

Cornell University

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Dear Colleagues,

As you are perhaps aware, the National Science Foundation announced on October 1, 2010, a new policy requiring a supplementary document for all grant proposals outlining the proposal's data management plan to disseminate and share research results (see <http://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp>). This requirement will take effect on January 18, 2011. Other major research sponsors may be implementing similar policies soon, if they have not already done so.

While it is the responsibility of the individual principal investigators to develop a data management plan for inclusion in their proposals that is appropriate to the area and type of research being proposed, and to develop and budget the resources that will be necessary to carry out the plan, the University has developed an approach that, at the option of the PIs, may be utilized to efficiently and effectively develop and support these plans. A new virtual organization, the Research Data Management Service Group (**RDMSG**), has been created to meet the data management needs of researchers in a straightforward and seamless fashion. This initiative is being jointly sponsored by Robert Buhrman, Senior Vice Provost for Research and Anne Kenney, University Librarian, and will be supported by the following organizations:

- The Center for Advanced Computing (CAC)
- The Cornell Institute for Social and Economic Research (CISER)
- Cornell University Library (CUL)
- The DISCOVER Research Group (DRSG)

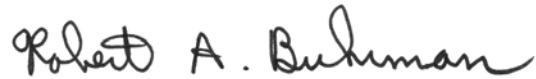
In case you have not previously been made aware of the DRSG, this is a research support group, affiliated with CAC and CUL, that since 2008 has been supported by a limited term commitment from the Provost's Office to develop large scale data acquisition, management and curation capabilities for our campus. This group has been quite effective and forward looking in coordinating our approach for supporting researchers in meeting this new NSF data management plan requirement.

The broad-based RDMSG will provide a coordinated, single point of access for information for Cornell researchers on services related to data management via its website: <http://data.research.cornell.edu>. To guide the development of the details of these proffered services the RDMSG will conduct a survey in the upcoming months of current NSF award recipients to estimate the potential impact on campus service. The thoughtful participation of all interested PIs in that forthcoming survey is critical to the on-going efforts of the group providers to plan and scale services appropriately to meet the campus need. A faculty advisory board is also being assembled to represent the concerns and needs of faculty as well as provide as a liaison with their respective scientific discipline.

The RDMSG invites your comments and concerns regarding support for data management. Please contact the RDMSG at rdmsg-help@cornell.edu.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this new research support service for data management that cannot be successfully addressed by contacting RDMSG, please convey those questions or concerns to either Robert Buhrman or Anne Kenney.

With our very best wishes for continued research success,

Handwritten signature of Robert A. Buhrman in black ink.

Robert Buhrman
Senior Vice Provost for Research

Handwritten signature of Anne R. Kenney in black ink.

Anne R. Kenney
Carl A. Kroch University Librarian