

**INFORMATION SHEET FOR RESEARCH  
INFORMED CONSENT**  
Realities of Academic Data Sharing—Fall 2022 Survey

**Study Title:** The Realities of Academic Data Sharing

**Principal Investigator(s):**

- Jake Carlson, MLIS, Director of Deep Blue Repository and Research Data Services, Michigan Publishing, University Library, PI at the University of Michigan
- Cynthia Hudson-Vitale, MLS, Director of Scholars and Scholarship, Association of Research Libraries, Project PI.

**Co-Investigator(s):** Project co-PIs at other institutions participating in this study include:

- Joel Herndon, PhD, Director of the Center for Data and Visualization Sciences, University Libraries, Duke University
- Alicia Hofelich Mohr, PhD, Data Management Research Associate, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota
- Wendy Kozlowski, MS, Library Lead for Research Data Services, Cornell University Library, Cornell University
- Jennifer Moore, MLIS, Head of Data Services, University Libraries, Washington University in St. Louis
- Jonathan Petters, PhD, Assistant Director, Data Management & Curation Services, Data Services, University Libraries, Virginia Tech

**Study Sponsor:** This research is being funded by the National Science Foundation, [NSF award #2135874](#).

You are invited to take part in a research study.

**Key Information:**

You are invited to be in a research study about the costs of the activities, services, and infrastructure used to make research data publicly available from funded research across six academic institutions. You were selected as a possible participant because you received a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Science Foundation (NSF) or the Department of Energy (DOE) that may have had data sharing requirements. We ask that you read this page and ask any questions you may have before agreeing to be in the study.

This study, the [Realities of Academic Data Sharing \(RADS\) Initiative](#), is being conducted by: The Association of Research Libraries (ARL), in collaboration with investigators from Cornell University, Duke University, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, Washington University in St. Louis, and Virginia Tech. The PI contact at Michigan University is Jake Carlson, Director of Deep Blue Repository and Research Data Services.

By examining researcher and institutional costs, activities, services, and infrastructure, the RADS Initiative will provide an exploratory, but extensive, analysis of the true costs of public access to research data. Results of our study will inform funders, institutions, and other stakeholders of the scope and cost of public access to research data.

*Procedures:* If you agree to be in this study, we would ask you to answer questions about the costs, activities, services, and infrastructure you use and support to make research data publicly accessible. You will be asked to review information about the Realities of Academic Data Sharing study and to complete a survey.

The time commitment to complete the survey is approximately 30 minutes.

*Risks and Discomforts:* There are no known risks associated with participating in this study.

*Benefits:* Participants may experience benefits in the form of increased insight and awareness of campus costs, infrastructure, services, and activities that support public access to research data.

**Voluntary Nature of the Study:**

Participation in this study is voluntary. Your decision whether or not to participate will not affect your current or future relations with Michigan University, ARL, or any of the associated institutions in this study. If you decide to participate, you are free to not answer any question or withdraw at any time without affecting those relationships.

To withdraw from the study, close the online survey; no data is stored until the survey is submitted.

**Eligibility Criteria:**

- The unit/office/department supports public access to funded research data.
- Administrators have knowledge of the costs, including staffing costs, of the activities, services, and infrastructure required to support public access to research data.
- Administrators are currently employed at the institution participating in the study.

**Confidentiality:**

Survey data that directly identifies you will be kept private and will only be shared with the research team. Research data collected in this study will be stripped of direct identifiers, such as names and email addresses, before being shared broadly with other researchers and the public. However, budget and cost information about your department may still be identifiable based on publicly available information about the university's expenditures. Data may be reused by others without your additional informed consent.

**Security of Information:**

The survey is hosted on the Alchemer platform, which encrypts data and can only be accessed through secure HTTPS. Alchemer utilizes TLS (Transport Layer Security) to secure the communication protocol and stay current at the most recent patch level.

Please note that the survey is being conducted on the Alchemer platform, a company not affiliated with Michigan University and with [its own privacy and security policies](#). We anticipate that your participation in this survey presents no greater risk than everyday use of the Internet.

**Compensation for Participation:**

Compensation is not provided for this study for any participant across the six academic institutions.

**Follow Up Studies:**

We may contact you again to request your participation in a follow up interview. As always, your participation will be voluntary and we will ask for your explicit consent to participate in any of the follow up studies. The last question on the following survey allows you to express interest or not in the follow up interview.

**Contacts and Questions:**

The researcher conducting this study at Michigan University is Jake Carlson, Director of Deep Blue Repository and Research Data Services. If you have questions now or at a later date, you are encouraged to contact him at [jakecar@umich.edu](mailto:jakecar@umich.edu).

The principal investigator of this study is Cynthia Hudson Vitale at ARL. You can contact her via email at: [cvitale@arl.org](mailto:cvitale@arl.org).

This research has been reviewed and approved by Michigan's Health Sciences and Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board (IRB-HSBS). To share feedback privately with the IRB-HSBS about your research experience, call (734) 936-0933 or email at [irbhsbs@umich.edu](mailto:irbhsbs@umich.edu). You are encouraged to contact the IRB-HSBS if:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research participant.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

*You may request a copy of this information to keep for your records.*