

Connecting with Researchers: RDM Consults

James Doiron

RDM Services Coordinator, UofA Libraries
Academic Director, UofA Research Data Centre
Co-Chair, Portage DMP Expert Group

Shifting Horizons II: Realities of RDM Services

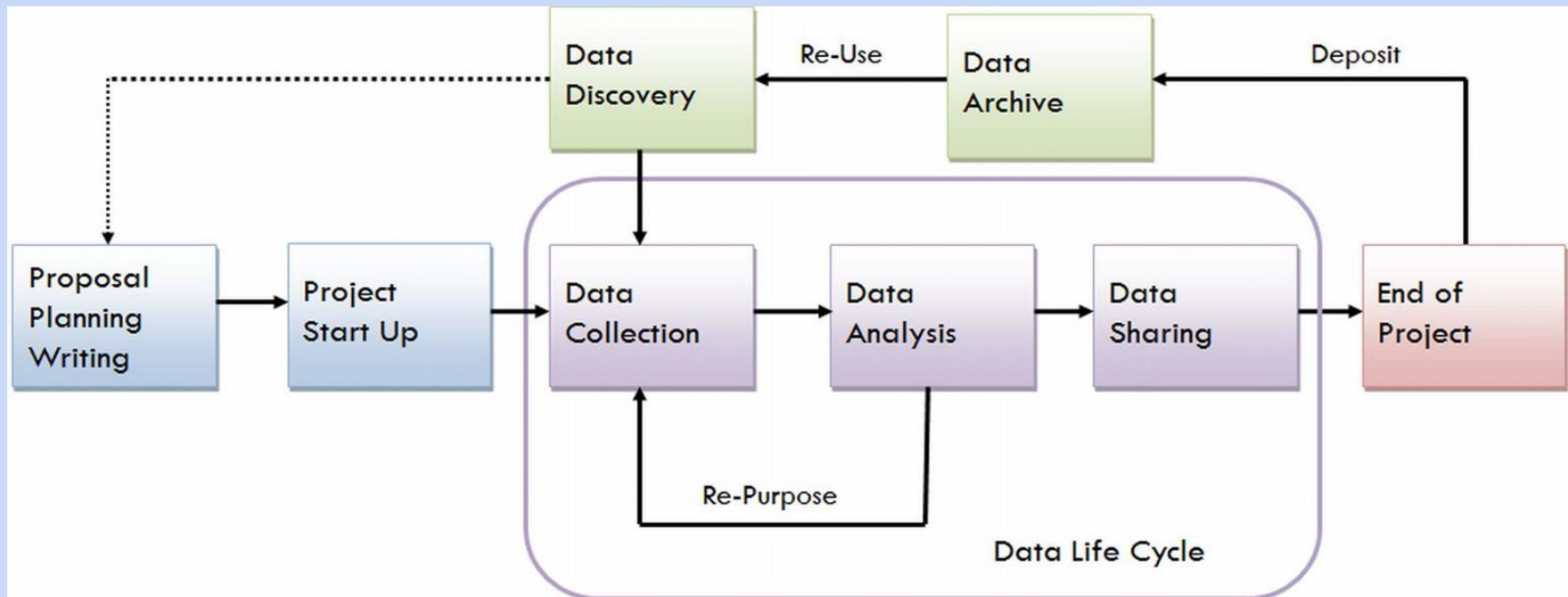
University of Ottawa

February 20, 2020

Connecting with Researchers: *a.k.a. “The fun part!”*

RDM consults play a key role in identifying:

- areas of research where essential RDM support and services may be provided
- collaborative opportunities between researchers & RDM service providers
- specific RDM supports that projects may leverage



RDM consults: Challenges

While every RDM consult is unique, there are some fairly common challenges that you may encounter:

Late comers

RDM consults may be initiated at any phase of the research life cycle, from grant writing to data deposit

Limited time and resources

almost always never enough of either!

Non-Library supports

Some projects require RDM supports that are outside the scope of what can be offered

Buy-in

Researchers may differentially understand and/or value RDM

'Want to' vs 'have to'
it's 'easier' not to do RDM

Is everyone here?

May not always involve everyone who should be there

Generalist vs. Specialist

Some projects require very specialized support

RDM consults: Challenges

While every RDM consult is unique, there are some fairly common challenges that you may encounter:

Late comers

Try to be proactive when able, and encourage researchers to come early on, even if it is for the next time!

