Love Data Week 2022: A Year of Progress

Each year the members of the Galter Library DataLab, a local group of librarians and data scientists focused on collaborative innovation, training and development, and connecting faculty, staff, and students in the Feinberg School of Medicine to data-related resources here at Northwestern, reaches out through the Galter News to let you know of the upcoming opportunities to get involved in Love Data Week. This special week is an internationally recognized online event for promoting awareness of the significance of research data management and sharing. By using the hashtag lovedata22, data analysts, data scientists, and researchers of all kinds can let the world know of the strides they’ve been making by practicing more systematic management of their data.

These efforts are particularly important now as we are less than one year away from the full implementation of the Final NIH Policy Data Management and Sharing. Per this policy, as outlined in a previous Galter News item, for all research funded by the NIH, data management and sharing plans must be included with the grant submission. This plan requires that the PI outline how the data will be managed and, crucially, how project data and metadata will be shared (accounting for any restrictions or limitations). Project data, or metadata representing the data, is expected to be shared no later than the time of an associated publication, or the end of the performance period, whichever comes first.

At the Galter DataLab we are uniquely prepared to assist Feinberg researchers with compliance with this new NIH policy. Our expertise in data management, data science, and NIH compliance will allow us to review your data management plans and provide relevant critique prior to submission, as well as advise on the cleaning and description of data that is being considered for sharing.

Recently, members of the DataLab have engaged in a NNLM-funded effort that provides us with collaborative partners and robust opportunities to serve the Feinberg research population better than ever. As members of the newly established National Evaluation Center (NEC) of the Network of the National Library of Medicine (NNLM), we’ve been able to broaden our partnerships with research and data-focused professionals around the country. With partners such as those from the new National Data Center (NCDS) based at NYU Langone Health, we are developing NNLM-sponsored research data management training courses in order to do all we can to help the research community be more informed of its data-based responsibilities. Be on the lookout this summer for revised versions of the NNLM’s Research Data Management (RDM) 101 and 102 courses, popular for the past few years with research staff and librarians alike.

Through the NNLM network, we are pleased to let you know of a slate of Love Data Week activities taking place between February 14-18, 2022. Take advantage of free NNLM trainings to learn more about the NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy, the NCDS Data Internship Program, the Data Management Plan (DMP) Tool, and much more.

Love your data this week and every week! For questions or for a consultation with the Galter DataLab, please visit: https://galter.northwestern.edu/about/datalab

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