

UC OPEN RESEARCH DATA COLLECTION – [ODC10](#)

“DEVELOPING STAFF, SHOWCASING RESEARCH”

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PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The University of Canberra (UC) Library used its ANDS-funded Open Data Collection (ODC) project (2015) to develop processes around gathering, describing, storing and sharing primary research data. The Library worked with researchers from the University's **Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Science** to make data sets discoverable and openly available on the Research Data Australia (RDA) site, and also developed data storage capacity in the Library's Equella Research Repository.

PROJECT AIMS

Aims of the project included:

Develop the capacity of the Library to provide services for primary research data creators. This included developing the capability of staff to curate data by developing processes and workflows, learning relevant protocols such as the RIFCS metadata protocol, and developing and working with Equella repository software.

Provide centralised primary research dataset storage for UC data creators, particularly those with smaller or “long tail of research data” sets not suitable for storage in national infrastructure, and to facilitate making those data sets available for reuse under Creative-Commons licences.

Showcase the University's research data outputs by the creation of a “University of Canberra” [contributor page](#) in RDA.

FINDING SUITABLE DATA

Members of the Project Team collaborated with the University's **Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Science** to source suitable research data sets. An initial data set “*Intrapersonal correlates of motivational climate perceptions in sport and physical activity*”² was provided by Dr Richard Keegan. This proved to be the first of several collaborations enabled by the project.



Dr Richard Keegan from the University of Canberra's Research Institute for Sport and Exercise Science. Photo: Michelle McAulay

COLLABORATIONS

The project provided various internal and external collaborations of ongoing benefit. Communication with the Faculty of Health seeking suitable research data sets drew numerous responses and demonstrated the demand for an ongoing service around primary

research data curation and storage. Internal to the Library, the project was completed with collaboration of various teams.



UC Library project team: L-R Murray Turner, Yun Zhao, Kath Cobcroft, Christian West. Photo: Peter Birch

Experience gained by the project team will allow for collaboration with the University's eResearch Committee and Research Office in regard to policies and procedures around research data. There have also been some unanticipated collaborations. For example certain data collections created at the University have successfully won storage on the New South Wales (NSW) node of the Research Data Storage Infrastructure (RDSI). These collections require metadata descriptions and the Library collaborated with Intersect NSW with the aim to provide metadata descriptions for these collections, as a result of being upskilled by the ODC project.

IMPACT OF THIS OPEN DATA COLLECTION

This rewarding project will impact positively upon the University and its researchers. Library staff are now trained and experienced in various aspects of data curation and storage, having overcome various challenges in gathering, describing, storing and making data openly available.

Strategically, this initial effort provides the University with a presence on a major online data discovery service - Research Data Australia, signalling that it is willing to invest-in and showcase research data generated by its researchers as a valuable institutional asset, and also contribute to national productivity via enhanced collaborations between researchers and the national research data framework.

The project team, guided by their ANDS contact have demonstrated what a small and dedicated team can fairly easily achieve if given time and support, and provided a stepping stone for ongoing services around research data management at the University.

FOOTNOTES

1. The University of Canberra project team are: Kath Cobcroft - **Project Manager** and Data Librarian, Kath.Cobcroft@canberra.edu.au ; Murray Turner – Faculty Liaison Librarian, Health, Murray.Turner@canberra.edu.au ; Christian West – Team Leader, Information Resources, Christian.West@canberra.edu.au ; Yun Zhao – Technology Administrator, Information Resources, Yun.Zhao@canberra.edu.au ; ANDS Contact: Ingrid Mason – Client Liaison Officer, Ingrid.Mason@ands.org.au
2. Keegan, Richard ; Raine, Adam S. (2015): Intrapersonal correlates of motivational climate perceptions in sport and physical activity dataset. University of Canberra. URI : <http://www.canberra.edu.au/researchrepository/items/6d275b64-752e-49c1-ad8a-b9ae78acaf88/1/>



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