Limited time and resources

Lean but meaningful time → showcase available resources

Non-Library supports

Note where there are opportunities to connect them with other available resources

Buy-in

Build knowledge & how RDM can help strengthen their research

'Want to' vs 'have to'

it's 'easier' not to do RDM → they will use what they value

Is everyone here?

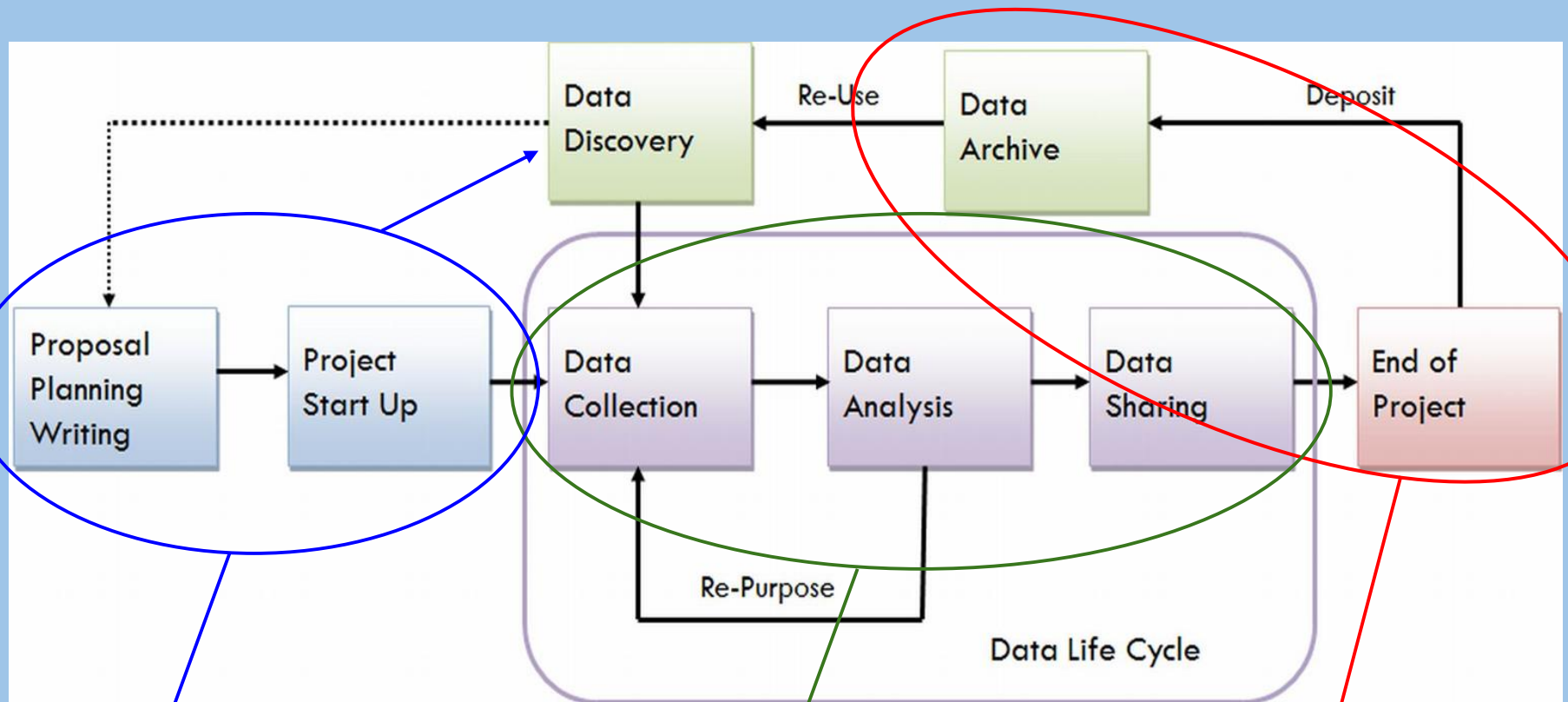
Identify key roles & people → encourage including them

Generalist vs. Specialist

You don't have to do it all → bring in the experts!

The initial RDM consult → Talk about their research!

