

Sharing is easy, right?

Stockholm University services for research data and the conundrum of sharing

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Slide 1 – Introduction

We are from Stockholm University Library, and we will talk today about how we have been working with Research Data Management for Stockholm University in the past year. We will share our experiences and plans with you. But let's start by introducing ourselves.

My name is Sofie Wennström and I've been working as an analyst at the Library for about two and a half years. I work with Library publishing and Stockholm University Press, with research data management as well as educational support about publishing, Open Access and information skills for students and researchers at Stockholm University. I'm a specialist in academic journals with a background in the academic publishing business and I'm also a pedagogue.

I am Tuija Drake and I have been working with library cataloguing at Stockholm University Library since 2006. In the last few years I've also been working with a national project for developing a joint portal for Swedish research output, SwePub, for bibliometric purposes. I've now returned to Stockholm University Library and have been working with research data management support as a metadata specialist since February.

Slide 2 – Agenda

We will talk to you today about how we currently work with research data management at Stockholm University Library. First we will have a retrospect on the things we worked and talked about the last time at the Figshare fest in December. Then we will introduce the official assignment for the University Library regarding Research Data Management and how we are organizing the support. We will then talk about our activities and end with some insights from the user perspective and future challenges.

Slide 3 – In retrospect

At Figshare fest in London in December we talked about the challenges to introduce Research Data Management services at a large and diverse university, and presented some findings from a user survey, where we learned more about the needs of users and their relationship with the Library. We

talked about designing services that will help users to expand their horizons and to become more self-reliant when approaching library services. The idea from the Library was to make it as easy as possible to do the 'right' thing. Since then we have used our Figshare platform (<https://su.figshare.com/>) as a way to get started with research data services without having to build a system of our own, which allowed us to use our limited resources to develop a service organisation through collaboration of several administrative departments of the University, to make it easier for researchers who would like to share their data.

This time, we would like to share our experiences from the next steps taken in the last six months, and what we are planning for the future. We know it is not going to be easy, but rather complicated.

(Illustration by: Karl Edqvist, Stockholm University Library. From original by Transformator Design. License: CC-BY 4.0)

Slide 4 – **The assignment**

Last time at the Figshare Fest Sofie was talking about developing services from the bottom-up and top-down management perspectives. The top-down decision has now been made, as we recently got the formal assignment from the vice-chancellor to do the following:

The University Library is assigned to lead the work with research data management, through and collaboration across sections. The aim is to design and implement support and infrastructure for managing, publishing and archiving research data and together with other relevant actors in and outside Stockholm University, and to initiate and develop the following:

- a support team with representatives from the University Library, the Archive and Records Office and the Research Office
- a reference group of researchers representing the 4 faculties
- a policy for data management for the entire institution
- a suitable model for Data Management Plan
- support for research data management, publishing and archiving
- participation in national research data projects, such as a consortium for national research data platform Swedish National Data Service (SND) and development of a national Data Management Plan

The aim is to engage the whole University and not only the Library. That way we can make sure that the top-down becomes bottom-up by working with engaging the researchers together as a unit.

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Slide 5 – The support team

Although we got the official assignment to start working with RDM only two weeks ago we have already lined up a strategy according to a report written by our co-ordinator Sabina Anderberg. Sabina has suggested the following support team to be organized and coordinated by the Library:

which will be consisting of

- a Project Coordinator (Library)
- Metadata Librarians (Library)
- Research Secretaries (Research Support Office)
- an IT-archivist (Archives and Records Office)
- a Legal Adviser specialised in copyright (Library)

The team will also get back up from the IT Services section at the University.

Other specialists, like for example Educational support or specialists in Open Access publishing are available at the Library and can be added to projects or provide training or advice as needed.

This is the first time such a co-operation across the university administration sections takes place at the Stockholm University. The university is large (about 5,000 staff, of which around 3,500 are researchers) and the organisation has not been focusing on collaboration across sections before for different reasons, but with the Research Data Management team it was obvious that this was needed from the very beginning.

The support team will be adjusted according to the needs of the users, which will for example be based on requests and queries coming in through the different communication channels.

The Library receives no additional funding for support and maintenance, instead we have to make different priorities to ensure that we can manage it.

We also have a Reference group consisting of researchers across the disciplines who are representing Faculty of Science, Humanities, Social sciences, and Law. This group will be kept in the loop about developments, and will be consulted on a regular basis as we develop the services. The reference group also has a role to disseminate information to colleagues in their respective Faculties.

(Illustration by: Karl Edqvist, Stockholm University Library. License: CC-BY 4.0)

Slide 6 – Our working principles

Inspired by Amsterdam Call for action and FAIR principles we would like to see ourselves as FAIR in the following ways:

- We should be easy to Find. To find us the researchers only need to go to one place to contact the entire team: opendata@sub.su.se

- We should be easy to **Access**. Whatever the question, we will guide the users to the right service and make sure that they get the right answer from the right person or source, so all our resources will be available on the website for anyone to find
- We should be **Interoperable**; meaning that we are a part of the same organization as the infrastructure for the research output and it should for example not be required to register your data in several systems
- We should be **Reusing** information and not invent the wheel again, we will guide to the best sources that already exist and are happy to share our work with other universities and stakeholders

(Illustration: CC-BY-SA-4.0 FAIR guiding principles for data resources / SangyaPundir)

Slide 7 – **Work in progress 2017**

Since last time we have developed quite a few things:

