RDM in a centralized university ecosystem – A case study of the University of Cologne

Jens Dierkes & Constanze Curdt

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University of Cologne (UoC) at a Glance

KEY FACTS (2016)

- 48,962 Students
- 615 Professors
- 7,393 Academic Staff
- 6,473 Degrees awarded p.a.
- 635 Ph.D.-degrees p.a.

- Total expenditure 725 Mio € p.a.
- Third party funds 196 Mio € p.a.

- Classical research-oriented University, founded 1388
- Broad spectrum of disciplines: Humanities, Life, Natural & Social Sciences, organized in six faculties
- Well-developed Profile Areas
  - Centers of Excellence (CoE)
  - Competence Areas (CA)
- Research and Teaching Centers, e.g.
  - Cellular stress responses in Aging Associated Diseases
  - Center for Molecular Medicine Cologne
  - Cologne Center for Genomics
RDM Pilot project at the UoC

- Feasibility study on RDM on behalf of the UoC Rectorate from Oct 2016 to Jan 2018

- Project partners:
  - Regional Computing Centre (RRZK)
  - Dep. Research Management (D7)
  - University and City Library (USB)

- Governance:
  - Steering committee (vice-rector research, prodeans research, dep. head Research Management, director RRZK, director USB)
  - Project lead: dep. head Research Management, director RRZK, director USB
  - Project team: staff members D7, RRZK, USB

- Budget: travel costs only
Research landscape at UoC
Research landscape at UoC
Research landscape at UoC

Faculty 1

Faculty 2

Faculty 3

Faculty 4

Faculty 5

Faculty 6

Joint Project

RDM Activities

Computing Centre

Library

Research Management

Project
RDM services at the UoC

- Individual consultation services
- System services
- Training and information sessions
- Data archiving services
- Web based information services
- Central proof of research data
Proposed RDM structure at UoC
Discussion/ Conclusions

- **Bottom-up process in decentralized structure**
  - Acknowledge existing structures (esp. power structure)
  - Balance between centralized and decentralized structures (e.g. Personnel, IT-Resources)

- **Workflows**
  - Roles and Responsibilities
  - Effectiveness of infrastructure

- **Sustainability**
  - Proposed network/ cooperation structure for building a RDM community - 1st step towards establishing consensus about requirements for a sustainable infrastructure
  - Need university leadership for support/ incentives
  - Consider internal and external funding flows
Thank you!

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