There is no one way to conduct an initial RDM consult, though there is a general approach & questions to consider using → gather info & assess



2. Pre-Research:

- Including RDM into funding applications
- Funder requirements
- Data Management Plans
- Data discovery
- Participant consent & Information Letters
- Ethics applications

3. During Research:

- Primary data collection
- Data storage
- Data transferring
- Data access
- Data documentation/metadata
- File naming conventions

4. Post-Research:

- Publication requirements
- Data deposit

General RDM consult questions

- Nature of their research

General RDM consult questions

- Nature of their research
- Are they seeking specific type(s) of RDM support?

General RDM consult questions

- Nature of their research
- Are they seeking specific type(s) of RDM support?
- What stage of the research cycle are they at?
 - *Funding application support?*
 - *DMP?*

General RDM consult questions

- Nature of their research
- Are they seeking specific type(s) of RDM support?
- What stage of the research cycle are they at?
 - *Funding application support?*
 - *DMP?*
- Project timelines?

General RDM consult questions

- Nature of their research
- Are they seeking specific type(s) of RDM support?
- What stage of the research cycle are they at?
 - *Funding application support?*
 - *DMP?*
- Project timelines?
- Funded research?
 - *If so, by whom?*
 - *Review funder policies*

General RDM consult questions

- Nature of their research
- Are they seeking specific type(s) of RDM support?
- What stage of the research cycle are they at?
 - *Funding application support?*
 - *DMP?*
- Project timelines?
- Funded research?
 - *If so, by whom?*
 - *Review funder policies*
- Co-PIs/Collaborators?
 - *Multi-institutional?*
 - *Multi-disciplinary?*

General RDM consult questions

- Nature of their research
- Are they seeking specific type(s) of RDM support?
- What stage of the research cycle are they at?
 - *Funding application support?*
 - *DMP?*
- Project timelines?
- Funded research?
 - *If so, by whom?*
 - *Review funder policies*
- Co-PIs/Collaborators?
 - *Multi-institutional?*
 - *Multi-disciplinary?*
- Projected journals to publish in?

Data Specific RDM consult questions

- Type(s) of data being collected
 - *I.e., surveys, audio/video, images, sensitive, GIS, code, etc.*

Data Specific RDM consult questions

- Type(s) of data being collected
 - *I.e., surveys, audio/video, images, sensitive, GIS, code, etc.*
- Format(s) of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*

Data Specific RDM consult questions

- Type(s) of data being collected
 - *I.e., surveys, audio/video, images, sensitive, GIS, code, etc.*
- Format(s) of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*
- Primary and/or secondary data?

Data Specific RDM consult questions

- Type(s) of data being collected
 - *I.e., surveys, audio/video, images, sensitive, GIS, code, etc.*
- Format(s) of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*
- Primary and/or secondary data?
- Magnitude of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*
 - *Largest single file/zipped folders*
 - *Total number of files*

Data Specific RDM consult questions

- Type(s) of data being collected
 - *I.e., surveys, audio/video, images, sensitive, GIS, code, etc.*
- Format(s) of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*
- Primary and/or secondary data?
- Magnitude of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*
 - *Largest single file/zipped folders*
 - *Total number of files*
- Metadata/documentation?

Data Specific RDM consult questions

- Type(s) of data being collected
 - *I.e., surveys, audio/video, images, sensitive, GIS, code, etc.*
- Format(s) of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*
- Primary and/or secondary data?
- Magnitude of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*
 - *Largest single file/zipped folders*
 - *Total number of files*
- Metadata/documentation?
- Data deposit? If yes:
 - *Discoverable?*
 - *Open or restricted access?*

Initial RDM consult questions: Bird's eye view

General questions:

- Nature of their research
- What stage of the research cycle are they at?
 - *Funding application support?*
 - *DMP?*
- Project timelines?
- Funded research?
 - *If so, by whom?*
 - *Review funder policies*
- Co-PIs/Collaborators?
 - *Multi-institutional?*
 - *Multi-disciplinary?*
- Projected journals to publish in?

Data specific questions:

- Type(s) of data being collected
- Format(s) of data
- Primary and/or secondary data?
- Magnitude of data
 - *Total amount (GBs/TBs)*
 - *Largest single file/zipped folders*
 - *Total number of files*
- Metadata/documentation?
- Data deposit? If yes:
 - *Discoverable?*
 - *Open or restricted access?*



Questions & Discussion

James Doiron

RDM Services Coordinator, UofA Libraries
Academic Director, UofA Research Data Centre
Co-Chair, Portage DMP Expert Group

jdoiron@ualberta.ca