

Report on Data Day 2015

(<http://library.queensu.ca/dataday2015>)

Monday, May 11, 2015

8:45 – 1:00

1923 Reading Room, Douglas Library

75 people from 31 departments registered for Data Day. While not all those who registered attended, there were about 60 people in attendance, 4 from outside Universities – Carleton University, McMaster University, and UOIT.

The program included welcome remarks from Sharon Murphy, Head, Academic Services, Library, Bo Wandschneider, Associate Vice-Principal Information Technology Services and CIO, and Yolande Chan, Associate Vice-Principal (Research), Office of the Vice-Principal (Research); Don Aldridge, IBM Canada Research Executive and Senior Advisor to the Vice-Principal (Research), spoke on *Biggish Data*; Research Case Studies; and 4 Concurrent Sessions.

Research Data Case Studies:

- Queen's University Biological Station (QUBS)
Stephen Lougheed, Director, Queen's University Biological Station (QUBS)
- Data Management: Not a Waste of Time
Scott Lougheed, Environmental Studies
- Auto-Anthology: F.R. Scott in the Archives
Robert May, Department of English
- Learning to Share: A Beginner's Experience with Data Management
Tiina Liinamaa, Centre for Health Science and Policy Research

4 Concurrent Sessions:

- Session A: Mapping Geospatial Data and Visualization, Francine Berish, Geospatial Data Librarian
- Session B: Computer Security: Protecting your Research Data, George Farah, Information Systems Officer, and Steve Ferguson, Technical Support Specialist, IT Services
- Session C: Data: Citation, Attribution and Impact, Rosarie Coughlan, Scholarly Publishing Librarian
- Session D: Research Data Management: An Introduction, Jeff Moon, Data Librarian, Academic Director, Queen's Research Data Centre

Data Day was well received with all but 4 people stating that it meet their expectations. Of the 4 that did not have their expectations meet, they wanted more specific information to help with their research needs. Most respondents said they attended to learn more about data, data management, tools and services offered.

In the future, respondents would like to see sessions on topics including developing data management plans, preparing good data sets, archiving data (writing metadata, creating codebooks, etc.), compliance with Tri-Council requirements, technically advanced case studies, best practices. They would like hands-on, detailed workshops and to be able to attend more than one session.

Most people found out about Data Day from their colleagues (SGPS email, email forwarded from other staff members, library staff email). All respondents agreed that May 11 was a good time of year to attend, although some suggested that Monday was not a good day (Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday would be better).

A summary of the responses to all the questions in the survey are listed below.

Registrants

Faculty	Faculty	Graduate Student	Librarian/ Archivist	Library Technician	Post-doc/ Researcher	Research Administrator	Staff	Other	Total
Health Sciences	4	1							5
Business							1		1
Arts and Science	4	14			3	2	2	1	26
Education		4							4
Library	1		13	1			3		18
Departments at Queen's*	1	1				5	6		13
Engineering and Applied Science	1	3							4
Outside Queen's**			2				1	1	4
Total	11	23	15	1	3	7	13	2	75

*Departments at Queen's includes CMC, HPCVL, ICES, ITS, Office of the Vice-Principal (Research), RARC, University Research Services

**Outside Queen's includes DLI, Carleton University, McMaster University, and UOIT

Feedback Survey Responses

26 responses were received from about 12 departments (some respondents did not report their department).

Why did you attend Data Day and what did you expect to learn?

- Research at Queen's, activities underway (such as data archiving)
- Involved with the [Name] Research group
- Enjoyed experience last year
- Data management and analysis needs; practical skills/tools; services offered
- Data storage and security
- Hear about other types of research and methods of data management
- Interact with peers
- Tools, strategies, ideas of how to better manage, sift, sort and highlight data we are flooded with
- No expectations, unsure what "data" was
- Data sources
- RDM services at Queen's to help develop services for own institution
- Know nothing about data management
- Learn about security, data mining, and data management planning and tools

