



UB's Data Management Symposium

Cover Story

Talk about challenges and opportunities! -- what about stewardship of research data? "Today, data from scientific instruments, sensors, on-line surveys, audio and video, social network communications and many other sources have accelerated our ability to discover, innovate, and understand the world around us. Providing adequate stewardship of this digital information, and ensuring that needed data is accessible now and for the foreseeable future, are among the most critical challenges of our time" ([Berman: RPI](#)). The example of the opening up of the [human genome project data](#) is just one showing the massive opportunity for scientific advancement encompassed in "data management".



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The [National Science Foundation](#) now mandates that each grant proposal include a data management plan. What services and expertise can libraries bring to the assistance of their researchers in this area? [Geneseo](#) is one example of a SUNY starting to offer services in this area.



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A [program](#) at the University at Buffalo (November 14, 2011) is designed to provide some of the answers to the question. "Research Data: Management, Access and Control" brings [authorities](#) from around the country and around SUNY to highlight what libraries can bring to this context. Work in Minnesota "addresses a need that is currently not met elsewhere on campus" ([Johnston: University of Minnesota](#)). Sessions are scheduled dealing with classification and discovery issues related to data as well as on curation and preservation of these resources, among other topics.

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"These are exciting times for libraries as they can raise their profile and relevance to the world-changing business of the University, research" ([Ludwig: University at Buffalo](#)).



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