Discussion of Data Management Plans

Both DOE and NSF require data management plans with all new proposals

Here is the Office of Science Guidance:

All proposals submitted to the Office of Science for research funding must include a Data Management Plan (DMP) that addresses the following requirements:

DMPs should describe how data generated in the course of the proposed research will be shared and preserved or explain why data sharing and/or preservation are not possible or scientifically appropriate. At a minimum, DMPs must describe how data sharing and preservation will enable validation of results, or how results could be validated if data are not shared or preserved.

DMPs must provide a plan for making all research data displayed in publications resulting from the proposed research digitally accessible at the time of publication. This includes data that are displayed in charts, figures, images, etc. This requirement could be met by including the data as supplementary information to the published article, or through other means. The published article should indicate how these data can be accessed.

DMPs should consult and reference available information about data management resources to be used in the course of the proposed research. In particular, DMPs that explicitly or implicitly commit data management resources at a facility beyond what is conventionally made available to approved users should be accompanied by written approval from that facility. In determining the resources available for data management at Office of Science User Facilities, researchers should consult the published description of data management resources and practices at that facility and reference it in the DMP. Information about other Office of Science facilities can be found in the additional guidance from the sponsoring program.

DMPs must protect confidentiality, personal privacy, Personally Identifiable Information, and U.S. national, homeland, and economic security; recognize proprietary interests, business confidential information, and intellectual property rights; avoid significant negative impact on innovation, and U.S. competitiveness; and otherwise be consistent with all laws, and DOE regulations, orders, and policies.

Some History

- Request to NSAC to provide information about practices in the field. July 2011 (Opper chair)
- OSTP guidance on "Increasing Access to the Results of Federally Funded Research".
- Presentation at last NSAC meeting (Biven)
- Presentation today (Salmon)

Current policies at NP User Facilities

- JLAB - Lab retains raw data indefinitely. Sharing at discretion of collaboration. Collaboration must preserve ability to validate analysis of older data.
- RHIC - Lab retains raw data indefinitely. Sharing at the discretion of collaboration.
- NSCL – Lab retains raw data for two years. Sharing at discretion of collaboration.
- ATLAS - Data management is responsibility of collaboration. Sharing at the discretion of the collaboration. (About to change to Lab retains raw data for some years)

Issues are in data sharing and making data public

- NSF policy: Investigators are expected to share with other researchers, at no more than incremental cost and within reasonable time, the primary data… created or gathered in the course of the work under NSF grants …