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Title

Digital curation of research data : experiences of a baseline study in Germany / Heike Neuroth ...
(Eds.)

Publisher

Glückstadt : Hülsbusch, 2013

Collation

89 S.

Publication year

2013

ISBN

978-3-86488-008-7

Inventory number

78465

Keywords

Forschung : allgemein ; Informationsgesellschaft / Wissensgesellschaft ; Wissenschaft und Staat

Abstract

The relevance of research data today and for the future is well documented and discussed, in Germany
as well as internationally. Ensuring that research data are accessible, sharable, and re-usable over time
is increasingly becoming an essential task for researchers and research infrastructure institutions.
Some reasons for this development include the following: - research data are documented and could
therefore be validated - research data could be the basis for new research questions - research data
could be re-analyzed by using innovative digital methods - research data could be used by other
disciplines Therefore, it is essential that research data are curated, which means they are kept
accessible and interpretable over time. In Germany, a baseline study was undertaken analyzing the

situation in eleven research disciplines in 2012. The results were then published in a German-language edition. To address an international audience, the German-language edition of the study has been translated and abridged. The present publication provides a summary of the preconditions, results, and conclusions of the baseline study "Langzeitarchivierung von Forschungsdaten – Eine Bestandsaufnahme". The editors of this edition hope that this publication will contribute to further discussion and increased awareness of this topic, resulting in expanded measures to improve the framework and the conditions for the digital curation of research data. (HRK / Abstract übernommen)

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