OSLO MET

HVEM ER DE NYE DATARØKTERNE?

Live Kvale   **01.09.20**

Photo by wairaperflare

Å RØKTE

Birøkterne kontrollerer bienes adferd på flere måter.

Birøkteren tilbyr etter beste evne bifolkene de optimale bolig- og leveforhold. Han/hun høster deres innsamlede vinterforråd (honning) og gir sukker som erstatning. (Wikipedia)

HVEM ER DATARØKTERNE

- What roles should data stewards play
- What services should data stewards provide as part of these roles
- What skills do data stewards need to carry out these services

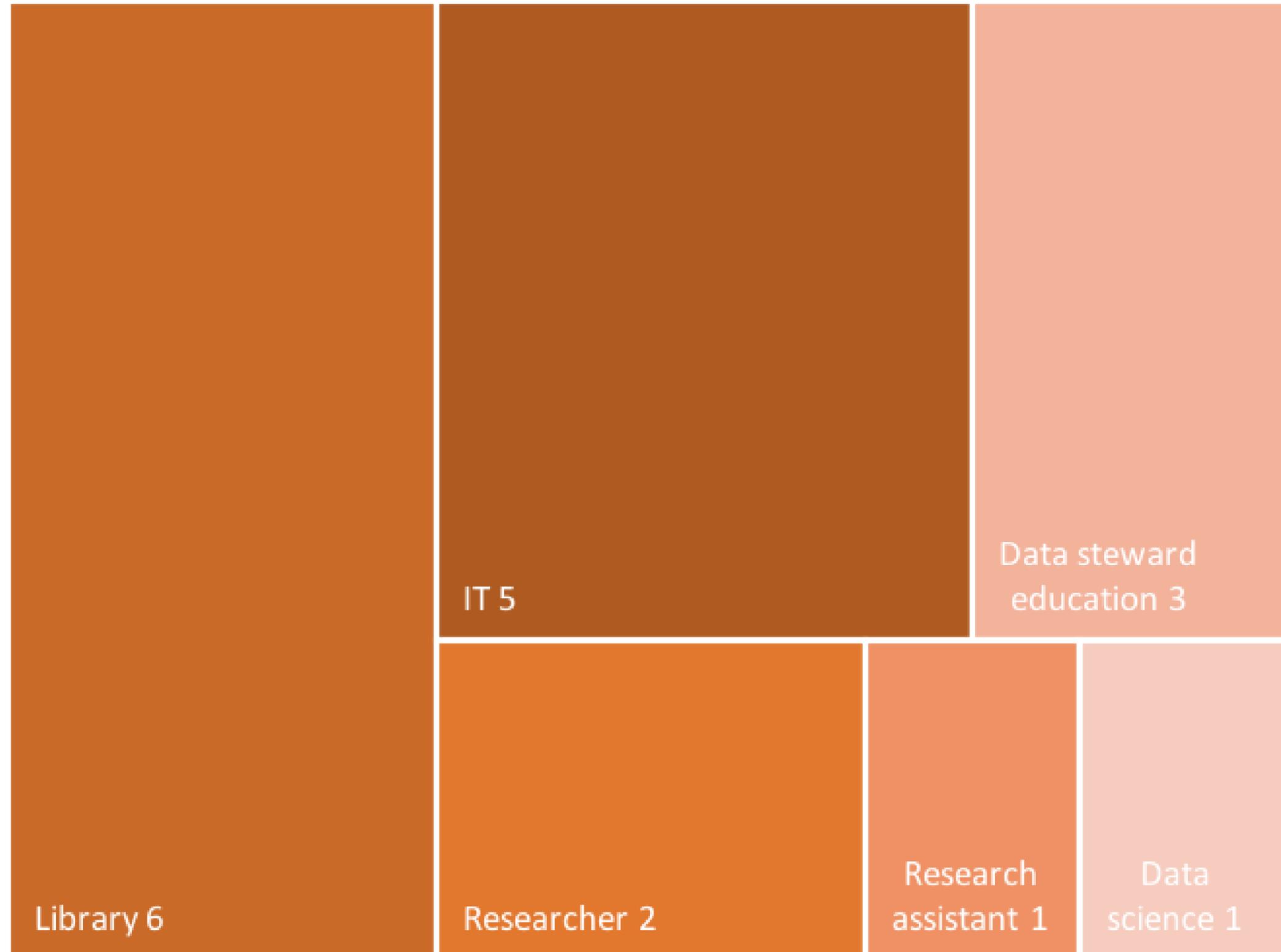# The participants described the following needs for data stewardship

- As research is becoming increasingly data intensive, larger research groups may need to hire data managers.
- Data loss from PhDs, postdocs, and other temporary staff when leaving the university is a challenge.
- To find the right balance between the generalist and the specialist is important in terms of playing the right data management support role.
- A closer collaboration between IT, library, and research offices is needed.
- All researchers cannot be expected to do data management on their own, yet it is the responsibility of the researcher to ensure good data management in his or her research.

