

Humanities Information Research: Proceedings Of A Seminar, Sheffield 1980

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Roles and Responsibilities – Libraries, Librarians and Data
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'E-science has the potential to be transformational within research libraries by impacting their operations, functions, and possibly even their mission.'

(Lougee et al., 2007, p. 3)

Introduction

The management of the research data generated by e-science/e-research has replaced open access to scholarly publications as the hot topic on the academic library and information services agenda. National and international bodies have issued a succession of reports, policies and guidance on dealing with the 'data deluge' that have flagged the need for concerted action by research organisations. Government and other official publications have often identified roles for library and information professionals in managing data alongside the other information and knowledge resources that libraries manage or provide for their communities. Professional associations in the library world have responded positively to such suggestions and university librarians are now starting to develop services or get involved in projects to explore what libraries can do to support researchers in meeting new requirements of funding agencies to facilitate access to their data.

Managing research data continues to be an emergent area of activity where responsibilities and practices within libraries are generally not yet firmly established, especially in the United Kingdom. However, there have been significant developments within the past few years, particularly in the United States, as a result of nationally funded project work and new requirements of research funding agencies for data management plans to be submitted with grant applications. Many libraries have seized these opportunities to form new partnerships and develop new services, which has in turn generated a growing body of literature on the subject offering insights and pointers for practitioners in other countries. In this chapter, we review the opportunities offered and the challenges presented for libraries and librarians in the research data arena, with particular reference to published reports and case studies of emerging practice, supplemented by evidence from university and library websites.

Some commentators have questioned whether library staff have the knowledge and skills needed to fulfil the roles suggested, so we look specifically at connections between research data management and established library roles and responsibilities to explore whether research data management represents another incremental step in professional practice or a true paradigm shift in collection development and service delivery requiring fundamental rethinking of roles, responsibilities and competencies to create 'next-generation librarianship', drawing where possible on the experiences and opinions of practitioners already involved in the field. Finally, we discuss professional education and continuing development needs for library engagement with research data, again referring particularly to initiatives already taken in the US.

The case for library engagement

Several expert commentators in the information field have argued that the problems faced by institutions in managing research data offer an important and attractive opportunity for librarians to redefine their role in supporting research and to develop closer relationships with their research community. Hey and Hey (2006, p. 526) suggest that if librarians can respond

Humanities information research: proceedings of a seminar, Sheffield, / edited by Sue Stone University of Sheffield. Centre for Research on User Studies. Humanities information research: proceedings of a seminar, Sheffield, /? edited by Sue Stone. Other Creators. Stone, Sue. University of Sheffield. Centre. Humanities Information Research Seminar Proceedings (CRUS occasional Centre for Research User Studies University of Sheffield (November). Humanities Information Research: Proceedings Of. A Seminar, Sheffield by Sue Stone. Addis Ababa University Libraries catalog ISBD view Proceedings. Computers and the Humanities; Vol. 17, No. 4, Dec. . Humanities Information Research: Proceedings of a Seminar; Sheffield by Sue Stone (pp.) . Proceedings of a Research Seminar held at the University of Lancaster, July . Research and Information Needs in the Humanities. Cynthia Corkhill. Annotation, personal information management, scholarly research model. 1. InTROduCTION . Proceedings of a seminar; Sheffield BLR&DD Report No. CRUS, Sheffield University, Google Scholar. Stone, S. Humanities information research: proceedings of a seminar. CRUS, Sheffield University, Designing a user study: general research design by Sue Stone (Book) Humanities information research: proceedings of a seminar, Sheffield, by. The Humanities Resources option on the MA Librarianship programme at the Department of Information Studies, University of Sheffield, is described. Computers and the Humanities 17() .. Humanities Information Research: Proceedings of a Seminar; Sheffield , Edited by Sue Stone. School of Information Studies, Charles Sturt University . Background to the Survey In Maurice Line reminded us that we have very little Humanities scholars view the library as their laboratory, a place where ideas Seminar ed by S Stone University of Sheffield Centre for Research in User Studies pp91 Concluding observations, in Stone, Sue (Ed.) Humanities Information Research. Proceedings of a Seminar, Sheffield (CRUS Occasional Paper 4; BLR&D.

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