First of her name: Fostering R usage as the first bioinformatician in my department

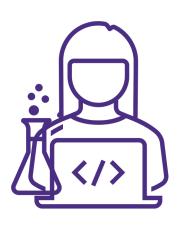
Kim Dill-McFarland 2021.06.05 · Cascadia R

The setting



School of Medicine





What I wanted to do



School of Medicine





@kdillmcfarland

What I did



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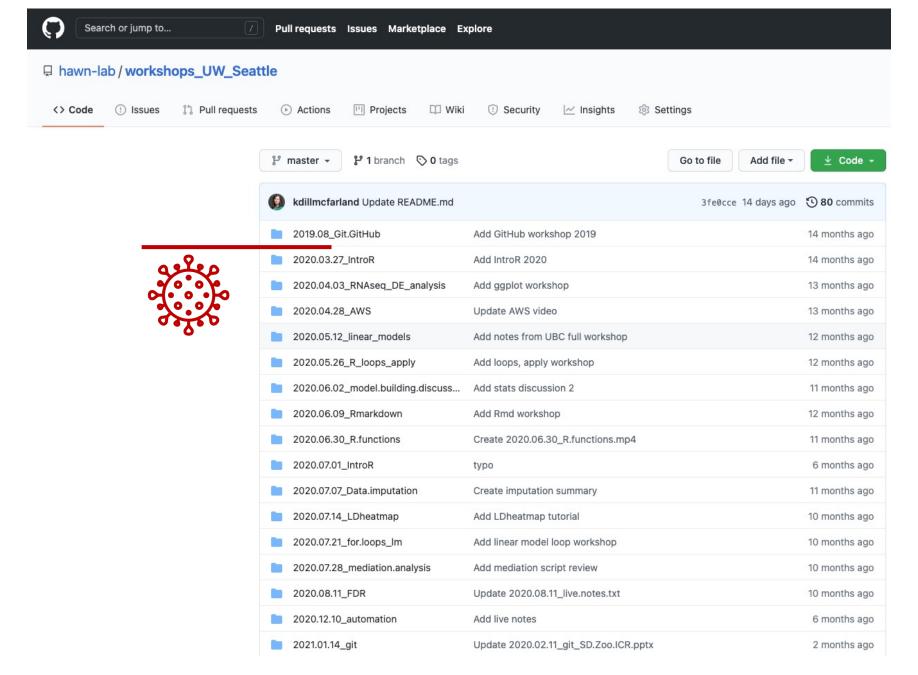
What I did later



School of Medicine



Workshops



Maximize workshop effects

- Customize content to work tasks or skills
- Several, shorter sessions
- Get higher-ups to attend
- Eliminate costs for learners

Record and share recordings

Workshop pitfalls to avoid

Coding beyond foundational knowledge (statistics!)

Teaching what you think they should know

Being too practiced and polished

Open office hours

Our office hours

• 3 – 4 PM every Tuesday

Consistent Zoom link

• I attend even if no one indicated they have a question

Work on <u>TidyTuesday</u> if no one attends

Maximize office hours

Consider a remote format for accessibility

 Have another task to collaborate on or use the time to respond to related messages

Define themed events to coincide with work deadlines

Office hour pitfalls to avoid

Repeatedly changing time, day, location, or canceling

Letting it turn into a social hour

Taking too many additional meetings for individual questions

Things that didn't work / worked less well

Waiting for them to come to me

Department-wide Slack channel and office hours

Bioinformatics seminar series

Key take-aways

- Dedicate time and personnel to make a change
- Organize custom, targeted workshops
- Create a casual forum for getting help
- Build a community of practice

- Not everyone needs to become a super user
- You're not alone!

Free R workshop resources

- The Carpentries
 - https://carpentries.org/workshops-curricula/

- EDUCE at UBC
 - https://github.com/EDUCE-UBC/workshops_access



Dr. Thomas Hawn's lab







Experiential

Data science for

Undergraduate

Cross-disciplinary

Education