Hva er Røkterkompetanse

Backgrounds mentioned and frequency

Library 6 — IT 5 — Data steward education 3 — Researcher 2 — Research assistant 1 — Data science 1

- Personlige egenskaper
- Generelle egenskaper
- Forskingsferdigheter
- Juridiske og politiske ferdigheter
- Tekniske ferdigheter
- Arkivferdigheter

- *The researchers themselves must be responsible […] I realize this myself in part of these discussions, that one thinks ´yes, we create this role, and then everything is solved,´ but it is not at all in that way. Because the researcher sits with the data set and needs to make sure this is in order, and then you need a curation function, but that again depends on the data set and where you are in your research process. […] But from the moment we have a publication, with a corresponding data set, made available, then the data set will still need curation, but then you are more on the library side. First the researcher needs to sign off the responsibility, and then others take it on.* (RGA2)

- *You need to create a system where these people actually work together and are able to interact in a good way. [……] There is a pulverization of responsibilities absolutely everywhere, and with such a research data center it might be possible to avoid this, given the entry points and the information flow and such.* (RGA2)

RDM koordinator - Kim

- Komunikasjon, formidling, undervisning
- Politikk, retnngslinjer
- Forsknignsetikk og personvern
- Opphavsrett
- Datahåndteringsplaner
- Metatdata

*RDM – research data management/forskningsddatahåndtering

If you enter on the side in that mean of adding an additional agenda beyond solidity and such, that sometimes that might be an advantage for some types of projects, for others it might be alarming, both economic and in terms of work environment. (RIJ2)

Data kurator - David

- Systematisering
- FAIR-ification
- Metadata, dokumentasjon og provenance
- Data arkiv og arkivering
- koding
- Data mining
- Formatering og tranformasjon/vasking

I think this is also a kind of confidentiality. There is something like a role you trust, like that person is to be really trusted, so I think it would be, I don't know, but if I was a researcher I would be a bit, I don't know maybe awkward to contact somebody who is just a data manager and is not related closely to my field. (RGD2)

Data håndterer - Kari

- Dokumentasjon
- Databaser
- Koding
- Systematisering
- Data transformering/vasking
- Metadata standarder
- interoperabilitet

- **The Data Manager – Kari Anderson**

- Data manager Kari Anderson is the disciplinary specialist, while the staff at the research support center are the generalists. She is one of the data managers working in the data-intensive research groups at the university. The data managers meet monthly at the peer support network at the RDSC to exchange experiences and solve concrete problems. Kari makes sure there is an agreement on standards and protocol for data management within the research group. When new staff is hired or if students are participating, she makes sure they are briefed in data management before touching anything. Kari identifies with the other researchers in the group. She is good at picking up on potential issues at an early stage, and if someone has problems with conversions, transfer, or the merging of data, she loves the challenge. She is also focusing on deleting what is obsolete, rather than keeping every version of everything.

- Kari has a PhD in neuroscience and is fascinated by classification. Through statistical classification, she has developed an interest in AI. She was working closely with a research group during her master's and was later hired as a PhD. During her PhD period, her role gradually became more of a data manager, and when a new center for brain research was established, she was hired as a data steward. She is also taking some extra courses within data science to work with still more methods and disciplines as a data manager/data scientist.

- Through the RDM network at the university, she learned of the Research Data Alliance and is now engaged in the health data interest group, where she keeps up to date. Still, her heart is most at home in the R-ladies network.

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You hope that data management should become embedded in normal research practice, for much of this can, with fairly simple means, become part of existing routines. […] Because the problem, if you get a data manager in the group, is that the others might not take as much responsibility for the data management (LM2)

Four primary challenges for providing data stewardship at universities are identified:

- Placement of responsibility: Researchers must retain their responsibility for data throughout the research cycle. When depositing to a data archive responsibility can be transferred if the selected archive offers curation services.

- Communication: Lines of communication between support levels must be established to avoid closed subcultures and to exchange best practices between domains.

- Knowledge of data and methods: There is a need for local and specialized expertise within an increasing number of domains. It is necessary to find the appropriate degree of disciplinary knowledge to provide support. Knowledge of research is essential; however, the researchers are responsible for data management in their projects.

- Joint research support effort: Research data management requires several different types of expertise that traditionally are spread among different research support departments at universities. The creation of a general research data support team or center with connection to the research office, IT, and the library is crucial to cover all aspects of data management.