Invest in Data Support

CC-BY Marta Teperek, 2020

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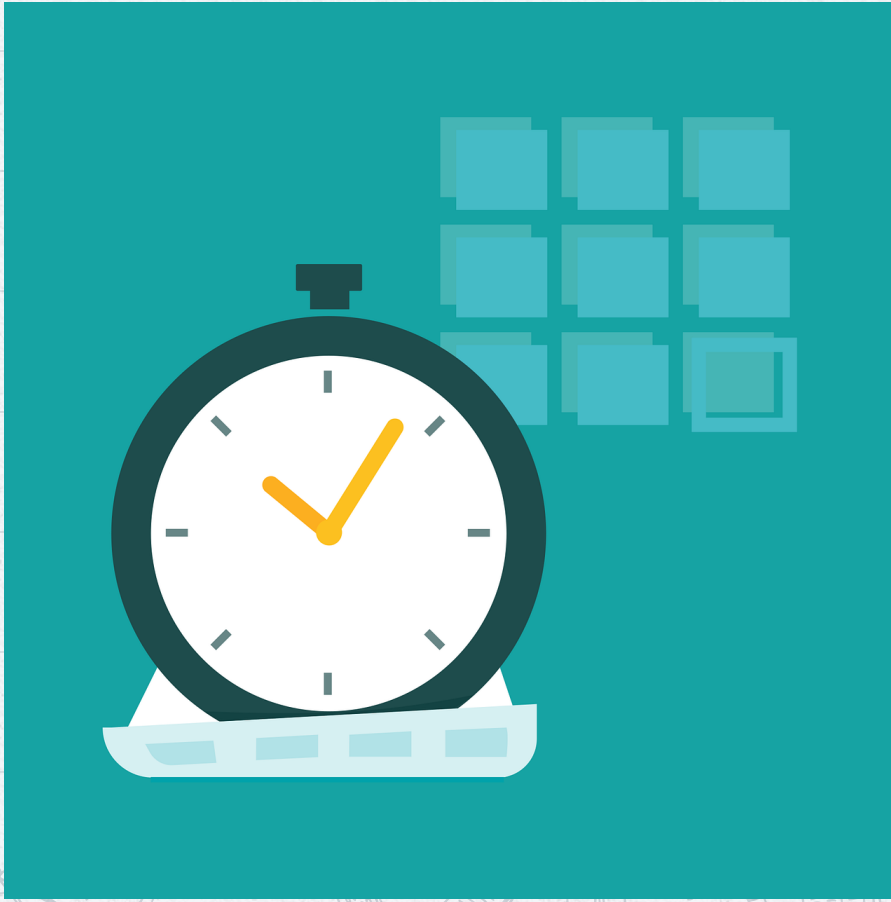
Why should we care about good data management?

1. Time and Efficiency Saving

Less time struggling with data

More time doing research



"The usefulness of [sharing our data] is evident. The many emails with requests for event logs can easily be answered by giving the DOI of the dataset."

Wil van der Aalst, Eindhoven University of Technology

2. More Impact

Data and code are stand-alone research outputs

New connections due to data & code visibility

"The amount of views [...] shows that nearly all of the world's other research groups involved in experimental quantum mechanics have accessed the dataset".

Bas Hensen, TU Delft

3. Easier to patent & engage with third parties

Data properly documented & professionally managed

"Proper data management and documentation makes our job much easier when it comes to patenting and commercialisation and proving who did what and when."

Merlijn Bazuine, Valorisation Center, TU Delft

But Awareness is Low

Survey of 8,500 researchers in 2019

18% are familiar with the FAIR principles

The State of Open Data Report 2019. Digital Science. Report. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.9980783.v2

Awareness raising, training, education, standards development and dedicated community-specific support take time and effort and have to be **(financially) supported.**

TU Delft Case Study

Starting point

Central Data Support team not enough

(~12 FTE: repository, training, policy, advocacy...)

Data Stewards Pilot

2017/2018

1 Data Steward at every faculty for 3 years

Then the faculty decides what to do

...

Data Stewards support the researchers in data management

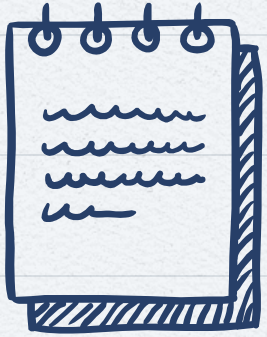
They report to faculty senior executives

2020

All Data Stewards appointed as permanent members of faculty staff

Additional hands-on support staff available

Data (and code) roles of the future at TU Delft

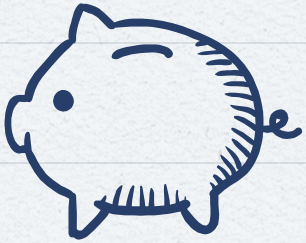


- Data Steward
- Data Manager
- Research Software Engineer
- Data Scientist
- Data Champion
  - *Now have to be all revised (published mid-2019)*

https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3256576

Invest in Data Support

It will pay back



THANKS!

Any questions?

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