Did Data Day meet your expectations?	
No	4
Yes	22
Total	26

Comments

- Security presentation should not have been a concurrent session
- Panel presentations too simplistic; most people understand why data is important; more concrete examples of steps involved in archiving
- Looking for something more specific to our data set
- Program well laid out with mix of disciplines in case studies
- Keynote was interesting
- Hoping for more general view at how to deal with data
- Very informative, interesting and even entertaining
- Learn about resources on software programming (SAS, R, SPSS, etc); data gathering and repositories, HPCVL, DAC group
- Found information given at high level and not specific enough; only 2 case studies, leave time to attend to sessions instead of one
- Wanted information on what data plan looks like, highlight key decisions points, go through a data plan
- [Name] presenter engaging but not useful
- More than met expectations

- Hoping to leave with some concrete tools that could be used for preparation for my plan of study

How did you find out about Data Day?	
Colleague	14
Events Calendar	1
Library website	4
Queen's Gazette	2
Total	21

Other

- SGPS email, library staff email, email invitation, [Name] Group,

Would you attend another Data Day?	
No	2
Yes	24
Total	26

Which session did you attend?	
Session A: Mapping Geospatial Data and Visualization	4
Session B: Computer Security: Protecting your Research Data	7
Session C: Data: Citation, Attribution and Impact	5
Session D: Research Data Management: An Introduction	9
I did not attend a session	1
Total	26

Did the session meet your expectations?	
No	4
Yes	20
(blank)	2
Total	25

Comments

- Amazing job by the presenter
- Most valuable information was about the open-sourcing of the software
- Met expectations, but was extremely general and offered a very cursory overview of securing or protecting data
- More general and vague than specific
- Packed with helpful information
- Session [Geospatial] was very focused on specific geospatial tools; too many details that weren;t helpful without being the in geospatial/mapping field
- Interesting and informative
- Could be a bit longer, felt information was coming very quickly
- Good questions at end
- Good introduction
- More sessions

- Interesting about tools being developed at the national level, but liked to learn more about existing data management tools or resources

What types of sessions, outcomes or actions would you like to see in the future?

- Build and manage databases
- Data day youtube channel – research collaboration – connecting researchers
- Step by step data archiving process
- More detailed workshops; more hands on
- Compliance with Tri-Council Access and data storage requirements
- Advanced data management information; explicit discussion about strategies; more technically advanced case studies for how people are maintaining best practices for data management.
- “I think by the third year you'll have some fairly well-informed attendees who would yearn for this more advanced stuff.”
- New services related to Office 365 – sharepoint
- More information on resources available to researchers, websites, contact information
- Session on meeting the new open access criteria
- More faculty sharing needs and ideas
- Visually presenting data with less focus on geospatial; more broad session about how to display results and interesting data in a clean and impact-full way
- Workshops integrated into departments
- Enjoyed case studies; like to hear more like them
- Case studies; benefits
- Resources outside library – ITS, tutorials
- Details of RDM, creation of a DMP, writing metadata, creating codebooks
- Go through data management plans
- More of the same
- Sessions relevant to Digital Humanities
- Speaker from outside academia is always good; enjoyed speaker from IBM
- Hybrid of current IT tools that students and faculty could use to improve the security and management of their plans of study
- Options for cloud computing

Data Day was held on May 11, 2015. Was this a good time of year for you to attend?	
Yes	26
Total	26

Would there be a better time of year for you?	Total
Fall term	1
Spring term	4
Winter term	1
(blank)	20
Total	26

Other (please specify) – time of year

- Timing is good
- Monday is not a good day
- Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday would be better

Faculty and Status

Faculty	Faculty	Graduate Student	Librarian/ Archivist	Research Administrator	Staff	Total
Departments at Queen's*					5	5
Library			4		1	5
Arts and Science		2		1	1	4
Health Sciences	2	1				3
School of Business					1	1
Engineering and Applied Sciences		1				1
Off Campus					1	1
Total	2	4	5	1	8	20

*Departments at Queen's include ITS, CMC Microsystems, and University Research Services

Comments or Suggestions?

- Enjoyable event
- Nice change of location
- 15-20 minute break instead of 30 minute
- Will be following up to get a data management plan in the following months
- More descriptions beyond the titles in the program would be helpful in selecting sessions
- Online resources available after
- Well organized
- Appreciate speaker from outside organization
- Excellent outreach opportunity for the library; good to see other academics were drawn from outside Queen's
- Enjoyed panel of researchers
- Longer Data Day with 2 time slots for sessions
- More substantial snack or directions where could purchase one