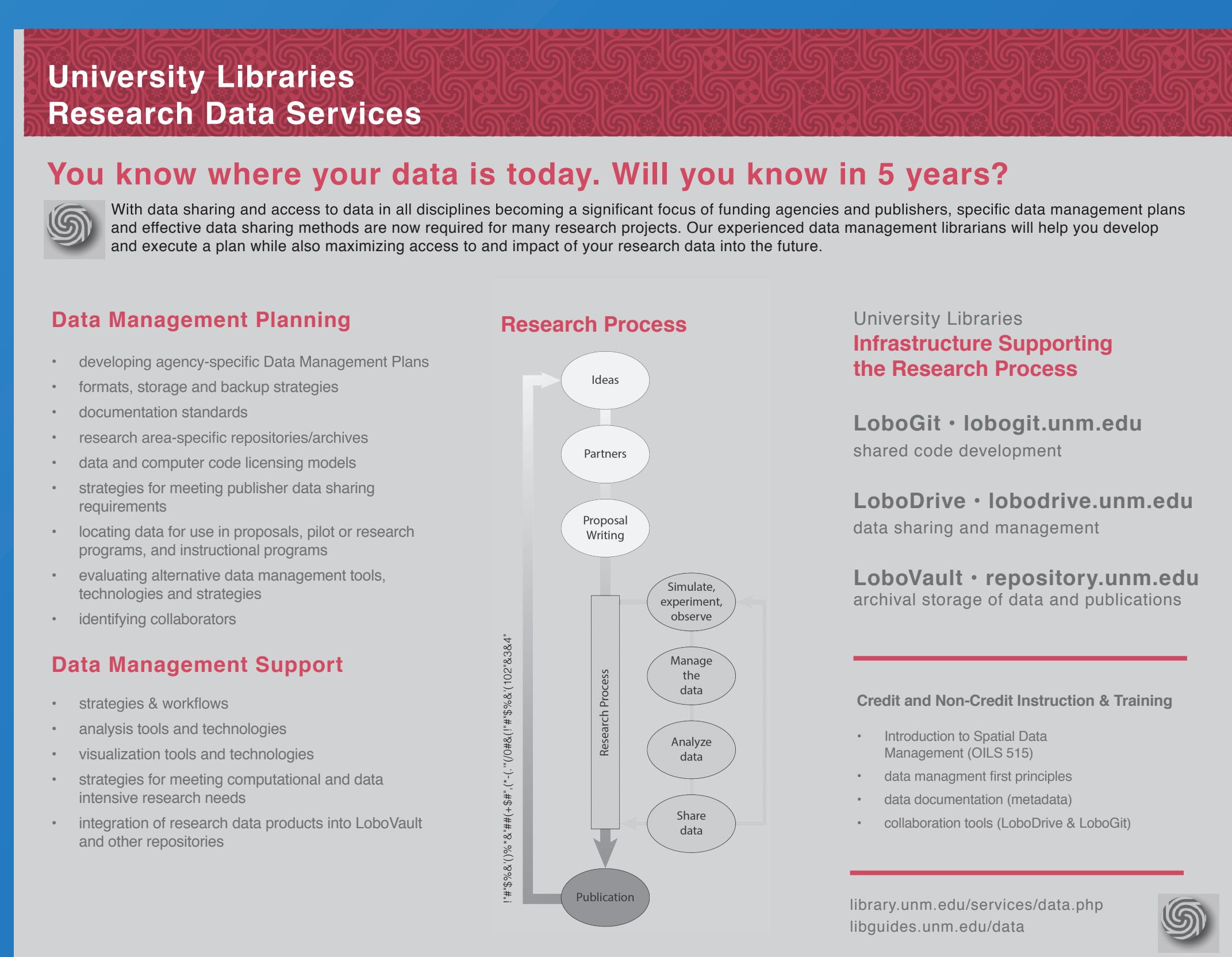
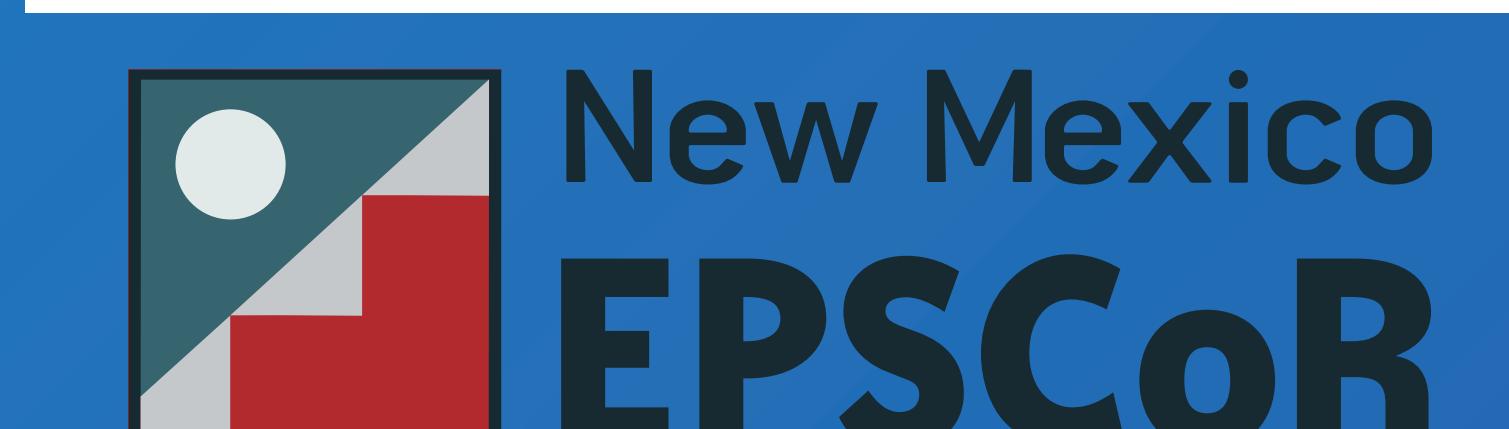


Figure 1 - excerpt from the RDS brochure



Figure 2 - a mixed participant group for a Software Carpentry Workshop co-organized by RDS in 5/15

Initial Assessment Project Partners



New UNM Assessment Coordination Points



References that Informed the Objectives and Design

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Survey Instrument Outline/Overview

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/unm-rds_impact-draft



Introduction / Consent

Context and Background Information

Knowledge

Skills

Abilities

Attitudes

Thank You