- We now have a web resource to share information and link to other sources which Sofie will be presenting more in a minute
- We give support, mainly by e-mail at the moment. The team at the Library answers questions directly or relay them to the team members at the Research Office and Archive or other relevant contacts. It is also possible to book personal meetings if needed.
- We have held 13 lectures on open science since last autumn, with presentations from researchers, data repositories (the is from the lecture by Mark Hahnel himself in March), and Library staff. The latest Open Science Lecture was held May 11th by the vice-chancellor of Stockholm University, Astrid Söderbergh Widding, where she pointed out that there is no turning back now, open science is here to stay, which is of course encouraging for the teams to continue working with Open Data.
- We have been doing some training PhD students in departments where there's been special requests for more information on Open Science, but will now extend this to a pilot where we can offer training for young researchers more broadly and will market this opportunity for the start of the next semester.
- Regular Newsletters are sent to the University administration and reference groups to keep all stakeholders informed about developments.
- We are initiating small pilots and co-operation with departments and researchers, for example to help with metadata or to choose a data repository, e.g.
 - Bolin Centre Database (<http://bolin.su.se/data/>)
 - InterFra Corpus at the Department of Romance Studies and Classics (<http://www.su.se/romklass/interfra>)

(Photo by: Sofie Wennström, Stockholm University Library. License: CC-BY 4.0)

Slide 8 – **Creating knowledge hub**

The web resource is currently available in Swedish, but we have created a dummy-version in English for you to look at. The aim is to have the Swedish knowledge hub translated, proofread and tested by the end of the next semester.

- The design is restricted by the templates of the university website, where there are menus and standard information on three sides of the main column where we can enter information. We did, however, find a slight work-around and created the images with questions as entries to more information, and the user can dig deeper in the structure with the help of short summaries and visualisations. The titles and introductory phrases serve as ways of navigating the complex RDM information packages. The main aim is to provide knowledge about research data in several media, where text information is just the first incarnation. But, there is more to come, and we are planning to include for example videos with testimonies from researchers that are already sharing their data.
- The online resource we are creating (yes, this is a work in progress as we are learning by doing most of the time), we thought it best to organise information according to questions coming from researchers. It seemed like quite a few of the questions we got at the open science lectures and via e-mail was rather exploratory rather than concrete. A lot of the users didn't know where to start.
- The information added to the website is created together with a working group of librarians, archivists and representatives from the Research Office (who are responsible for supporting researchers to apply for funding/grants).
- Figuring out how we can go from text-heavy official documentation to web communication that is easy to understand.
- It became evident that we had a challenge trying to find the tone or language of the information added to the site, to address users from different levels of the process.

(Illustration: Screenshot License: CC0 Public Domain)

Slide 9 – Reference group feedback

The reference group feedback was fairly easy to collect. We contacted a number researchers and other stakeholders with a personal e-mail, asking them to go through our website and comment by means of open-ended questions. We wanted them to help us fill in the gaps and to apply their own experience when sending their feedback. We got quite a few quick responses and some positive notes about the starting page and the general approach. However, we also got a great deal of constructive feedback, which we have been working through since then. Some of the changes are already implemented on the site, and some are still being discussed.

- “Watch your language”: neutral language, not so much attitude, tell the pros and cons instead of lecturing us
- A place for everything and everything in its place: the logical order of information, how do we integrate the information with the departments' pages?

- Apples and oranges: to share or to publish? What do we mean by open science and sharing information? Could the word 'share' (in Swedish 'dela') be considered as a less serious action?
- A user approach instead of administrative approach is asked for from several respondents. We should be supporting the researcher's own choice of general or subject portal instead of selling one system that are meant to fit all disciplines. The audience that are interested in the data might be easier to reach within their respective context.
- Recommended to use links to the original sources instead of duplicating the information
- How-to-examples to illustrate to ensure we are not too abstract or theoretical in our descriptions
- Some users want in-depth descriptions, others want a quick overview - how can we accommodate both?
- To whom are we addressing the information? Choose a suitable level of information according the target audience. Should we even have different entry points for different subject areas and/or levels in the future?

(Photo by: Eva Dalin, © Stockholm University)

Slide 10 – **Prospectives 2017-2018**

With this in mind, here's what we are thinking about right now. According to the Assignment, what are our next steps? We have, for example, not talked about creating proper incentives for researchers to share their data. How do we do that?

How do we talk about research data in a way that our researchers can receive the message as it fits their context?

- Feedback suggests that 'share' is considered to be 'not serious' - Why?
 - as a threat to science because of losing control?
 - as associated with predatory publishing?
 - as a parameter for uncertainty?
- What can we do to encourage further debate on this topic? Who changes the norm to make 'share' more 'serious'?
- Ensure that users can stay informed and design material that responds to their actual queries
 - Who owns data online? What does the licensing mean?
 - How do we add quality control?

How can we educate researchers about technical and legal aspects of open science, without becoming too formal or lecturing?

How do the new EU directive for data protection influence our services?

(Illustration: CC BY-SA 3.0 Jpquidores)

Slide 11 – **Questions? Feedback?**

We are happy to end with some questions. If you will get in touch later, e-mail us. You can also take a look at our web resource that is under construction in English

(<http://su.se/english/library/publish/research-data>) or read blog posts on research data management at Stockholm University Press Blog (<https://blog.stockholmiversitypress.se/>). The presentation from Figshare fest in December 2016 can be found here: <https://doi.org/10.17045/sthlmuni.4311860.v2>

Thank you!

(image: CC 0 Public Domain. Retrieved from:

<http://maxpixel.freegreatpicture.com/Cat-Baby-Kitten-Greetings-1338697>)

