Overview of
Cornell University Policy 4.20
Research Data Retention

Mark Hurwitz, Ph.D., P.E.
Chief Research Compliance Officer
Accurate and detailed research records are an essential component of any research project.

Cornell researchers and the University share responsibility in collecting, retaining, securing, accessing, and publishing or disseminating research data.
Duke University to Pay $112.5 Million to Settle Claims of Research Misconduct

March 25, 2019

Cornell nutrition scientist resigns after retractions and research misconduct finding

(AAAS Science Website)

Tennessee physicist sentenced to 4 years for sharing drone plans with foreign students

By Brendan Borrero on July 2, 2009
Who owns research data?

• **Cornell asserts ownership** of research data and related property rights arising from the activities of its researchers and others who use university resources, including those provided through an externally funded grant, contract, or other type of award or gift to the university.

• **PIs are the custodians** of their research data and are responsible to Cornell University for the proper use, access, and control of any research data under their management or supervision, including the use of data in scholarly publications and presentations.
Reproducibility is essential to the advancement of science.

- However: The task of retrieving data by someone not familiar with the research can be difficult and expensive.
- Cornell recognizes that researchers have many ways of organizing their data and labeling their files and does not impose any specific required organization.
- The PI is only expected to maintain the research data in a form reasonably well organized according to the norms of the field of research.
PI Responsibilities Include...

• Collecting, maintaining, retaining, and providing access to research data;
• Determining whether research data is public, confidential or otherwise restricted;
• Assuring compliance with any restrictions mandated by contract or federal regulations;
• Securing and controlling access as may be required;
• Determining (within any governing obligations) how data will be published or presented;
• Ensuring that data are available for review by the university, sponsors, journals, et cetera;
• Informing the Center for Technology Licensing, through the Technology Transfer Process, of any data supporting a new invention; and
• Providing a data retention statement to OVPRI and updating it as necessary.
University Responsibilities Include...

• Protecting the rights of faculty, staff, and students;
• Complying with the terms of sponsored project agreements;
• Ensuring the appropriate use of animals, human subjects, recombinant DNA, biological agents, and radioactive materials;
• Securing the intellectual property rights of the university;
• Supporting, through OVPRI, the PI’s research data management efforts;
• Resolving disputes among researchers over data control or access;
• Approving transfer of original research data off-campus;
• Facilitating the investigation of charges, such as research misconduct or conflict of interest; and
• Provide a suitable repository for PI data retention attestations.
• I have read and understood the Research Data Retention Policy 4.20 as presented in this course.

• I will abide by the policy in collecting, storing, and retaining data generated by or used in my Cornell research.
Research Data Services at Cornell

Wendy Kozlowski, RDMSG Coordinator, wak57
data.research.cornell.edu | rdmsg-help@cornell.edu
Store your data at Cornell

- Evaluate options for data storage: [https://finder.research.cornell.edu/](https://finder.research.cornell.edu/)
- Learn best practices for storage and backup: [https://data.research.cornell.edu/content/data-storage-and-backup](https://data.research.cornell.edu/content/data-storage-and-backup)
- Meet funder and publisher requirements for sharing and preservation

[labarchives.cornell.edu](labarchives.cornell.edu)  [osf.io](osf.io)
Data Lifecycle

Plan → Collect → Integrate → Discover → Preserve → Describe → Assure → Analyze → Plan
Data Lifecycle in Reality
Data Management Planning Support

- DMP preparation consultation, editing and review by RDMSG consultants
- [https://data.research.cornell.edu/content/data-management-planning](https://data.research.cornell.edu/content/data-management-planning)
- Access to DMP Tool (via Cornell NetID) for online creation of and guidance on DMP writing
- Consultations for group, lab or project data management
Get the data you need

- Consult with experts for assistance finding and obtaining data

ICPSR
Sharing data to advance science

The Qualitative Data Repository

data-services@ropercenter.org
Get help creating quality metadata to document and describe your work.

- Find tools to help you create and maintain your documentation and records.

  - [https://data.research.cornell.edu/content/writing-metadata](https://data.research.cornell.edu/content/writing-metadata)

  - Readme template at: [https://data.research.cornell.edu/content/readme](https://data.research.cornell.edu/content/readme)
Tools and infrastructure

- Cornell Restricted Access Data Center (CRADC): secure environment for working with confidential or restricted data
- Biotechnology Resource Center: HPC Computing with bioinformatics analysis software
- Cornell Advanced Computing (CAC): HPC and related services
- CUL Digital Co-Lab: Digital humanities, interpretive social sciences, computational text analysis, and privacy services
- Many service providers offer workshops, training and consultation on tools and best practices related to data analysis
CCSS’s Results Reproduction service (R-Squared) computationally reproduces the results of your research to ensure Reproducibility and Transparency.

https://ciser.cornell.edu/research/results-reproduction-r-squared-service/

ccssdata@cornell.edu
Preserve and share your data in Cornell-based repositories

- Curatorial review
- Open access
- Persistent identifiers
- Restricted access if needed

https://ecommons.cornell.edu
https://cugir.library.cornell.edu/
https://archive.ciser.cornell.edu/
Cornell Research Data Management Service Group

Research data consultation and referral services for Cornell faculty, staff, and students.

https://data.research.cornell.edu | rdmsg-help@cornell.edu