RDAP15 Poster: Local ICPSR Data Curation Workshop Pilot Project

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Objectives
This pilot project teamed a social and behavioral science domain repository, ICPSR, with three local universities, Emory University, Georgia Tech, and Georgia State, to offer two day-long data curation trainings: one for faculty, graduate students, and research staff, and another day for librarians and library staff.

The goals:
• Raise awareness of funder requirements and journal policies to preserve and share data, and resources available to help.
• Educate both researchers and librarians in best practices for documenting, preparing, and curating data for long-term preservation and sharing.
• Provide guidance and support to researchers depositing their data with appropriate domain repositories (e.g., ICPSR, Dryad).
• Offer an opportunity to reach the researchers where they reside.

Next Steps
For ICPSR:
• Revise agenda to vary the approach between researchers and librarians.
• Condense into one day with two distinct sessions:
  • Researchers: emphasize data management planning, best practices in preparing data, and how to deposit data.
  • Librarians: focus on curation topics and hands-on experiences.
• Plan for additional offerings in other locations.
• Make materials available for anyone to reuse and remix.

For local institutions:
• Identify related training to offer locally.
• Adopt methods to support researchers preparing data for archiving and sharing.
• Explore additional opportunities to partner with domain data archives.

Feedback
Positive:
• “This was a great workshop and I’m glad that I had the opportunity to attend. It made me want to learn more and provided me with great resources that I can return to and explore.”
• “Got both a broad yet detailed enough view of what ICPSR is, chances to ask my project specific questions, and helpful hands-on sessions.”
• “I learned a lot, and the topics were varied enough to give an overview, but not so in-depth as to be overwhelming.”

Suggestions:
• “I believe I misunderstood what the workshop was about. The description was perhaps too broad.”
• “Some workshops were hard to complete within a given time range. Workshop should be easier to comprehend (what we have to do) and more focused (e.g., fewer tasks/questions).”